

Honorary Pallbearers

Regional Presiders, Pastors & Deacons

Active Pallbearers

Nephews

Flower Bearers

Ministers and Deacons Wives Branch
Missionaries and Mothers

Interment

Riverside Cemetery
Albany, GA

Acknowledgements

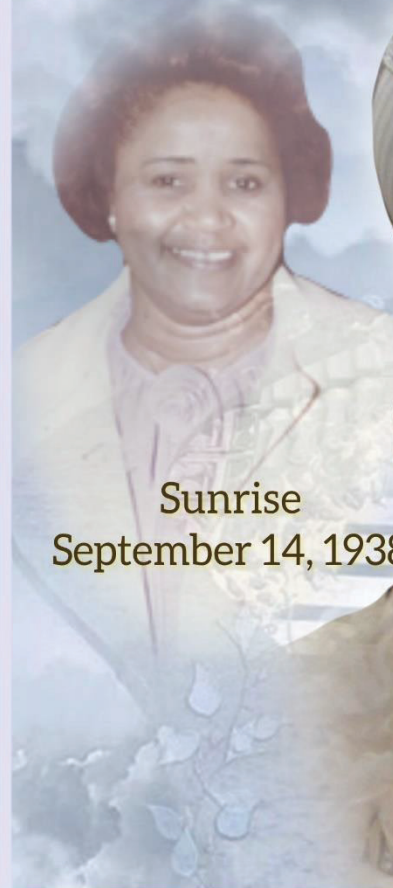
No Words can express our sincere thanks and appreciation for the tremendous acts of kindness. We thank you for the comforting messages, floral tributes, prayers, many calls, cards, food and donations during the illness and subsequently, the passing of our Mama, grandmama, Aunt, Cousin and friend. We are so grateful to have Family and Friends like you. Our Sincere appreciation to Mother Shirley Carswell, Reverend Kenneth and Kathy Williams, Mrs. Rosalind Coney, and Sister Bobbie Henderson for your many kind acts. Your presence during this difficult time will always be in our hearts. You are a testimony to Mother Litman's legacy. Special thanks to Apostle Felix and Lady Andrea Revills and the Evangelical Faith Vision Ministries and Bishop - Elect Michael and Lady Andrea O. White and the Litman Cathedral Church Family. They have all helped to sustain us.

The Family of the late Former National First Lady Shirley B. Litman

Final Arrangements Entrusted To:

J.L. Litman Memorial Funeral Service
1202 Clark Ave, Albany, GA 31705
(229) 430-8800

Homegoing Celebration



Sunrise
September 14, 1938



Sunset
January 19, 2022

Mother Shirley B. Litman

Wednesday, January 26, 2022
11:00 AM

Evangelical Faith Vision Ministries
1506 S. Slappey Blvd., Albany, GA

Officiating:

Bishop -Elect Michael A. White, Eulogist Elder David M. Northcutt, Presider
Bishop Lorenzo Moore, HOGSIC Presiding Prelate

Former National First Lady Shirley B. Litman



"I cried out to Him with my mouth; His praise was on my tongue." Psalm 66:17

"Therefore I will praise you, Lord, among the nations; I will sing the praises of your name." II Samuel 22:50

"Sing unto the Lord a new song: sing unto the Lord, all the earth. Sing unto the Lord, bless his name; shew forth his salvation from day to day." Psalm 96:1

I Sing Because I am Happy, I sing because I am Free....

Obituary

This was the life and legacy of Mother Shirley Biggs Litman. She sang the praises of God far and near. She had such a kind sweet gentle persona who was born to the parentage of the late Elder Homer Franklin Biggs and Mother Bessie Nichols Biggs in Colquitt County, Moultrie, Georgia. She was the youngest of 12 children arriving in this world on the beautiful Wednesday, September 14, 1938. She was a "Daddy's Girl". She followed in her mother's footsteps of being a dedicated and over-protective Mother and wife.

Mrs. Shirley Biggs met and married the love of her life, the late Bishop Johnny Lee Litman. He met his beautiful bride at a Revival at the Third Street Church of God in Christ as she was playing the piano and they were married in 1956. She became the mother of four beautiful, smart and industrious children. Which they reared in the fear and admonition of God; attending church more frequent than most children in their circle because they were "PKs" pastor's kids.

Mrs. Litman, as she was called by her students and others who respected her to the utmost was an educator, graduating from the Moultrie High School in 1956 while receiving accolades for singing in the high school chorus. She matriculated through Albany State College and received her Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education. Not being content with mediocrity, furtherance of her education was made through the Dougherty County School System in many advanced classes and conferences as she made an impact on the lives of hundreds of elementary school children. Being a creative and motivating teacher, earned her the title of "Teacher of the Year" numerous years. She always presented a "grand" Black History Program each year at her beloved school, Isabella. As grade chair, she required many different strategies and motivational skills of the other teachers on her grade level. In other words, Mrs. Litman enjoyed her career and made learning fun.

