



## Mary McCollum

December 16, 1947 - September 23, 2011

On December 16, 1947 in Dillon, South Carolina, Mary McCollum was born to the late Geneva McKoy and Gurley McCollum. Mary did not come into this world alone; her late brother, Joseph McCollum, joined her. On September 23, 2011, after an 11-year battle with stage 4 lung cancer, Mary went home to join those who preceded her in death. During Mary's life she attended many schools. She completed her high school education at Douglass High School in Baltimore, Maryland in 1964. Fall of 1964, Mary began her college career as one of the First black students to attend the, Then segregated, University of North Carolina at Pembroke. In 1968, Mary completed her undergraduate work at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke and went on to graduate school. After settling down and beginning a family, Mary decided to continue her education. She finally completed her education with a Master's degree in Social Work in 1983.

Mary joined Pilgrim Christian Baptist Church at an early age while the church was under the leadership of the late pastor and founder, Linnion Wilson. Mary rededicated her life to Christ and was baptized on September 10, by the current pastor, Pastor James E. Forman. Until her passing, Mary was a committed, faithful, and supportive member of Pilgrim Christian Baptist Church. Mary was a woman who loved God. For over 10 years, her life was a testament to her strong relationship with Jesus Christ.

She was affectionately known as Momma Mary, Peppie, or Toni. No matter what name you called her, No matter what name you called her, she still remained the same person. If you spent a few minutes with Mary, then you instantly knew that she was extremely family oriented. She loved her children and family unconditionally. Mary's unconditional love extended beyond her own family and onto all that she called friend. Everyone believed that they were her favorite. It was a gift to be able to make everyone feel special without expecting anything in return. She was always available to lend a helping hand, a motherly ear, or a chest to cry upon. Mary was a remarkable woman. All who knew her also knew that she was her son's, Carl Joseph, Biggest fan. She loved all the kids that played on his team and treated each as her own son. Until her health deteriorated, Mary could be heard screaming in support of "her boys", win or lose. She was also a huge Raven's fan. On Sundays, Mary could be heard cheering on her beloved Ravens.

Mary was committed to defending the underdog. She believed everyone had a voice and a duty to use it! She used her voice to encourage everyone to continue their education. Mary believed in learning something new every day. She passed her love of education to her children. Both of her children have continued their education. Mary refused to allow her children or anyone else's child to believe that they could not succeed. Failure was not an option!

She leaves to cherish her memory: her children, Melissa Gray and Carl Joseph; one goddaughter, Cierra Perry; one godson, Devontaye Lee; three sisters, Marie Carmichael, Ellaree Neptune and Lola Jenkins; two brothers-in-law, Herbert E. Carmichael Sr. and Solomon Neptune; an uncle, Benjamin McKoy of Rowland, NC; five nieces, Eleanor McCullough (Vastine), Yvonne Morris, Paulette Scotland (Errol), Lynette Harried (Jan) and Genitra Neptune; four nephews, Hubert E. Carmichael (nephews Bryant K. McCollum and James A. Morris preceded her in death). She also leaves behind: her "Howard County Boys", Matthew and Anthony Ernest, Emanuel and Vernon Harper,

Roland Coleman-Bey, the Blair family and a whole host of friends and family.

# Cemetery Details

## King Memorial Park Cemetery - Grand Heritage Chapel & Mausoleum

8710 Dogwood Rd.  
Baltimore, MD 21244  
(410) 944-8300  
info@kingmemorialpark.com  
<https://www.KingMemorialPark.com>

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

SEP 30. 8:30 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore  
4300 Wabash Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215  
(410) 542-2400  
info@marchfh.com

## Visitation

SEP 30. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore  
4300 Wabash Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215  
(410) 542-2400  
info@marchfh.com

## Wake

OCT 1. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore  
4300 Wabash Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215  
(410) 542-2400  
info@marchfh.com

## Service

OCT 1. 10:00 AM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore  
4300 Wabash Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215  
(410) 542-2400  
info@marchfh.com

# Tribute Wall



“ *Gone, but not forgotten.*

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**Melissa G Gray** - May 14, 2025 at 12:27 PM



“ *Mary McCollum*

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October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *I THANK GOD FOR HER BEING A PART OF MY LIFE AND HER FRIENDSHIP SHOWN TO ME AND THE PILGRIM TEMPLE CHURCH, GOD BLESS HER FAMILY AND KEEP THEM IN PEACE AND LOVE, BISHOP, PAULA MURRAY*

