



Mary R. Talley

August 11, 1922 - May 24, 2025

Mary Randall Talley gracefully journeyed to be with the Lord on Saturday, May 24, 2025, surrounded by her family and loved ones. Mary was born August 11, 1922, to the late Deacon James and Deaconess Malinda Randall, in New Kent-County Virginia. She was the oldest daughter of 11 siblings. James, Viola, Clarence, Elnora, Robert, Beulah, Ralph, Lewis and Zebbie preceded her in death.

Mary was raised and educated in the New Kent County School System. She was baptized at an early age at Angel View Baptist Church. She was blessed with two daughters from her brief marriage to the late Curtis Bassett of Barhamsville, Virginia.

Upon moving to Baltimore, Maryland she joined Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church and was united in matrimony to the late Richard L. Talley, by the founding Pastor Hiram E. Smith. She continued to serve faithfully as a Missionary and member of the Hospitality and Virginia State ministries under the Pastorates of Olin P. Moyd and Franklin Lance until her health prevented her continuance. She also enjoyed many years serving as secretary to the Order of the Eastern Star.

In her early years she graduated from cosmetology school and operated a hair salon with her Godmother, Clara Maxsom. She was later employed as a

dietician at the Mt. Wilson State Hospital until its closure and subsequently retired from Spring Grove State Hospital. She enjoyed her retirement for 48 years, During her tenure with the State, Mary served as treasurer to the AFSCME.

She was the Matriarch of the Randall-Washington clan and affectionately known as "Ma", "Big Ma", "Aunt Mary", "Cousin Mary" "Miss Mary" and "Sis." She was a mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great grandmother to her natural family but adopted as Mom by some who were even her age. She even called herself the "Mother of Baltimore!"

She was known by many for her stoic presence and elegant attire. Although she had a quiet demeanor, she was often sought after for a word of advice and to serve as a confidant. She always had a bite to eat, a birthday gift, a Christmas gift, or coconut or sweet potato pie just for the asking. Until a couple of months ago when you asked her for a phone number, she would reply, "Let me consult my computer;" and then rub her head or dial an imaginary phone and give you the number off the top of her head.

She had room in her heart for her children, the Randall clan, her church family, her neighbors and whoever else needed a bit of motherly love. Even when she would run a Boston on you in a game of spades you just had to love her. Everyone who was graced in her presence fell in love with her and claimed her as their mom.

Mary Randall Talley looked forward to reuniting with her parents, siblings and loved ones. She loved the Lord and the 23rd Psalm. She was led by the still waters and was lain in the green pastures.

We thank God for leading her for 11 weeks shy of 103 years old but glorify Him most for leading her home.

She leaves to cherish her legacy- daughters: Augustine Brown and Shirley Briscoe of Baltimore, Maryland; a sister: Alease Bowles of Port St, Lucie Florida; two grands: Toi and Chandra Brown; three great grands: Tiyese Pope, Sr. (Brandy), Hadji McDowell and Hadija Mullen (Dwayne); eight great-great grandchildren: Jessica Pope, Nassir McDowell (Naval deployed in Spain), Sydney and Symone Pope, Samaya Tweedy, Tiyese "TJ" Pope, Jr., Jayla McDowell and Angelo Mullen; a Godson: Nimrod Wescott (Cassandra), a Goddaughter: Shannon Bowell; a Sister-in-Law: Ann Randall - all of Baltimore, Maryland. The family remembers her special friend William Chestnut who proceeded her in death She will also be missed by a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends across the nation and around the world.

Cemetery Details

Arbutus Memorial Park Cemetery

1101 Sulphur Spring Road
Baltimore, MD 21227

Previous Events

Public Viewing

JUN 5. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home - West
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215

Wake

JUN 6. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Mt Lebanon Baptist Church
2812 Reisterstown Rd
Baltimore, MD 21215

Funeral Service

JUN 6. 10:30 AM (ET)

Mt Lebanon Baptist Church
2812 Reisterstown Rd
Baltimore, MD 21215

Tribute Wall

HM

“ This is Hadija Mullen. I am her great-granddaughter. I have so many memories of her as a young girl. She loved to cook and feed us. I used to love spending weekends with her. I'm a person of few words and she was just easy to talk to. You could tell her a secret, and she kept that secret. I just wish I could tell her more secrets. At a young age, she made me coffee. I was addicted to it. At age 39, I still am. My favorite snacks at her house were bananas and honey glazed donuts. She had this closet in her room, and you needed a step ladder to get into. I was always looking for something in that closet, or was trying on her heels. Though, as I got older, I didn't make much time for her. That's a part of me that I deeply regret, but her love will stay with me always. I couldn't say these words at her funeral because saying these words now has me so overwhelmed with grief. I love you, Mary R. Talley. Rest in Peace with your husband, your siblings and your parents. We got you down here.

Love Always,
Your Great-Granddaughter

Hadija Mullen - June 10, 2025 at 09:32 AM

MF

“ Metro Public Adjustments DMV family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mary R. Talley.



Metro Public Adjustments DMV family - June 04, 2025 at 12:09 PM



“ 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.

March Funeral Homes - May 31, 2025 at 01:43 PM