Mother Litman was saved at a very early age in the Church of God in Christ, where they were members. She traveled with her father, the late Elder Homer Biggs, using her gift to sing, that it was evident that God had blessed her with, assisting her Father in soul winning in Revivals. She would sing as a little girl, before her daddy preached in front of large audiences. She was active in the church growing up singing in the choir, attending Sunday School and other Church events during the leadership of several Pastors. Her mother being the Church Mother, used her assistance with small tasks.

Mrs. Litman was an entrepreneur. She along with her husband, son Johnny Litman and other Litman Family members are the owners of the renowned very innovative Litman Funeral Service in Albany, Douglas, and Moultrie, Georgia.



OUR BELOVED



Celebration of Life



OUR BELOVED

Mother Shirley Litman was an anointed "Gospel Singer". After marriage to the renowned Bishop J. L. Litman, she became a member of the House of God Saints in Christ Church, where she served faithfully beside her husband. They served as Pastor and First Lady of House of God Saints in Christ Leesburg, Leesburg, Georgia, House of God Saints in Christ Albany, Albany Georgia, before becoming Bishop and First Lady of the House of God Saints in Christ organization. They would conduct many revivals for the upbuilding of God's Kingdom. They served as Overseer and First Lady of the State of Georgia, and she served as First Lady of the Youth Department in the House of God Saints in Christ in her early years of marriage. They traveled from the North to the South, preaching and singing. They were a "Duo" to be reckoned with. Many souls were saved and filled with the Holy Ghost in Revivals she sang in even as a special guest Psalmist on numerous occasions.

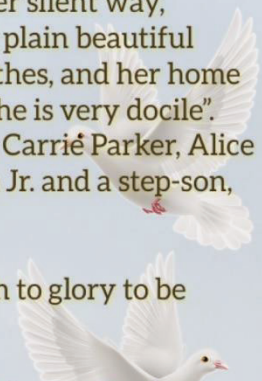
In 1971, after the demise of Bishop Nick Hightower, Bishop J. L. Litman became Presiding Prelate of the House of God Saints in Christ which resulted in Mother Shirley Litman becoming the 2nd National First Lady of the House of God Saints in Christ, Inc. Subsequently, this caused him to become Pastor of the National Headquarter Church (at that time), New Bethel House of God Saints in Christ, later named Hightower Memorial Temple in Douglas, Georgia. Mother Litman served well beside her husband. She worked tirelessly in the church and the organization grew. Sunday mornings at the National Holy Convocation, everyone waited anxiously for that melodious selection and that very warm, anointed greeting. After her husband's demise, she continued with the House of God Saints in Christ. Organizing a very fruitful "Women of Excellence Retreat", gathering of women of all different churches and denominations together and traveling to various cities for a weekend of relaxation, shopping, and spiritual uplifting. Many ladies would go on to testify of being saved and filled with the Holy Ghost at this retreat.

Sister Litman was a recording artist with numerous favorite selections. "Jesus, That's My King" was an all - time anointed favorite. She was afforded the opportunity to travel to London, England and sing for Bishop John Francis.

We would be remiss if we did not recognize her passion for beauty and grace. Beautiful hats were her forte'. We can say she redefined elegant, classy, and stylish for us in the church in her silent way, poised with feminine qualities. In her very graceful way, her attire was always just plain beautiful with every detail attended to. In other words, Mother Litman wore the fanciest clothes, and her home was also always adorned in stylish décor. As Prophet Mosley described her once, "she is very docile". Ten siblings preceded her in death: Vernita Strong, Merceda Baldwin, Bessie Lester, Carrié Parker, Alice Biggs, Willie Frank Biggs, Earnest Biggs, Walker Biggs, Timothy Biggs, Homer Biggs Jr. and a step-son, Curtis Dowers.

On Wednesday morning, January 19, 2022,. Mother Litman transitioned from earth to glory to be forever with the Lord.

She leaves to cherish her sweet memories: four children, Johnny Litman, Saundra Litman, Stephanie Litman, all of Albany, GA, Victor (Michelle) Litman, of Atlanta, GA; nine grandchildren, Cornell, a very devoted grandson, Indya, Alondra, Krystal, Christopher, Christian, Tia, Tiffany, Jared; fourteen great - grand children; one brother, Robert "Bobby" Biggs, Detroit, MI; three sisters-in-law, Nora Litman, Rita Litman, Pastor Louise Litman; one brother-in-law, Andrew (Catherine) Litman; five god -children, Arch Bishop Q, S. Caldwell, Laquanda" Lil Man" Jackson, Melanie Reives, Tuwana Edwards, Kawanna Edwards; god - grandchild, Pastor Terrence Pender; many nephews, nieces, cousins, parishioners and friends.





