

Obituary

Mrs. Thomasena Blanks Williams, affectionately known as “TJ,” was born on November 18, 1952, in Gadsden, South Carolina. She was the daughter of the late John and Hannah Nathan Blanks. Thomasena entered eternal rest on Saturday, June 17, 2023, at Midlands Health Rehabilitation Center.

Mrs. Williams was educated in the public schools of Richland County, graduating with the last class from the historical Hopkins High School. Thomasena became gainfully employed with Richland Memorial Hospital immediately after completing high school. She later transferred to Baptist Medical Center, where she dedicated her entire career to the healthcare field, for over 33 years.

She lived life to the fullest, and her favorite pastime was spending time with her beautiful daughter, handsome son-in-law, and her heartbeats, her amazing grandsons; who called her their guardian angel and “Chocolate Mocha.” Sitting on her front porch, admiring her beautiful flowers and enjoying the natural wonders of God, brought her much joy.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her sister, Lettie B. Bland; four brothers, Samuel, Moses, David, and Leon Blanks.

Those left to cherish her memory are: her caring daughter, Phylliss Rodriguez (Roberto), of Columbia, South Carolina; two loving grandsons, O’Sean Bradley and RaSean Rodriguez; four loving sisters, Lizzie Allen, of Columbia, South Carolina, Nellie (SSG Ret. Robert) Jones, of Blythewood, South Carolina, Diana Fersner, of Orangeburg, South Carolina, and Reverend Helen Cofield, of Hopkins, South Carolina; three brothers, John Blanks, of Columbia, South Carolina, CSM (Ret) Otis Blanks, of Columbus, Georgia, and SFC (Ret) Tommy (Amelia) Blanks, of Hopkins, South Carolina; a host of devoted uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews, her loyal and former colleagues, the Hopkins High School Class of 1971, a host of other loving relatives, and friends.

Memories



Order of Service

Prelude

Processional

Viewing.....Funeral Directors

Opening Hymn.....First Nazareth Baptist Church Choir

Scriptures Reading.....Reverend Corwin Scriven

Old Testament – Psalm 23

New Testament – John 14:1-6

Prayer of Comfort.....Associate Pastor Mack Jackson

Solo.....Reverend Helen D. Cofield

Remarks.....Deacon Albert Brown

Ms. Denise Henry, *Friend*
CSM (Ret) Otis Blanks, *Brother*

Selection.....First Nazareth Baptist Church Choir

Words of Comfort.....Reverend Dr. Blakely N. Scott

Recessional.....

Postlude



Committal, Benediction, and Interment

Lincoln Cemetery
4900 Farrow Road
Columbia, South Carolina

When Tomorrow Starts Without Me

*When tomorrow starts without me, and I'm not here to see,
If the sun should rise and find your eyes, filled with tears for
me.*

*I wish so much you wouldn't cry the way you did today,
while thinking of the many things we didn't get to say.*

*I know how much you love me, as much as I love you,
and each time you think of me, I know you'll miss me too.*

*When tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand
That an angel came and called my name and took me by the
hand*

*The angel said my place was ready in heaven far above
And that I'd have to leave behind all those I dearly love.*

*But when I walked through Heaven's gate, I felt so much at
home*

*When God looked down and smiled at me from His great
golden throne.*

*He said, "This is eternity and all I've promised you."
Today my life on earth is past, but here it starts anew*

*I promise no tomorrow but today will always last
And since each day's the same day, there's no longing for
the past.*

*So when tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far
apart,*

*For every time, you think of me, I'm right there in your
heart.*

Pallbearers

Nephews and Great-Nephews

Floral Bearers

Nieces and Great-Nieces

Acknowledgements

We, the family of Mrs. Thomasena Blanks Williams, wish to extend our sincere thanks and deepest appreciation to all of you for your many acts of kindness, comforting words, and prayers, during the passing of our loved one. May God bless and sustain each of you is our prayer.

Services Entrusted To:

Taylor Street Chapel 1831 Taylor Street Columbia, SC 29201 (803)771-7799 I. S. Leevy Johnson -Owner & Director-	Leevy's FUNERAL HOME Chris Leevy Johnson -President & Managing Director-	Lower Richland Chapel 9120 Garners Ferry Road Hopkins, SC 29061 (803) 776-6922 Leverette A. Williams, II -General Manager-
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In Loving Memory of
Mrs. Thomasena Blanks Williams

Friday, June 23, 2023
12:00 Noon

First Nazareth Baptist Church
2351 Gervais Street
Columbia, South Carolina

Reverend Dr. Blakely N. Scott
-Pastor-