

Acknowledgements

The family of Willa Mae Blake express sincere and heartfelt gratitude to all for their acts of kindness during our time of loss. May God continue to Bless and keep you.

Pallbearers

Dejuan D. Blake - Julius Gordon - Carlton Castlin
Willie Hooten - Egbe Ojonbo - Aakhire Johnson - Michael Robinson

Honorary Pallbearers

Curtis Martin - Michael Ridley - Khari McGill - Toronto Moore

Flowerbearers

Semaj Sims - Serai Blake

God saw you getting tired
and a cure was not to be;
So He put his arms around you
and whispered,
"Come with Me".
With tearful eyes we watched you suffer
and saw you fade away.
Although we LOVED YOU DEARLY
we could not make you stay.
A GOLDEN HEART stopped beating
hard working hands at rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best!

To offer condolences to The Blake Family
Visit www.TheChapelOfPeace.com



A Celebration of the Life of



Willa Mae Blake

December 24, 1941 - May 25, 2023

Wednesday, July 5, 2023

Chapel Of Peace North

Visitation: 1:00pm - Service: 2:00pm

Obituary

Born Willa Mae Martin on December 24, 1941, in Jackson, Mississippi, Willa was the second daughter of the late Thomas and Berthia Martin. Willa Mae was named after her father's brother, her Uncle Willie Martin. She grew up in Columbus, Ohio, and graduated from East High School in 1959. After graduation, she worked in local retail and was active in Civil Rights organizations, including the Columbus chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE).

In October 1964, she married Richard S. Blake, a United States Air Force member. From this union, they had two sons and one daughter. Willa Mae later became the legal guardian of her first grandchild and raised him. As a homemaker and loving mother, she was always active in her children's activities. She served as a Cub Scout den mother, PTA member, and many civic organizations, particularly as an advocate for public housing. Willa was a strong believer in education, enjoying new experiences and learning. At one time, she sought to earn a degree in childhood development. Willa Mae loved children and always encouraged them and her own children and grandchildren to strive to better themselves and improve their educational and professional status.

Willa Mae faithfully attended church throughout her life and was a member of Temple of Faith Church of God in Christ in Columbus. She enjoyed her weekly trip to Walmart and talking to each store associate as if they were a long-lost relative. She was a loving and generous woman and will be greatly missed by her family, friends, relatives, and all who knew her.

On Sunday, June 25, 2023, Willa Mae departed this life after a brief illness. She was preceded in death by her older Sister, Tommye McGill; and her younger sister, Florene Ridley. She leaves to cherish her memory: sons Richard A. Blake and Christopher S. Blake; daughter Kasaundra L. Blake; grandchildren Dejuan, Rakeisha, Shaquez, and Andre; great-grandchildren, Semaj, Serai, Selia, Syur, Malakhi, and Amari; her brother and sister-in-law, Curtis and Denise Martin; and a host of beloved nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives, and friends.

Order Of Service

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|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ORGAN PRELUDE..... | Chapel of Peace Music Ministry |
| PARTING VIEW..... | Immediate Family |
| SCRIPTURE READING..... | Tyrrea Byrd, Niece |
| Old Testament | Proverbs 12:28 |
| New Testament | Romans 8:38-39 |
| PRAYER..... | Tyrrea Byrd |
| SELECTION | Chapel of Peace Music Ministry |
| ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS..... | Richard A. Blake |
| REMARKS | Dejuan Blake, Grandson |
| READING OF OBITUARY | Richard A. Blake |
| SELECTION | Chapel of Peace Music Ministry |

Eulogy

Bishop Roger J. Hairston, Sr.
Temple of Faith Church of God in Christ

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| BENEDICTION | Bishop Roger J. Hairston, Sr. |
| RECESSIONAL | Clergy, Family, and Friends |