

If Roses Grow in Heaven

If Roses grow in Heaven
Lord, please pick a bunch for me.
Place them in my Mother's arms
and tell her they're from me.
Tell her that I love her and miss
her,
and when she turns to smile,
place a kiss upon her cheek
and hold her for a while.
Because remembering her is easy,
I do it every day,
but there is an ache within my
heart
that will never go away.

Submitted By:
Brenda, Debbie, and Greg

Pallbearers
Family and Friends

Floral Bearers
Family and Friends

Acknowledgement

We, the family of Mrs. Sarah Mae Butler Peterson, would like to thank each of you for your prayers, love, support, phone calls, visits, flowers, food, and any act of kindness shown to us during the passing of our loved one. It is our prayer that the Lord blesses each of you in a very special way.

A Celebration of Life In Loving Memory of Mrs. Sarah Mae Butler Peterson



Friday, May 1, 2026
1:00 p.m.

Greater St. Luke Baptist Church
5228 Farrow Road
Columbia, South Carolina
Reverend Michael H. Baker, Pastor

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-

Levrette A. Williams, II
-General Manager-

SIGN THE ONLINE REGISTRY:

Obituary

Mrs. Sarah Mae Butler Peterson was born on September 23, 1935, in Bishopville, South Carolina. She was one of 12 children of Marion Butler, Sr. and Vermell Butler, and raised by his second wife, Estelle Butler. She departed this life on Friday, April 24, 2026.

Sarah was a woman of grace, strength, and quiet resilience. She carried herself with warmth and compassion, leaving a lasting impression on everyone fortunate enough to know her. Whether through her kind words, her unwavering support, or her gentle presence, she made people feel seen, valued, and loved.

Sarah was educated in the public schools of Lee County, South Carolina and graduated from Dennis High School. She also attended and received certificates from Midlands Technical College.

Mrs. Peterson was baptized at an early age, and was a long-time member of the Greater Saint Luke Baptist Church, Columbia, SC, where she served on the Executive Board, Missionary Union, Senior Ministry, and was an active member of the Tribe of Benjamin.

She worked as a mental retardation specialist for 25+ years at Midlands Center, a facility of the S.C. Department of Disabilities and Special Needs. She also served for 15 years as mental retardation specialist back-up supervisor. After retiring from Midlands Center, she attended Midlands Technical College, received her Floral Designing Training Certificate, and worked as a floral designer for Carolyn's Flowers and Gifts for 15 years. She enjoyed gardening, floral design and cooking.

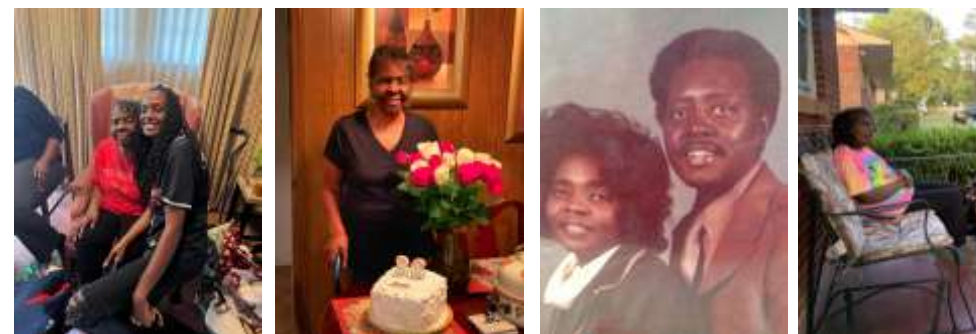
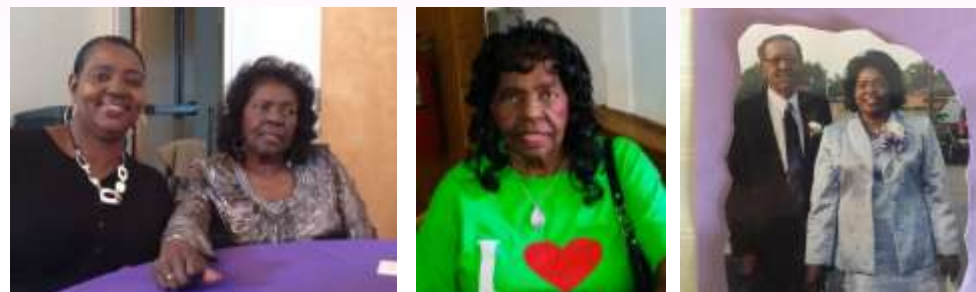
Above all, Sarah was a devoted mother. Her love was constant, selfless, and unconditional--a guiding light that will continue to shine in the lives of her children, grandchildren, and all those she nurtured. She found joy in life's simple moments: laughter shared at the table, meaningful conversations, and the comfort of family close by.

She will be remembered for her generous spirit, her enduring faith, and her ability to bring peace and strength to others even in difficult times. Her legacy is one of love, kindness, and quiet courage.

Mrs. Peterson was preceded in death by her parents, Marion, Sr., Vermell Butler and Estelle Butler; spouse, William Saint Peterson, brothers, Frank Brunson, Thomas Butler, Robert Butler, Marion Butler, Jr., Russell Butler, Willie Butler, James Butler and John (Bobby) Butler; sisters, Ada Bell Butler, Maggie Butler, and Annie Mae Jeffers.

Mrs. Sarah Mae Butler Peterson leaves to mourn her passing: daughters, Brenda Elaine Peterson of Nashville, TN and Debbie Renae (Samuel) Duckett; son, William Gregory Peterson, both of Columbia, South Carolina; grandchildren, Chelsey Michelle Peterson, Kaydra Renae Duckett, Jaziray McFadden and Kennidy Mariah Peterson; brother, Roger (Ruth) Butler, of Washington, DC; sisters-in-law, Nettie Mae Butler, Lula Mack, Elinda Brisbon, Essie McCollough, Reta Harris, and Dorothy Peterson, and a host of nephews, nieces and many other loving relatives and caring friends, all of whom will miss her dearly.

Memories



A Service of Remembrance

- Musical Prelude
- Processional
- Viewing.....Funeral Directors
- Musical Selection
- Old Testament.....Reverend Willie Wilson
- New Testament.....Reverend Willie Wilson
- Prayer of Comfort.....Elder Monica Mack Briggs
- Musical Selection
- Reflections.....Deacon Robert Cook, Church
Mr. Billy Chestnut, Former Supervisor, Midlands Center
Ms. Inez Bush, Co-worker
Ms. Kaydra R. Duckett, Granddaughter
- Resolution/Remarks.....Mrs. Theandrea L. Burgess
- Musical Selection
- Eulogy.....Pastor Michael H. Baker
- Recessional
- Postlude



Committal, Benediction, and Interment

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