Obituary

Mrs. Helen Petty was born on November 11, 1949, in Columbia, South Carolina. She was the third daughter of the late Henry Scott Sr. and Alberta Washington Scott. Helen departed this life on the morning of Sunday, October 11, 2026, at MUSC Providence Hospital.

Helen, affectionately known as "Sugar Rabbit" by her sisters, grew up in a close-knit community on Shaw Street, where she attended and graduated from C. A. Johnson High School. Helen's love for sewing and cooking began at an early age. She dedicated more than thirty years of her life to working as a seamstress, a profession that reflected her talent, creativity, and passion. After retiring from her first love, sewing, Helen discovered a new passion in working with at-risk youth. She served as lead chef with the Department of Juvenile Justice for six years before accepting another position as lead chef at Heartlands.

Helen was baptized at an early age at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church and later transferred her membership to Greater St. Luke Baptist Church. Her love for the Lord was an important part of her life, and her faith remained a meaningful part of her journey. Helen enjoyed cooking, shopping, and spending quality time with her beloved children and sisters. She treasured the moments she shared with her family, and the memories they created together will forever remain in the hearts of those who knew and loved her.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Clarence Washington; and several aunts and uncles.

Mrs. Helen Petty leaves to cherish her precious memory: her loving children: Pandora James, of Columbia, South Carolina, Rhonda (Demetrick) Gamble, of Rock Hill, South Carolina, and Charles James, of Columbia, South Carolina; her five beloved sisters, Susie (Richard) Alford, of Columbia, South Carolina, Vivian (Robert) Hayes of Columbia, South Carolina; Deborah Etheridge, of Columbia, South Carolina, Elvira (Timothy) Pearson, of Birmingham, Alabama, and Alberta Lowman of Columbia, South Carolina; her loving brother, Henry Scott Jr., of Columbia, South Carolina; her sister-in-law, Mary Washington; and one uncle, Joseph (Ethel) Washington. Her legacy of love continues through her six grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, two nieces, and seven nephews, all of whom will treasure her memory and miss her dearly.

Though Helen's earthly journey has come to an end, the love she shared, the lives she touched, and the memories she created will live on in the hearts of her family and all who knew her. Her dedication to her work, her passion for helping others, her love for her family, and her faith in the Lord will remain an enduring part of her legacy. Helen will forever be remembered, deeply loved, and dearly missed. Her life was a blessing to those who knew her, and her memory will continue to live on through the generations she leaves behind

Memories












Order of Service

Prelude

Processional

Viewing……..…….Funeral Directors

Opening Hymn…...…Ms. Gaynelle Leonard

Scripture Readings……. Mrs. Viola Etheridge

Prayer……...……..Reverend Charles Epps

Solo…….…. Ms. Gaynelle Leonard

Poem……..… Ms. Brittany Hayes

Remarks……Mr. Masana Cornish, Grandson

Solo…..…..…… Mrs. Deborah Carmicheal

Words of Comfort..…Reverend Charles Epps

Recessional

Postlude

Committal, Benediction and Interment

Lincoln Cemetery
4900 Farrow Road
Columbia, South Carolina

To Our Beloved Mother

A love that will live beyond life's end. Your laughter, your kindness, the joy that you brought, Are treasures more precious than can ever be bought.

You loved to cook, to sew, and to share, And showed your love by the way that you cared. Your family was precious, your faith was your guide, And the Lord's loving presence stayed close by your side.

Now Heaven has welcomed you home to rest, Called by the One who knows you best. Though mama we miss you so, Your love is a light that will always glow.

Rest in God's peace, dear mother, until we meet again. Forever loved, forever cherished, Our hearts will hold you to the end.

Pallbearers

Demetrick Gamble
Derrick Butler
Ryan Scott
Chad Lowman
Brad Lowman

Floral Bearers

Family and Friends

Acknowledgement

We, the family of Mrs. Helen Petty, wish to thank each of you for the many loving and wonderful acts of love and kindness rendered to us during the passing of our loved one. May God bless each of you.





Homegoing Service
In Loving Memory
of
Mrs. Helen Petty



Friday, October 16, 2026
1:00 P.M.

Leevy's Funeral Home Chapel
1831 Taylor Street
Columbia, South Carolina

Reverend Charles Epps
-Officiating-