



*ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF
APPRECIATION*

*The family of the late Elizabeth Rae Lillard
wishes to acknowledge the many messages
cards, prayers and acts of kindness at a later
date.*

Final Arrangements Entrusted to:
Chapel Hill Funeral Home
8033 Puritan
Detroit, Michigan 48238
313-340-8883

www.chapelhillfuneralhomes.com
"Where Your Family Is Our Family"

Celebrating the Life of
Elizabeth Rae Lillard



Sunrise: May 1, 1920

Sunset: May 25, 2021

Funeral Services
Thursday, June 3, 2021
Family Hour 10:30 AM
Funeral 11:00 AM

Chapel Hill Funeral Home
8033 Puritan Ave.
Detroit, Michigan 48238

Rev. Leroy Burden, Officiating

Obituary

Elizabeth Rae Lillard, a longtime resident of Detroit Michigan who was affectionately known to many as Aunt Lizzie, died peacefully at her residence on Tuesday May 25th, 2021.

Aunt Lizzie was born in Detroit, Michigan, to William and Catherine Lillard. She is preceded in death by both her parents and her beloved sister, Shirley Holt.

Aunt Lizzie is survived by her beloved nephew, Calvin Trotter Holt Jr. (Charlotte), whom she nurtured, raised and educated; nephews Clyde and Edward Miller, nieces and great nieces Laurie Simone Dean, Jennifer Poole, Jacquelyn Jefferson, Michelle Mews, Rebecca Mews, Yolanda Snead (Steven Snead), great great nieces and nephews; Precious, Skye, Isis, Angel, Cameron, George, Kavi, Kaiya, Jordan, Kevin and great great great nieces: Kameryn and Leilani and a host of cousins and close family friends.

Though she never married, Aunt Lizzie played the maternal role to many whom she fondly referred to as “the gang”.

Aunt Lizzie’s hardwork and discipline earned her a position as one of the first Black women to work for Wayne County Circuit Court. A position she retired from in 2002 after serving for 52 years.

While maintaining her grace, Aunt Lizzie was her own brand of Feminist and an avid Civil Rights leader. Her zeal for fairness and justice made it possible for her to integrate the court system she worked in. It also comes as no surprise that she was one of the first single Black women to contribute to the desegregation of communities by purchasing a home in an era when “block-busting laws” encouraged real estate and mortgage policies to restrict black people from owning homes in reputable neighborhoods. Her grit in this respect paved the way for many women in her own family as well as the community in which she lived and served.

As an honored member of the “Black Bourgeoisie Society” and the Elliotorian Business and Professional Women’s Club she was an elitist of her time. She had an impeccable fashion sense and voracious appetite for the finest things. Her demeanor and poise were complimented by the sway of her walk and her infectious laugh. Even then, her humility predated her presence in every space she occupied.

To say that Aunt Lizzie will be missed is severely understated. She guided us, nurtured us and instilled in us great principles that have carried us through a lifetime. Today, more than any other day we honor your Spirit. And we thank you for the many scarifies that have carried us.

Aunt Lizzie, though our hearts are broken by your demise, we must release you back to God our Creator and allow you to join our ancestors.

We will always love you. Every now and again, we pray to see you in our dreams. When we sit in moments of solitude, we pray that you will sit with us. And on the days this journey proves to be impossible, we hope you will slip your hand into ours and walk with us. Until we meet again.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Musical Prelude (Hallelujah by Alexandra Burke)

Welcome

Scripture John 14:1-3

Prayer

Song (Well Done by Deitrick Haddon)

Acknowledgements of Cards

Reading of Obituary

Remarks

Eulogy

Closing Prayer/Committal

Musical Postlude (Someday We’ll Be Together by Diana Ross)

Regina Green

Rev. Leroy Burden

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Regina Green

Latosha Redmond

Jennifer Poole

Ms. Lizzel

Eric Craig

Rev. Leroy Burden

“I am the resurrection, and the life; he that believeth in me though he were dead, yet shall he live; And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.”
John 11:25-26



