

A CELEBRATION OF

# *Life*

*June 19, 1944*

*August 6, 2020*



*Martha M. Huggins*

*Rev. Ranesa Mayo, Officiating*  
*Rev. Patrick Barrett, II, Eulogist*  
*Rev. Dr. Evalina Huggins, Committal*

Judah Temple A.M.E. Zion Church  
14500 Mt. Oak Road, Mitchellville, MD  
*Rev. Scot C. Moore, Pastor*

## *Obituary*

Martha M. (Gregg) Huggins took the wings of the morning and departed her earthly sojourn to join that great cloud of witnesses counted among the Redeemed of the Lord. On Thursday, August 6, 2020, she joined her husband of 56 years, Mr. Elvin Huggins, Sr., who preceded her just a few months earlier in death. Elvin and Martha found true love in their hometown of Bishopville, South Carolina, and from this union of love six children were born, Mr. Calvin Huggins (Schnell), Rev. Dr. Evalina Huggins, Mr. Elvin Huggins, Jr., and Mr. Robert Huggins (Cheronda) and twins who died at birth. Martha's maternal instincts led her and her husband to become Foster Parents to five children and surrogate parents to so many others. Growing up in the rural south, the fourth child of sixteen to the late Mr. Cleveland Gregg, Sr. and Bertha Hickmon Gregg, "Mop" as she was affectionately called learned to cook and clean as she helped to raise her siblings. She attended Dennis High School in Bishopville, South Carolina and received later in her life several Certifications in the area of Food Service and Food Service Delivery, where she used her gift of cooking to bring joy to others.

### ***HER LIFE'S STORY***

Her love for cooking inspired her to begin her culinary career in the Alexandria Public School System, where her children were privileged to drink all of the chocolate milk and eat as many ice cream sandwiches during lunch as they could hold. Her love for food preparation led her to Marino's, Calvert Restaurant, Costco and the Culinary Arts ministry at the North Brentwood and Varick AME Zion Church.

Martha was affectionately known as Mama, Aunt Mop, Ganny, Gana, Martha Mae, Mae, Maude, Miss Prissy, Mother and momma. Blessed with grand-children and great-grands too numerous to count the house was always filled with children, laughter, food and from time to time tears, especially if she had to ask you something more than once. The Huggins home was home for any and everybody. Her specialty was fried chicken, macaroni and cheese, potato salad, and cornbread that taste like cake. Her famous lines were "Get out my kitchen" and "Is your hands clean". She loved to fish, watch SVU and Empire, and hear good singing. She was very close to all of her siblings and wasn't afraid to tell you what she thought. She was Ms. Martha.

### ***HER CHILDREN AND GRANDS***

Like every mother and grandmother she always wanted the best for her family. Willing to go without, there were times she sacrificed and never thought of herself to make sure we all had a clean, happy and healthy home. By today's standards we were poor, but we were happy playing football in the streets, climbing trees, playing hop-sotch and jump rope in the front yard, only to hear her yell from the porch "you better be in this before it gets dark". "Sister" was always daddy's favorite, but those boys belonged to momma's heart. No matter what they did or did not do, she loved her boys unconditionally. And yet, God saw fit for her and her only daughter to watch the transition of her husband, and to be alongside each other as she bid farewell to this world, for a home eternal in the heavens. Her grandchildren were the apple of her eye, and her great-grands brought her unspeakable joy. We are who we are, because of her love.

### ***HER CHRISTIAN JOURNEY***

While food nourished the physical body, Martha made sure she nourished her spiritual body. She began her spiritual journey at the Ebenezer United Methodist Church, in Bishopville, S.C., but upon relocation to Alexandria, Virginia in 1964, she joined the Alleyne A.M.E. Zion Church in Alexandria, Virginia where her mother and father were founding members. Early on she found her place on the Usher Board, Children's Choir Director, Choir and Culinary Team. When her daughter founded the Beth-El A.M.E. Zion Church, Martha left the Alleyne church in support her ministry. She later followed her daughter to the North Brentwood A.M.E. Zion Church and the Varick Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church. Upon her daughters appointment as Presiding Elder she united with the New Life A.M.E. Zion Church until her death.

### ***HER LEGACY CONTINUES***

Martha is survived by her oldest son Calvin, one daughter the Rev. Dr. Evalina Huggins, Mr. Elvin Huggins, Jr. and her baby "DeDe" – Robert Huggins. Her grandchildren Ebonique, Latara, Ashley, Ryesha, Trinity, Malik, Calvin, Nykell, Shaylunn, Chelsea, Jaquitta, and Diamond. She leaves one sister Darnella Shelby, one brother, Ray C. Gregg Sr. (Mary), and Sister-in-law Mrs. Naomi C. Cooper, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. One god-daughter, Mercedes Thurman and adopted daughters Cora Jackson and Margo Scott. Adopted son Mike Brooks. And, her best friend, Rev. Beverly Sellers.

