



## *Repast*

Healing Temple Church  
613 North Street East  
Vidalia, Georgia

## *Acknowledgements*

God knew we needed you during our hour of sorrow.

We sincerely thank you for the support and strength given during the passing of our loved one. Our bereavement has been less painful because of the comfort you extended. Your many acts of kindness are deeply appreciated, and they exemplify that God is ever near. May God richly bless each of you.

## *The Family*

"These three things will last forever  
- faith, hope, and love-  
and the greatest of these is love"  
I Corinthians 13:13



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Baxley Funeral Home  
477 Blackshear Highway, Baxley, Georgia  
912.367.0348

"Reliable, Efficient, and Loyal Services for Over 18 Years"

# *Celebrating the Life of*



*Mrs. Dessie Lee*  
**GILLIS**

**SUNRISE**  
December 19, 1944

**SUNSET**  
October 22, 2021

## *Graveside Service*

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2021 ~ 11AM**  
**POPULAR SPRING MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**VIDALIA, GEORGIA**



# Dessie's Life Reflections

*And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, "Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them."*

*Revelation 14:13*

*It is said that "Death sets the soul at liberty to fly." The soul of Dessie Lee Carson Gillis was set free when she was beckoned "COME" by our Heavenly Father on October 22, 2021. Dessie was born in Eastman, Georgia on December 19, 1944. She now joins her parents, Foster Carson and Beulah Dillard Carson, as well as her siblings, Emory, George, Alton and Wanda in eternity.*

*Dessie grew up in Eastman. As a young child, she accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior. She became a member of the Free Gift Baptist Church in Eastman under Pastor William Henry Hughes, where she learned the tenets of Christian living and service.*

*Dessie attended Lisbon Elementary School and graduated from Peabody High School in Eastman in 1963. After graduating high school, she continued her education at Fort Valley State College, receiving her Master's degree in 1985. During her college years, she met and married Ernest Gillis of Vidalia, Georgia. Three children were born to this union, Dawn, Ernie, and a daughter who died at birth. Dessie was devoted to her family. Upon completion of her undergraduate studies, Dessie began her career as an educator. She worked as an elementary teacher for 37 years for Toombs and Bibb counties.*

*Dessie continued to serve her Lord and Savior at Turner Tabernacle Methodist Church where she served with the stewardesses, taught Sunday School, and other ministries. Dessie was a student of the Bible, loved reading her Bible, talking about the Lord, and modeling Christianity. Dessie loved traveling to places such as Japan, Alaska, the Bahamas, Cayman Islands, Mexico, Black History Museum, Noah's Ark, and the Creation Museum, to name a few. Her presence was the essence of love.*

*She leaves to God's safe keeping her husband, Ernest Gillis; daughter, Dawn Gillis Solomon; son, Ernie Gillis; grandchildren: Joseph Solomon, Jasmine Gordon, and Kennedi Solomon; great-grandchildren: Joseph III and Aden; sisters, Lois Carson, Gennie Ealy (Marion), Mattie Carson, and Carolyn Jones (Elbert); brother, Alvin Carson; sisters-in-law: Mary Wilcox Carson and Mary Nelson Carson; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, and a very special sister/cousin, Jackie Hudson Carson.*

## Order of Service

*Reverend Clarence Thomas, Sr. ~ Presiding*

Processional ..... Family & Clergy

Prayer ..... Reverend Hayward White, Jr.

### Reading of the Holy Scriptures

Old Testament..... Reverend Troy Young

New Testament ..... Reverend Billy Bentley

Solo ..... Sue Demery

Eulogy ..... Reverend Hayward White, Jr.  
Greater Turner Tabernacle A.M.E. Church

### COMMITTAL SERVICE

Acknowledgements ..... Baxley Funeral Home Staff

Recessional..... Soft Music

### Dessie's Favorite Scripture

*"Also now, behold, my witness is in heaven,  
and my record is on high."*

*Job 16:19*