

Pallbearers

Family and Friends

Floral Bearers

Family and Friends

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.*

*A Celebration of Life  
In Loving Memory  
of*

**FIRST LADY HELEN MARIE HYE**



**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2025  
11:00 A.M.**

**ECCLESIA CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST  
533 SHARPE ROAD  
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA  
PASTOR LUTHER HOLMES, JR.  
-PASTOR-**

**CONTACT US:**

Taylor Street Chapel  
803-771-7799

Lower Richland Chapel  
803-776-6922

WWW.LEEVY.COM

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# Reflections of the Life of First Lady Helen Marie Hye

First Lady Helen Marie Hye, a beacon of grace, light and love, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on Monday, February 3, 2025. Born on February 9, 1957, to Ethel Lee Pettis and John Tripp in Chicago, Illinois, at Cook County Hospital, where she resided until 1964.

Her family relocated to Massillon, Ohio and later to Detroit, Michigan. It was in Massillon that she met her beloved husband, Percival William Hye, Sr., whom she affectionately called "William." The love story between William and Helen "Pie" began in 1971, which blossomed into marriage, just a few years later and grew their family to five children.

As a young Marine wife and mother, Helen embraced the adventure of military life, moving with her family to various duty stations from North Carolina, South Carolina, and California. While raising her children, she embarked on a successful career in food services and hospitality, ultimately achieving the position of Regional Manager.

A pivotal moment in Helen's life came in 1991, when she reaffirmed her faith and accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior, at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, in Massillon, Ohio. During this spiritual reawakening the family was led to Oceanside, California, where they settled for their final military assignment.

Helen's faith flourished at Shiloh COGIC, in Oceanside, CA, where she served faithfully as the announcement clerk and hospitality president, with her warm spirit and genuine love for people shining brightly. It was here that her calling to evangelism took root, and her impact and passion for sharing God's love grew and eventually expanded throughout the states. In the early 2000s, she was licensed as an Evangelist in the Church of God in Christ. For 15 years, she served alongside her husband as the First Lady of Outcast Ministries COGIC, where she became affectionately known as Mother Hye. Her ministry was marked by her graceful spirit, her unwavering "Amen," and her powerful messages of healing and love.

In 2015, Mother Hye relocated to Columbia, South Carolina, with her husband Percival, where she continued in ministry until the Lord called her home. She was a prayer warrior, encourager, laid hands on the sick and provoked healing. Her feisty, yet gentle nature and sweet spirit will be missed beyond measure.

Helen was preceded in death by her stepfathers, Lent Allen and George Pettis, and her sister, Barbara Ann Shumpert.

She leaves to cherish her memory her devoted husband, Percival William Hye, Sr.; her five children, Kenyetta Marie, Percival William II, Shelena Kiwanis, Aaron Wendell (Stasha Aline), and Demetris Alexander (Rosalyn); seven grandchildren, DaQuan Vontrell (Alanah Jael), Brianna Nicole, Percival "Tre" William III, Demetris "DJ" Alexander II, Elijah Aaron, Isaiah Alexander, and Mekhi William; her mother, Ethel Lee Pettis; her father, John Tripp; two sisters, Carolyn and Dorothy; three adopted brothers, Johnta, Gary, and Desuan; mentionable extended family, Paula C. McCullough, Ebony M. Hye, Jayden McCullough; a host of nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, in-laws, godchildren, extended family, and friends, all of whom will forever hold her love and memory in their hearts.

## Tributes



**My Daughter, you're truly one of a kind and I'm truly glad to call you my daughter, my baby girl.  
Your Mother  
Ethel Lee Pettis**



**"Hey baby..."  
Hey Nana, wait one more thing before you go  
I know you hear us when we speak so you may already know  
I just have some things I need to let off my chest  
I guess it's more for me than you, this is a lot to digest  
  
You were an angel way before God rewarded your wings.  
The way you loved, the way you shined, the way you molded kings and queens  
Your hugs and kisses were not just the way you greeted, it's the way you healed even if we thought it wasn't needed.  
What we would do to just hear "hey baby" one more time  
or where we were going cause you were ready to ride.**

**You used your hands and tears to pray over others  
To ask God's favor in blessing your sisters and brothers.**

**Even if we thought we weren't deserving of your love  
But you would just remind us it was for the Man up Above**

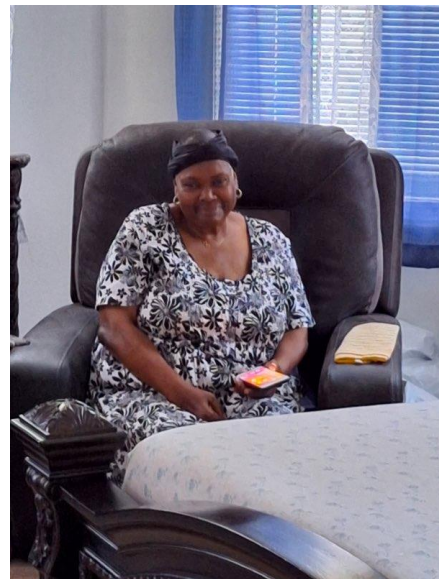
**We will continue to live our life in cherish of you  
To show kindness, forgiveness, and patience to all not just few.**

**We love you Nana  
I love you too baby  
That's what you would want us to know  
Just one more kiss Nana before you're ready to go  
- Alanah Hye**



**"Baby Sister Helen"  
When I first saw you, you were the most beautiful baby that I had ever seen, and you were not even a baby doll; yet little sister, you grew into a beautiful young woman, of soul and spirit; I will not ever stop loving you or your emotions; always special to me you will be, as you journey on seeking King Jesus; let your feet keep on dancing for our heavenly Father and Jesus. Remember me baby Sis, for you are missed by me, and thank you for being my little sister. I am blessed, because of you, and in spirit you must know, there is peace in the valley for you. I love you forever and ever, your loving big sis.  
- Dorothy**

# Memories



# Order of Service

Pastor Luther Holmes, Presiding

- Prelude
- Processional
- Viewing ..... Funeral Directors
- Congregational Praise
- Prayer of Comfort.....Bishop Vincent Collins  
Agape Worship Center International
- Old and New Testaments.....Clergy
- Special Song Tribute.....Mr. DaQuan Hye
- Poem.....*Hey Baby*.....Mrs. Alanah Hye
- Video Tribute.....Media Ministry
- Reading of Obituary/Resolutions/Acknowledgements.....Mother Marcella Bristow
- Words of Reflection..... Lady Cecilia Nauden, Evangelist Rosie Mason,  
and Lady Valerie Holmes
- Family Reflections.....Immediate Family
- Selection.....Mr. Elijah Hye
- Selection.....Ecclesia COGIC Choir
- Eulogy .....Bishop Charles G. Nauden  
Jurisdictional Prelate: Southern California 2<sup>nd</sup> Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction
- Appeal for Salvation
- Final Family Viewing.....Funeral Directors
- Recessional
- Postlude



## Committal, Benediction & Interment

2:00 p.m.

Fort Jackson National Cemetery  
4170 Percival Road  
Columbia, South Carolina

# Memories



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