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**BISHOP, MURRAY** - September 30, 2011 at 07:28 PM

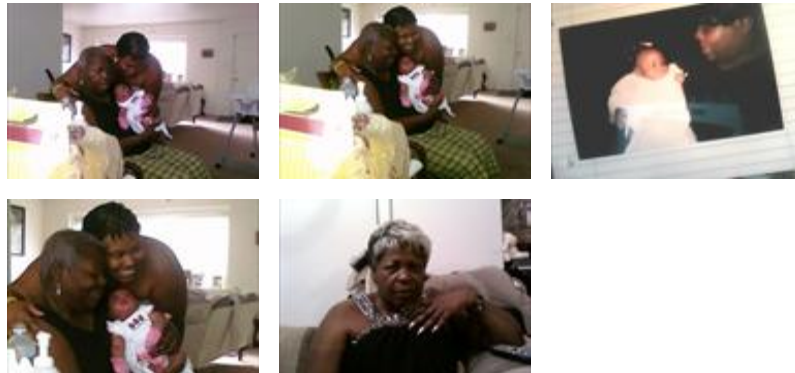


*Thank you, Bishop. She loved you. I don't check this often, but it was a pleasant surprise to find these kind words written about an extraordinary lady. Love ya, Melissa.*

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**Melissa G. Gray** - June 14, 2024 at 01:01 PM

FW

“ 5 files added to the album Sweet Memories



Felecia Wesley - September 30, 2011 at 02:59 PM

MG

*Thank you for sharing these, Felecia! We love you!*

Melissa G. Gray - June 14, 2024 at 01:02 PM

FW

“ Felecia Wesley lit a candle in memory of Mary McCollum



Felecia Wesley - September 30, 2011 at 02:58 PM

LP

“ YOU BECAME A GOOD FRIEND OF MINE. I WILL MISS YOU DEARLY  
REST IN PEACE.

YOUR FRIEND  
LILLIAN PROPHET

LILLIAN PROPHET - September 30, 2011 at 12:00 PM

MS

“ You don't know me but as one of Jehovah's Witnesses I wanted to give your family some comfort. I'm so sorry for your loss!! Do you know that there is hope for your dead loved one? Well, the Bible makes a promise: “Your dead ones will live. . . . They will rise up.” The Bible also says: “The righteous themselves will possess the earth, and they will reside forever upon it.”—Isaiah 26:19; Psalm 37:29. Can this be possible you may ask? Yes, Almighty God Jehovah has not only the power but also the desire to resurrect persons whom he chooses. His Son, Jesus Christ himself said: “Do not marvel at this, because the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out.”—John 5:28, 29; Acts 24:15. If you are interested in learning more, any one of Jehovah's Witnesses will be happy to help you with a free home Bible study. Again I'm so sorry for your loss!!

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**Ms Springer** - September 28, 2011 at 04:43 AM

MG

*On behalf of my mother, I thank you for your sentiment. I hope that your words bring those who need to hear them peace. However, you are right. You did not know my mother. My mother is not dead. She is just sleep. My mother and her mother before her had a deep and abiding relationship with Christ. My mother is only waiting for his return. Until then, she is safe and very saved. My mother was welcomed in. She heard the word, "Well done, my good and faithful servant." So, thank you for the prayer, but my mother's soul is being well taken care of by Jesus. I hope you are well.*

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**Melissa G Gray** - May 14, 2025 at 12:23 PM

EM

“ JOHN 5:24-25 "TRULY,TRULY,I SAY TO YOU,HE WHO HEARS MY WORD AND BELIEVES HIM WHO SENT ME,HAS ETERNAL LIFE;HE DOES NOT COME INTO JUDGEMENT,BUT HAS PASSED FROM DEATH TO LIFE."TRULY,TRULY,I SAY TO YOU, THE HOUR IS COMING, AND NOW IS,WHEN THE DEAD WILLHEAR THE VOICE OF THE SON OF GOD,AND THOSE WHO HEAR WILL LIVE." MY BELOVED AUNT MARY(TONI) HEARD GOD'S WORD AND BELIEVED HIM HAS PASSED ON FROM DEATH TO LIFE.TO GOD BE THE GLORY FOR THE GREAT THINGS HE HAS DONE.

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**eleanor mccullough** - September 27, 2011 at 08:33 AM



“ We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

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**March Funeral Homes** - September 26, 2011 at 02:18 PM