

Mother
*Lillie Ruth
Sykes*

Repast & Balloon Release
Sion Temple Church of God in Christ
1754 West 79th Street
Chicago, Illinois

Interment
Oakwood Cemetery
1035 East 67th Street
Chicago, Illinois

Pallbearers

Edward Andre, Jr.
Ryan Stephens
Anthony Hicks, Jr.

Rodney Johnson, Jr.
Michael Blanchard
Paul Hudson

Honorary Pallbearers

Douglas Keetion
Eric Deon Taylor
Minister Robert Taylor, Jr.

Gregory Brown
Superintendent Anthony Chancellor
Jeffrey Brown

Flower Bearers
Nieces

Special Thanks

The Sykes family would like to especially thank the following persons for your acts of love and care for our mother during the later season of her life. Her additional caregivers, Lolita Colier, Voneicia "Nese" Goer, and the Advocate Hospice Blue Team. Thank you!!!

Acknowledgement

The family of Mother Lillie Ruth Sykes appreciates your prayers, expressions of love, words of comfort and encouragement, deeds of endearment, flowers, tributes, tokens of love, and other acts of kindness during this time of bereavement.

May God richly bless you.

The Sykes Family

Professional Services Entrusted To

P. D. L.
Perkins & Sons LLC
Est. January 2010

*"Creating Memorable Memorials
While Serving With Immeasurable Integrity"*

Dante' and Towanda Perkins, Proprietors
2817 St. Charles Road
Bellwood, Illinois 60104
(Bellwood Location)
1600 Chicago Avenue
Melrose Park, IL 60160
(West Suburban Location)
Ofc. (773) 759-3362 | Fax (708) 540-4656
www.dlperkinsandsons.com | dlpsrmmchapel@yahoo.com

THE Angels
ARE WAITING AT
Heaven's Gate
FOR



In Loving Memory of
Mother
Lillie Ruth
Sykes

Sunrise *Sunset*
September 29, 1935 November 24, 2021

Saturday, December 4, 2021
Visitation 10:00 AM | Service 11:00 AM

FREEDOM TEMPLE
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
1459 West 74th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60636

Bishop James C. Austin, Sr. – Officiant
Superintendent E. Andre Sykes, Sr. – Eulogist



Together Again

*A reunion occurred in Heaven this week,
Of the sweetest and most joyful kind.
As Mom's spirit moved beyond this earth,
Released from her mortal life,
And what a reunion it must have been!
A joy beyond our conceiving,
When Dad met Mom in Heaven again,
Ending months of dignified grieving.
And we are certain Dad is still holding Mom's hand,
While she cherishes each moment by his side,
And they're experiencing the joy of being together again,
Catching up on the months they were denied.
We are confident they are also looking over us,
Hoping this happiness will lessen our pain,
As we contemplate the joy that they finally feel
Now that they are together again.
And though we'll miss them terribly,
And will long for them with deepest grief,
We are reminded that love is more powerful than death,
And this knowledge gives us comfort and peace.
We can still feel their love surround us,
Giving us a desire to continue on,
To try our best to live our lives well
In the ways they would have done.
For we know this isn't the only reunion;
Someday we'll be called back to be with them,
For life can lead us to greater happiness.*

The Day God Took You Home

*You never said, "I'm leaving."
You never said, "Good-bye."
You were gone before I knew it,
And only God knew why
A million times I needed you,
A million times I cried
If love alone could have saved you,
You never would have died
In life, I loved you dearly
In death, I love you still
In my heart, you hold a place,
That no one could ever fill
It broke my heart to lose you,
But you didn't go alone
For part of me went with you,
The day God took you home.*



Precious Memories



Mother
Lillie Ruth
Sykes

Sunrise
September 29, 1935

Sunset
November 24, 2021

Obituary

"No matter what you're going through, God is good all the time, and all the time God is good."

"No matter what others may think, you just live holy and walk slowly to glory."

Mother Lillie Ruth Sykes, affectionately known as Momma, Mommy, Ma, Baby Girl, Sunshine, Granny, Granny – Granny, and Auntie Lillie, was born on Sunday, September 29, 1935, in Philadelphia, Mississippi to parents Jessie and Necie Bell Kirkland.