*Together  
Again...*



# *Order of Service*

Musical Prelude

Mr. Ramon Shelton

Musical Selection

Ms. Ashia Bello

Processional

Words of Assurance

Clergy / Family  
Rev. David DeVerteuil

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn of Praise

Rev. Ranesa Mayo  
Blessed Quietness

Scripture

Old Testament

New Testament

Psalm 27  
John 14:1-18

Rev. Ray C. Gregg  
Rev. Alyce W. Johnson

Prayer of Comfort

Dr. Alvin T. Durant

Musical Selection

Ms. Ashia Bello

**Friends Tributes**

Rev. Beverly Sellers  
Mrs. Margo Scott  
Mr. Ken Cunningham

Acknowledgements

Musical Selection

Mrs. Beverly Askia

**Family Tributes**

Mr. Kenneth Lynn  
Mrs. Theresa Ladson  
Ryesha Smith & Grands  
Mr. Calvin Huggins

Obituary (read silently)

Musical Selection

Rev. Alanna Thomas

Message

Invitation

Rev. Patrick A. Barrett, II

Musical Selection

Rev. Scot C. Moore

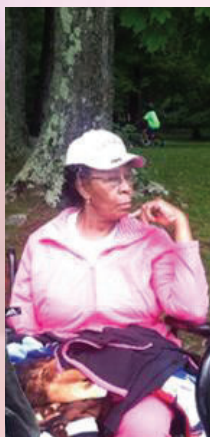
Recessional

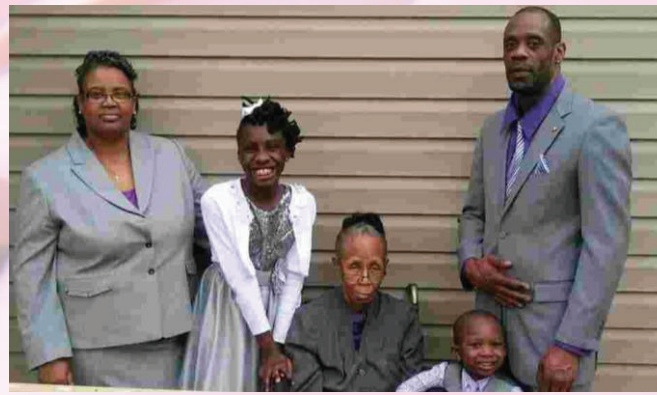
Internment - Fort Lincoln Cemetery  
Bladensburg, Maryland



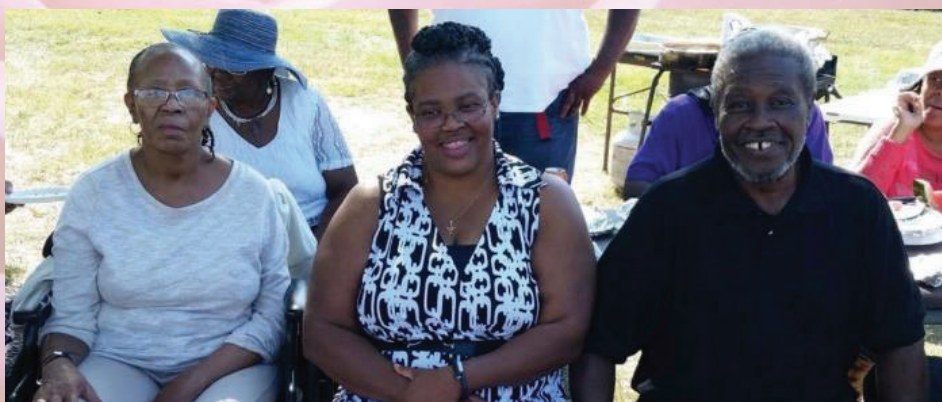
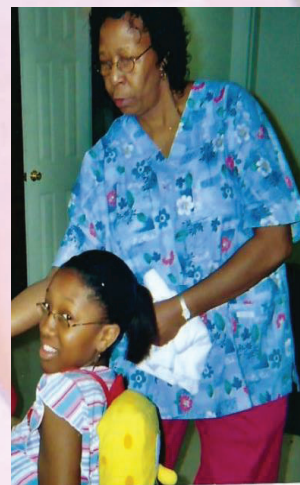
## *'Martha Mae'*

'There are some people in life that  
make you **LAUGH** a little louder,  
**SMILE** a little bigger and  
**LIVE** just a little bit better'





## *All In The Family*



## PALLBEARERS

Mr. Patrick Cooper  
Mr. Isaiah Carter  
Mr. Rodney Bolden

Mr. Jonathon Upshur  
Mr. Cleveland Gregg, Jr.  
Mr. Eugene Stewart

## HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Rev. Marvin Spriggs  
Mr. Wayne Lynn  
Mr. Truitt Jackson  
Mr. Patrick Reeves

Mr. James R. Huggins  
Mr. Tyrone Lynn  
Mr. Albert Burnett  
Mr. Stanley Aboagye

## FLOWER BEARERS

Ms. Cora Jackson  
Ms. Marissa Briggs  
Ms. Ashley Mickey  
Ms. Brittany Copeland

Ms. Alisha Dawkins  
Ms. Unique Bolden  
Ms. Ryesha Smith  
Ms. Ajanique Sloan

*Dear Ganny,*

I really miss you. Lately I've been sleeping in your bed. When I sleep in your bed I start to remember all of the fun we had. You were my best friend and forever will be. From now on I will always think of the good times we had instead of the bad. There was so much I wanted to say to you. I just want to be able to tell you that "I love you" one more time. I say this because I feel that I didn't say it enough. There's a lot that I regret saying because when I said those things I wasn't thinking about how you felt and it may have made things worse. I just want to apologize for that. As I said before I love you.

- Bird

## *Thanks from the Huggins family*

Special thanks to Bishop W. Darin Moore, Bishop Warren M. Brown, and Bishop Kenneth Monroe. The Judah Temple AME Zion Church, the Scotland AME Zion Church, New Life AME Zion Church, Mr. Mike Brooks, Rev. Beverly Sellers, The Easy "E" Breakfast in the Word Team, Worship participants, **FAMILY** and friends. Sincerest gratitude to the Baltimore District, the Mid-Atlantic Episcopal District and our Beloved Zion.

J.B. Jenkins Funeral Home – Landover, Maryland  
Interment at Fort Lincoln Cemetery – Brentwood, Maryland