

# Mother's Homespun Wisdom

You must first be a friend if you want a friend.

You must make your own happiness.

Marriage is like a garden; if you want it to thrive, you must get the weeds out.

Life changes and there is nothing you can do about it.

Give of yourself in abundance.

Plan each day to feel a sense of accomplishment, especially when you retire.

Love is fine but it doesn't pay the bills.

Retirement will make you lazy.

Leave your house in order. You don't know how or if you will return.

The birth of change is planting seeds. Your seeds may not germinate the first time. But nothing grows if you don't plant seeds.

God is the solid rock on which I stand. If you have tried everything else, try Jesus.

Don't miss the message "shrouded by Jim Crow."

Learn from your elders. You can't escape their wisdom

## Acknowledgement

We, the family of Mrs. Edith Caldwell Brown, would like to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to all who have shown comforting expressions of love, sympathy, and prayers, during the passing of our loved one. Our hearts will always be grateful for your kindness, as we pray for a special blessing to be bestowed upon each and every one of you.



# *In Loving Memory of Mrs. Edith Caldwell Brown*



*Saturday, November 6, 2021  
1:00 p.m.*

*Lincoln Cemetery  
4900 Farrow Road  
Columbia, South Carolina*

*Reverend Johnny C. Owens  
- Officiating -*

## Services Entrusted To:

<b>Taylor Street Chapel</b> 1831 Taylor Street Columbia, SC 29201 (803)771-7799 I. S. Leevy Johnson -Owner & Director-	<b>Leevy's</b> FUNERAL HOME Chris Leevy Johnson -President & Managing Director-	<b>Lower Richland Chapel</b> 9120 Garners Ferry Road Hopkins, SC 29061 (803) 776-6922 Leverette A. Williams, II -General Manager-
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## Obituary

On December 12, 1928, in St. Matthews, SC, Ben and Albertha Caldwell welcomed Edith Alpha Caldwell Speakes Brown. On October 30, 2021, she left behind the agony of suffering, and was welcomed into the home of her Heavenly Father. For 92 years, she lived her life preparing herself, her children, and all with whom she engaged for her lofty ascent. Oh Lord, "How Great Thou Art."

Edith's parents, brother, Bernard Caldwell, and sister, Gervine Harris-Greene, have passed on to their Heavenly home. She often remarked that hardly anyone her age is left. Edith attached herself to the remaining octogenarians and nonagenarians, but she had an amazing connection to young men and women in her workplace, community, and church. Greenview First Baptist Church is where she was a member since 1962.

Edith attended a little community school while living on the "plantation." No, there were no mounted horsemen. There was only love. All who lived humbly among the peach orchards and big white house were a harmonious community. "All HAIL THE POWER." Grade school ended the education for many of her plantation mates, but Edith and Bernard left the security of their community and boarded with a family in Orangeburg, SC, to continue their education. Edith, a little girl, was responsible for caring for herself and her little brother while attending Wilkinson High School, Class of 1946. She always said, "I was never a child."

Her first love was Mack Speakes. Back then, few women worked outside of the home. She was a lady before her time. She wanted to be a nurse. So, whenever Mack was deployed (United States Navy), she studied nursing at historic Waverly and Columbia hospitals in downtown Columbia, SC, which was the cradle of our "Harlem Renaissance." She became an LPN after sitting for hours in the South Carolina State House Legislative chambers taking the state board examination, while under the auspices of "Jim Crow." She made it! HAVE THINE OWN WAY LORD.

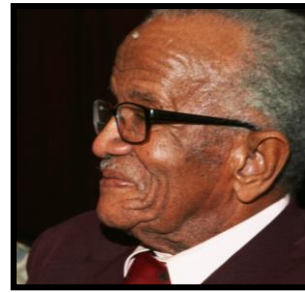
In 1974, Edith and Ernest Brown married. What a friend we have in Jesus. They were the best Christian friends and loved each other dearly. She often remarked that her twelve years of marriage to Ernest were among the happiest of her life. HOLY, HOLY, HOLY.

Edith's professional career spanned forty years. She nursed little babies at the old Columbia Hospital on Harden Street, where her surgical career began. Briefly, she cared for tuberculosis patients. Those days, I believe were similar to these covid days. She left that job abruptly and joined the staff at the VA Hospital. During most of her career she was a surgical nurse at the VA in Columbia. Jim Crow surfaced again. She was the lone nurse assigned to the most challenging cases, (Craniotomies and Thoracotomies). TRUST AND OBEY.

Edith Brown loved the Lord with all her heart. Losing her is painful indeed, but we must continue to ignite our spiritual flame and carry the torch.

Mrs. Edith Caldwell Brown leaves to cherish her legacy: her children, Gloria Myers Beller, Maxine (Willie) Tyler, Gary (Elizabeth) Speakes; grandchildren, Brantley Myers, Melani Myers, Aaron Tyler, Ryan (Victoria) Speakes; great-grandchildren, Peyton Speakes, Olivia Speakes, Winston Speakes, MacLane Speakes, nieces and nephews, Marcia Davis-Williams, Brenda (Reggie) Paris, and Bert (Robin) Caldwell; great-nieces and great-nephews, Nicole Davis, Julian Caldwell, Charnea Paris and son, Phoenix; cherished extended family, Frank Fogle, and Eartha Lee Barrow, along with numerous cousins, and Salley Caldwell.

## Memories



## Order of Service

Reverend Michael E. Addison, Presiding  
Greenview First Baptist Church

- Call to Worship.....Reverend Michael E. Addison  
Greenview First Baptist Church
- Prayer.....Deacon Archie Suber  
Greenview First Baptist Church
- Old Testament.....Reverend Michael E. Addison
- New Testament.....Deacon Richard Wilson, *Childhood Friend*
- Remarks.....Mrs. Eddie R. Adams, *Childhood friend*
- Love Story.....Mrs. Maxine Tyler, *Daughter*
- Song.....Mrs. Corrie Boyce, *Childhood Friend*  
"The Lord's Prayer"
- Words of Comfort.....Senior Pastor Johnny C. Owens  
Greenview First Baptist Church



## Committal, Benediction and Interment

**Lincoln Cemetery**  
4900 Farrow Road  
Columbia, South Carolina