She attended Hopewell Elementary and High School in Philadelphia, and moved to Chicago, Illinois in 1954 after she graduated from high school.

Lillie accepted the Lord at an early age and was a third generation member of the Church of God in

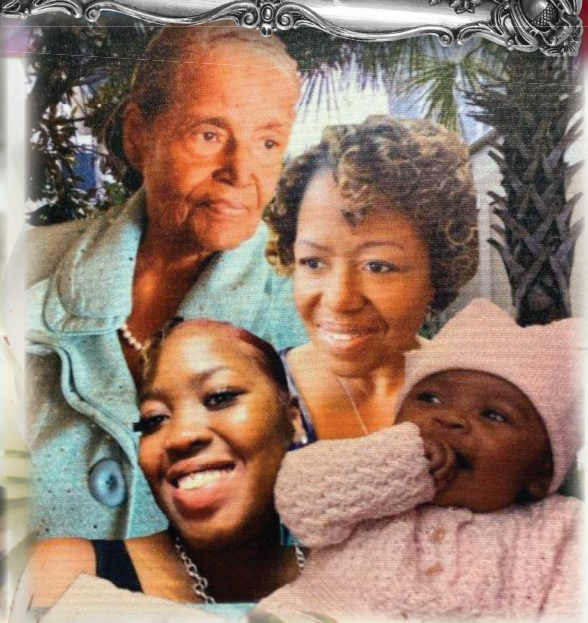
Christ in Philadelphia. The four sisters, Lillie, Ollie Mae, Jessie Lou, and Jessie Ruth, had no choice but to attend church on a regular basis with their mother. One fond memory was that they sat in chairs and had to tarry at the altar often. While tarrying Lillie was saved, sanctified, baptized and filled with the power of the Holy Ghost to the bone.

Mother Kirkland traveled to Chicago with Lillie to stay with Mother Johnson, affectionately known as Aunt Martha. Lillie wanted to go to a Church of God in Christ, and Aunt Martha knew just the person to call: Freddie Hobbs. He was currently a member of St. Lawrence Church of God in Christ, where Elder Hezzie Hudson was pastor. Lillie eventually lived with Pastor Hezzie and Mother Rebecca Hudson until she married.

Otis Sykes and Lillie met at the state youth night service. Mother Hudson asked Brother Sykes to give Ms. Kirkland a ride home. On Saturday, January 18, 1958, Lillie Ruth Kirkland was joined in holy matrimony to Otis Edward Sykes. Otis decided to join Lillie at the St. Lawrence Church of God in Christ. To this union four children were born: Edward Andre, Sylvia, Elaine, and Jennifer.

Lillie joined Saint Lawrence Church of God in Christ under the leadership of Pastor Hezzie Hudson, located at 4422 South Cottage Grove Avenue. The church later moved to 6959 South Vincennes, then to 7400 South St. Lawrence Avenue in Chicago. Mother Sykes was an active member of St. Lawrence as Sunday School teacher, Youth Department President for over 30

Precious Memories



Precious Memories



CHILD OF GOD • DAUGHTER • SISTER • WIFE • MISSIONARY
MOTHER • GRANDMOTHER • AUNT • COUSIN • FRIEND



years, President of the Missionary Board, and as the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees. She served faithfully in her local church as well as her district. She was appointed Assistant District Missionary by the late Mother Mozella Thurston. After the passing of Mother Thurston, Mother Sykes was appointed District Missionary of the Macedonia District of 5th Illinois Jurisdiction, under the leadership the Bishop Bennie Earl Goodwin and Mother Rosa Marie Smith.

Mother Sykes worked at Sara Lee Corporation for more than 30 years. She traveled over 44 miles one way every day and mentored, counseled, and mothered her colleagues. Mother Sykes was the reason so many young ladies accepted Christ and joined St. Lawrence.

After 56 years at St. Lawrence, Mother Sykes joined the St. Luke Church of God in Christ on Sunday, June 1, 2014, under the Leadership of Bishop James C. Austin, Sr. She served faithfully with the Missionary Board and Mothers' Board until her health limited her attendance.