The Order of Celebration



Elder David M. Northcutt,
Presiding Chairman of the Presbyter Board, HOGSIC
Mt. Carmel Ministry, Valdosta, Georgia

The Ecclesiastical Processional
The First Ladies Processional
The Family Processional
The Final Glance
The Prayer

The Scripture Reading:
The Old Testament

The New Testament

The Solo

The Special Reflections: {Limit: 2 Minutes Please}
As A Friend

The Special Reflections:
The Godson

The First Lady of The Local Church

The First Lady of The National Church HOGSIC

The Resolution from the HOGSIC, Inc.

The Selection

The Special Tribute

The Presentation from The General Mother

THE PRESENTATION FROM THE PRESIDING BISHOP HOGSIC, INC.
Bishop Lorenzo Moore

The Selection

The Words of Comfort

The Acknowledgement
The Closing Prayer
The Recessional

Bishop Gus Ford,
General Secretary HOGSIC of Atlanta, Georgia

Bishop Walter Walker
Georgia Diocese Bishop, HOGSIC, St. John Holiness, Tifton, Georgia

Overseer Andrew Caldwell
Celebration of Praise Ministries, Lenox, Georgia

First Lady Cassandra Pridgon
Bethany Missionary Baptist Church, Tyty, Georgia

Elder Betty Pittman
Jacksonville, Florida

Archbishop Q. S. Caldwell
Presiding Prelate, Celebration of Praise Ministries, Lenox, Georgia

First Lady Andrea O. White
Litman Cathedral HOGSIC, Albany, Georgia

First Lady Delores Moore
Mt. Moriah Temple HOGSIC, Jacksonville, Florida

Elder Charlie B Jackson

Mt. Calvary HOGSIC, Tifton, Georgia
Shirley Litman Heritage Choir

The Family

Mother Clara Graham
Vickers Temple House of Prayer HOGSIC, Douglas, Georgia

Shirley Litman Heritage Choir

Bishop-Elect Michael A. White
Litman Cathedral HOGSIC, Albany, Georgia
JL Litman Funeral Home, Albany, Georgia



Celebration of Life



OUR BELOVED



I'm Free

Don't grieve for me for now I'm free,
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took His hand when I heard Him call:
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way;
I found my place at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void
Then fill it with remembered joys.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I too shall miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow:
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much;
Good friends, good times, a loved ones
touch.

Perhaps my life seemed all too brief:
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me;
God wanted me now, He set me free.



When Tomorrow Starts Without Me

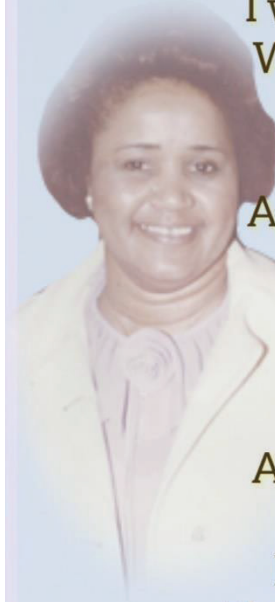
When tomorrow starts without me, and I'm not here to see,
If the sun should rise and find your eyes are filled with tears for me.
I wish so much you wouldn't cry the way you did today.
While thinking of the many things we didn't get to say.

I know you love me as much as I love you.
And each time you think of me I know you miss me too.
But when tomorrow starts without me,
Please try to understand that an angel came
And called my name and took me by the hand
And said my place was ready in heaven far above
And that I'd have to leave behind all those I dearly love.

But as I turned to walk away, a tear fell from my eye.
I knew that this was God's will. I dare not question "Why?"
I had so much to live for, and so much left to do.
It seems almost impossible that I would be leaving you.

I thought of all the yesterdays - the good ones and the bad
I thought of all the love we shared and all the fun we had.
If I could re-live yesterday I thought for just a while,
I'd say goodbye and kiss you all and maybe see you smile.

But then I fully realized that this could never be
For emptiness and memories would take the place of me.
Now when tomorrow starts without me don't think we're far apart
For every time you think of me I'm right here in your heart.





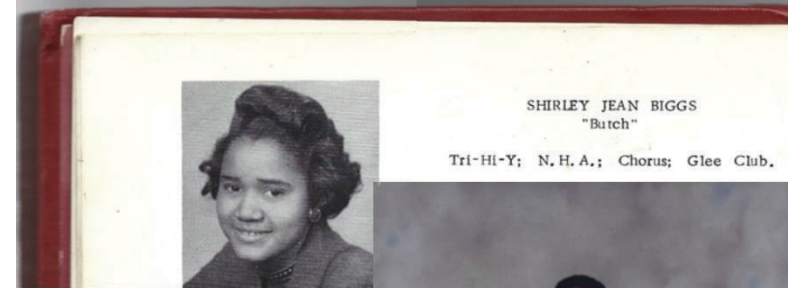
A Walk Down Memory Lane



OUR BELOVED



Celebration of Life



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