

## Roses for Mom

If roses grow in heaven,  
Lord, please pick a bunch for me,  
Place them in my mom's arms  
And tell her they're from me.  
Tell her I love her and miss her,  
And when she turns to smile,  
Place a kiss upon her cheek  
And hold her for awhile  
Because remembering her is easy  
I do it every day,  
But there's an ache within my heart  
That will never go away.

Love,  
Eric

## Letters to Our Grandma in Heaven

They say there is a reason  
They say time will heal;  
Neither time or reason  
Will change the way we feel.  
Gone are the days we used to share,  
But in our hearts, you are always there.  
The gates of memories will never close;  
We miss you more than anybody knows.  
Love you and miss you every day  
'til we meet again

Always and forever,  
Your Grandchildren

## Pallbearers

Brian Bowen  
Cory Bowen

Kevin Cox  
Justin Bowen

LaBarron Ashford  
Torry Stevenson

## Floral Bearers

Sidney Park C.M.E. Church Missionaries and Ushers

## Acknowledgement

We, the family of Reverend Carolyn Elaine Cleveland Marks, would like to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern, and kindness shown to us during our hour of bereavement.

CONTACT US:  
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Services Entrusted To:  
**Leevy's**  
Chris Leevy Johnson  
-Managing Director-

SIGN THE ONLINE REGISTRY:  
  
Leverette A. Williams, II  
-General Manager-

# IN LOVING Memory

of   
Reverend Carolyn Elaine  
Cleveland Marks



Tuesday, October 29, 2024  
11:00 a.m.

Sidney Park C.M.E. Church  
1114 Blanding Street  
Columbia, South Carolina

Reverend Faye R. Houston, Pastor

# Obituary

*“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.”*  
*2 Timothy 4:7*

Early Wednesday morning, October 23, 2024, the angels of heaven traveled to Wildcat Senior Living Center, in Summerville, SC. They whispered to Reverend Carolyn Elaine Cleveland Marks, good and faithful servant, you have been trustworthy with a small amount and now you will be in charge of a large amount. Come and share your Master’s joy. Carolyn was born in Greenville, South Carolina on January 21, 1954, to Sunie Bowen. She attended the public schools of Greenville County and graduated from Travelers Rest High School, in 1972. After high school, she attended South Carolina State University, where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education, in 1976.

At an early age, Carolyn gave her life to Christ and was a faithful member of her home church, Meadow Fork Baptist Church, in Travelers Rest, South Carolina. Carolyn's early dedication to her faith and her involvement in church laid a strong foundation for her lifelong passion for music. Singing in the choir and playing the piano not only nurtured her musical talents, but also deepened her connection to her community and her spirituality. Her journey reflects a beautiful blend of faith and creativity, inspiring those around her. Soon after college, Carolyn relocated to Columbia, South Carolina, and became a member of Sidney Park Christian Methodist Episcopal (C.M.E.) Church. While serving at Sidney Park C.M.E. Church, Carolyn was the Minister of Music. Her leadership and dedication in this role enriched the worship experience for many, allowing her to share her love for music across different congregations to include Bluff Road United Methodist Church and Turner Memorial A.M.E. Church. She was also a member of the Columbia Metropolitan Choral Chapter of the National Convention of Gospel Choirs and Choruses (NCGCC) and the Order of the Eastern Star.

In 2010, Carolyn was ordained as a Deacon in the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. Later in 2012, she was ordained as an Elder, allowing her to take her commitment to faith and service to new heights. In this role, she devoted herself to making disciples for Jesus Christ, guiding others in their spiritual journeys and nurturing their relationships with God. She served faithfully until her health declined.

In the early 90s, Carolyn began a career with the Federal Government, working in the billing department of the Dorn VA Medical Center, in Columbia, SC. She remained employed there for more than 25 years until her retirement.

Carolyn enjoyed singing, spending time with friends and family, taking pictures, watching her favorite Western TV shows, and cooking. Carolyn’s infectious smile will forever be remembered by all who knew and loved her. Her joyous life will be cherished and remembered by her loving and devoted son, Eric (Alison) Cleveland of Summerville, SC; four grandchildren, Deshaun, Madison, Braylin, and Devin Cleveland; one brother, Darrell (Alison) Bowen; one uncle, Jimmy Watkins; special cousins, Kevin Cox and Patricia Ricks, a circle of other devoted loving extended family of nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives, and friends. She was preceded in death by her mother, Sunie Bowen; her grandmother, Frances Williams; her aunts, Louise Cox, Doris Watkins, and Elizabeth Young Greene; and her brother, Jones (Tommy) Bowen.

# Memories



# A Service of Remembrance

Reverend Benjamin T. Martin  
 Worship Leader

- Prelude
- Processional
- Viewing.....Funeral Directors
- Opening Hymn.....Combined Church Choirs  
 “Oh, I Want To See Him”
- Invocation.....Elder Jetson Ronzell Maness,  
 Presiding Elder of the Charleston/Columbia District
- Old Testament.....Reverend Benjamin T. Martin  
 Psalm 121
- New Testament.....Reverend Benjamin T. Martin  
 Matthew 11:28-30
- Selection.....Combined Choirs  
 “I’m Free”
- Special Musical Tribute
- Remarks.....Mrs. Kathy Berry  
 Dr. William Pruitt, Jr.  
 Mr. Vincent Harmon
- Selection.....Mr. Vincent Harmon
- Words of Comfort.....Reverend Faye R. Houston
- Selection.....Combined Choirs  
 “Last Mile of The Way”
- Recessional
- Postlude



# Committal, Benediction and Interment

**Crescent Hill Memorial Gardens**  
 2603 Two Notch Road  
 Columbia, South Carolina