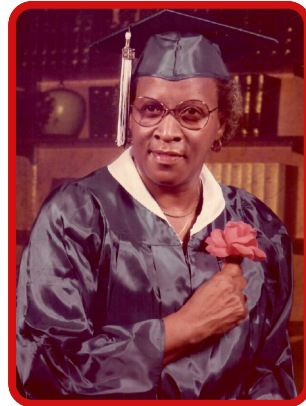


Precious Memories



... How They Linger ...

Pallbearers Floral Bearers

Grandchildren and Great Grand Children

Nieces and Great Grand Children



Special Thanks

The family of Mary Portee Gilmore wish to express our appreciation for all acts of compassion that we have been shown during our time of bereavement. Your prayers, calls, floral tributes and other gestures of love have helped make this time easier to bear. We would like to give a special thanks to the staff of Prisma Hospice.

CONTACT US:
 Taylor Street Chapel
 803-771-7799
 Lower Richland Chapel
 803-776-6922
 WWW.LEEVY.COM

Services Entrusted To:
Leevy's
 Chris Leevy Johnson
 Managing Director

SIGN THE ONLINE REGISTRY:

 Leverette A. Williams, II
 General Manager



Designs By Electra Solutions | Barrien D. Henderson, Owner
 West Columbia, South Carolina | 803.917.6977

Celebrating the Life

In Loving Memory Of



Mrs. Mary Portee Gilmore

Saturday, March 7, 2026
 12:00 Noon

Bethlehem Baptist Church
 1218 Lyon Street

Columbia, South Carolina 29204

Reverend Dr. Charles A DeLaughter, Pastor

Celebrating the Life of
Mrs. Mary Portee Gilmore

Officiant: Reverend Dr. Charles A. DeLaughter

- Prelude
- Processional
- Opening Hymn.....Sanctuary Choir
Bethlehem Baptist Church (Columbia, SC)
- Scripture Reading
- Old Testament:.....Reverend Dr. Thurmond Bowens, Jr.
Pastor, Trinity Baptist Church (Columbia, SC)
Proverbs 31:25-31
- New Testament:Reverend Ivan Goodwin
Associate Minister, Progressive Believers Baptist Church (Columbia, SC)
John 14:1-3
- Prayer.....Reverend Gayle Coker
Associate Minister, Trinity Baptist Church (Columbia, SC)
- Musical Selection.....Ms. Lavetra Deneal
Great Niece (Columbia, SC)
- Reflections
Mrs. Christa McDuffie..... Adopted Daughter
Deacon Gilbert Adams.....Family Deacon
Bethlehem Baptist Church (Columbia, SC)
- Musical SelectionRev. Kenneth Baker
(Friendship Baptist Church)
Trinity Baptist Church Praise Team
- Family Acknowledgments.....Melody Wise Butler
Granddaughter
Kevin Hampton
Grandson
- Presentation.....Nurses Honor Guard of SC
- Musical Selection.....Ms. Lavetra Deneal
Great Niece (Columbia, SC)
- Words of ComfortReverend Dr. Charles A. DeLaughter
Pastor, Bethlehem Baptist Church
- Recessional
- Postlude

Committal, Interment, and Benediction
 Crescent Hill Memorial Gardens
 2603 Two Notch Road
 Columbia, South Carolina 29204



The Obituary
 1934-2026

Mary Portee Gilmore was born in the Waverly community of Columbia, SC, to the late Ms. Henrietta Matthews and the late Mr. Haskell Portee, Sr. on August 21, 1934. She departed this life on Thursday, February 26, 2026, at Prisma Health in Columbia.

Mary attended C.A. Johnson High School and was a member of the graduating class of 1951. After matriculating through C.A. Johnson, Mary successfully attended Nursing School and successfully completed her training in 1958. She began her nursing career at the Columbia Hospital and later moved to Richland Memorial Hospital. After 38 years of caring for patients, Mary retired in 1996. After a few months at home, she returned to the nursing field working PRN for Dr. Gary Bell until she officially retired for good in 2002. While working at Richland Memorial, Mary met her husband, the late Joseph D. Gilmore. The two were married March 29, 1971.

“Momma Mary” as she was affectionally known by her children, grands and great grands, dedicated member to Bethlehem Baptist Church where she served on the Trustees Wives Ministry, the Garden Club, and the Hospitality Ministry. Mary loved serving and helping others. Though she was a member of Bethlehem, she would frequently attend Trinity Baptist Church, along with her mother, aunt Julia Mae Scott and siblings.

In addition to her church involvement, Mary was also faithful and active in her community. She was an active member of the Melrose Height Community Association, The Red Hatters Society and Columbia Chapter #753 of the Midlands AARP. Prior to her transition, she was given the honor of being named an Honorary Member of the Nurses Honor Guard of SC (Midlands Chapter). Mary enjoyed shopping, dancing, collecting antiques and spending time with her family.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Joseph D. Gilmore; son, Nathaniel O. Wise, Jr.; siblings, Isaac “Ike” Portee, Haskell Portee, Jr., David Matthews, and Sallie Mae Boykin.

She is survived by her daughter, Loretta Hampton; her two brothers Claude “Ricky” Matthews and Willie Lee McLone; her two sisters, Daya Matthews and Carolyn Josey. She is also survived by her six (6) grandchildren, Kevin (Quentella) Hampton, Michael Hampton, Melody Wise (Jarvis) Butler, Paris (Nicole) Hampton, Nathan Wise and Marcus (Chemel) Myers; an adopted daughter Christa McDuffie; 32 great grandchildren, nieces, nephews and a host of other relatives and friends.

In Loving Memory
of our
Wonderful Grandmother

Of all the special gifts in life
 however great or small,
 to have you as our Grandmother
 was the greatest gift of all.

May the winds of love blow softly
 and whisper in your ear
 “We love and miss you Grandmother
 and wish that you were here”

Deep in our hearts,
 your life is kept to love and cherish,
 not forget. No more tomorrows we can share
 but yesterdays are always there.

A silent thought, a secret tear
 keeps your memory ever near
 in our hearts forever.

- Unknown Author