Mother Lillie Sykes received numerous recognitions throughout her life for leadership in service to the church.

Mother Lillie Ruth Sykes moved from earth to glory on Wednesday, November 24, 2021, at 1:31 PM. She left an indelible imprint on the lives of many. Her parents and two sisters, Ollie Mae and Jessie Lou, preceded her in death.

She leaves to cherish her loving memories: her four "beautiful children," Edward Andre Sykes (Linda), Sylvia L. Sykes, Elaine V. Johnson (Rodney), and Jennifer S. Hicks (Paul Hudson); a special daughter, Kim Yvette Thomas-Williams; twelve grandchildren, Edward Andre, Jr., Sabrina (Robert), Daniel (Brittney), Monet, Michael, Rodney Jr., Anthony Jr., Rachel, Ryan, Dwane, Iylana, and Terrell; thirteen great-grandchildren, Davion, Maykala, Malachi, Alaysia, Kaden, Darius, Wyatt, Lianna, DeAndre, Jayce, Chloe (PooPoo), Daniel Jr., and Noah; one sister, Jessie Ruth Brown of Omaha, Nebraska; three sisters-in-law, Alma Whitaker of Memphis, Tennessee, Catherine Sidney of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Effie Taylor (Robert) of West Bloomfield, Michigan; and Lue Catherine Sykes of Memphis, TN; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, spiritual daughters, the St. Luke Church family, and special and loving friends.





Tribute for Our Mother

Affectionately know as
Momma, Sunshine, and Baby Girl.

How we will miss her big hugs and kisses. Momma had a way of hugging us that made us feel so much better. She always said, “everything was going to be alright”, and if my Momma said it, so it is. Sunshine made each of us feel important and at the same time made us feel like we were the “one and only”. When we were younger, if we started fighting, Momma would make us kiss on the mouth and say, “if you fight one another you’re going to kiss each time”. That was Momma’s way of keeping us close. Watching Momma we learned many things.

One for sure is how she taught us to conduct ourselves as women. Knowing when to be “sweet” and having the ability to get our point across without losing the meat of what we are saying. We definitely learned how to be strong, simply by watching Baby Girl. She always taught us how to be clean and orderly. She said everything has a place and every place should have a thing. She taught us in order to keep your floors and corners looking good is to clean with your hands. She said, “your hands can get what a mop can’t”. She encouraged us to be our best, do our best and if you mess up, repent, forgive yourself, and keep it moving. Our mother loved her children, and my goodness we loved our Momma, and because of her love, we have become her “beautiful children” and we will miss her dearly. Until we meet again.

Order of Service

Bishop James C. Austin, Sr. – Officiant
Superintendent E. Andre Sykes, Sr. – Eulogist

Musical Prelude	D. L. Perkins Singers
Family Processional	
Liturgical Acts From Labor to Reward	D. L. Perkins and Sons
Service Facilitator.....	Evangelist Charita Chancellor
Invocation.....	Elder Sheriece Plair-Ortiz
Scripture	Minister Vanessa Wilson-Powell
Musical Selection.....	Celebration Choir
Expression of Remembrance	Apostle Rayford Pointer
Reflections from St. Lawrence	
Mother Roberta Harding	
Reflections from Macedonia District	
Lady Vernesta T. Austin	
Reflections from St. Luke Church of God in Christ	
Clergy Representation	Archbishop William Hudson, III
Prelate, Pilgrim Assemblies International	
Bishop Edwin Walker	
Prelate, Northern Illinois Jurisdiction	
Musical Selection.....	Celebration Choir
Family Tributes	Grandchildren
Children	
Resolutions/Cards and Acknowledgements.....	Evangelist Joenita Ott
Reading of Obituary.....	Silently
Expressions and Introduction of Speaker.....	Bishop James C. Austin, Sr.
Prelate, 5th Illinois Jurisdiction East	
Eulogistic Sermonic Selection.....	Eric Deon Taylor
The Eulogy	Superintendent E. Andre Sykes, Sr.
Postlude	D. L. Perkins Singers
The Last Glimpse ‘Til Glory	
Recessional	