



Afterglow

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one.
 I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done.
 I'd like to leave an echo
 whispering softly down the ways,
 Of happy times and laughing times
 and bright and sunny days.
 I'd like the tears of those who grieve
 to dry before the sun
 Of happy memories that I leave when my life is done.

The Twenty-Third Psalm

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
 He leadeth me beside the still waters.
 He restoreth my soul;
 He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness
 For his name's sake.
 Yea, though I walk through the valley
 Of the shadow of death,
 I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;
 Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
 Thou preparest a table before me
 In the presence of mine enemies:
 Thou anointest my head with oil;
 My cup runneth over.
 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
 All the days of my life:
 And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Acknowledgment

We, the family of, Mary Lee Brown Stephens, would like express our gratitude toward all of you who have consoled us during this difficult time. Your sincere prayers through words of comfort, love, flowers and all other acts of kindness are warmly appreciated. A special thanks to Amedisys Compassionate Care Hospice Chaplin, Rev. Maurice Webber.

—The Family



Services Entrusted To:

F.B. PRATT & SON FUNERAL HOME
 601 South Street • Newberry, South Carolina
 (803) 276-1206

Homegoing Services Celebrating the Life of Mary Lee Brown Stephens

Sunrise
 June 8, 1925

Sunset
 January 20, 2021



Tuesday, January 26, 2021
 2:00 P.M.

Lower Mt. Olive A.M.E. Church

Prosperity, South Carolina

Reverend Michael Harp, Pastor
 Officiant

Obituary

Mrs. Mary Lee Brown Stephens was born on June 8, 1925, to the late Mr. Willie Brown and the late Mrs. Maybelle Moon Brown. She was called from “Labor to Reward” on Wednesday, January 20, 2021. She loved the Lord with all her heart and soul.

Mrs. Stephens was a member Lower Mt. Olive AME Church until her health declined, where she was a member of Mt. Olive Senior Choir and a Leader in singing her favorite song “It’s Another Year Gone, But I Ain’t Gone, I Thank God That I Ain’t Gone,” former treasurer of the choir, and former class leader #8. She was also a member Women’s Home Aide Society #108.

Mrs. Stephens attended the public schools of Newberry County. She was a dedicated worker for the Dawkins Family of Prosperity, SC, for many years. She retired from The Lowman Home in White Rock, SC, after over thirty-five years of service.

Mrs. Stephens was married for many years to the late Mr. Thomas Butler Stephens, during their union three children were born. She was predeceased by two sons, Mr. Thomas Lee Stephens and Mr. Johnny Calvin Stephens; siblings, Mrs. Willie Mae Kibler, Mrs. Gladys Mae Wise, Mr. Odus Lee Brown and Mrs. Dora Mae Stephens.

Those who celebrate her life and cherish loving memories are one son that she loved unconditionally with all her heart, Mr. Rodney B. Stephens of Prosperity, SC; step-daughter, Ms. Lisa Wise; devoted nieces, Mrs. Ella Mae Mitchell, reared in the home who spent many days and nights caring for Mrs. Stephens who was just like a mother to her, Ms. Cora Stephens, Mrs. Lorine Stephens, Mrs. Betty Wise and Mrs. Matilda Lindler; nine grandchildren, Charmine Wise of Prosperity, SC, Schkeeler Gray of Charlotte, NC, Shawana Stephens of Newberry, SC, Tylisha Stephens of Irmo, SC, Duane M. Abnathey (Jennifer), Thomas Stephens, III (Chiquita), Michael Jackson, and Frederick Jones all of Columbia, SC, and Robin Ruff, Jr. (Manda) of Newberry, SC; thirteen great-grandchildren; brother, Mr. Ralph Brown of Newberry, SC; daughter-in-law, Mrs. Brenda Stephens of Jalapa, SC; sister-in-law, Mrs. Eva Mae Brown of Prosperity, SC; brother-in-law, Mr. Willie Stephens, Jr., of Newberry, SC; and a host of other nieces, nephews, cousins and friends who will sadly miss her and loved her dearly.

God Saw You Getting Tired

God saw you getting tired and a cure was not to be
so he put his arms around you and whispered,
“Come to Me”

With tearful eyes we watched you
and saw you pass away
and although we love you dearly
we could not make you stay.
A golden heart stopped beating
hard working hands at rest.
God broke our hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best.



A Grandparents Prayer

God you have blessed me indeede
as the child I love has had a child I love
with all that is within me.

I **pray** that in your mercy you watch over
and protect my grandchildren
as you have always done for me.

May their lives be long and healthy.

May they have the courage to follow their dreams
and should the day come
when I am no longer on Earth with them,

may they look back upon me with fond memories
and **may** they never forget
that they were and always be
deeply loved by me.

Order of Service

Prayer Reverend Maurice Webber
Chaplin, Amedisys Care Hospice

Scripture
Old Testament
New Testament

Remarks Reverend Willie Stephens, Jr.

Solo.....Mr. Henry Stephens, Jr.

Words of Comfort..... Reverend Michael Harp

Committal & Benediction.....Graveside

Interment.....Lower Mt. Olive A.M.E. Church
Prosperity, South Carolina

