

Obituary

Somewhere beyond the rainbow end
the skies are bright and fair no shadow dim,
no darkness falls the land is peaceful there.
and someone with the power to heal, to guide
and to understand, is waiting there to calm our fear
and take us by the hand.

Mother Connie Barnes daughter of the late Lucinda Wilkes Fields and Alfred Fields was born in Greene County Township of Snow Hill, NC. She grew up and attended the schools there, her High School days were spent at the Greene County Training School, Snow Hill, NC, now known as "Greene Central High School".

Connie married at an early age to Abram O. Phillips, to this union two children were born. She united with Lewis Chapel Church many years ago. There she proved to be a faithful and consecrated Christian, winning many friends because of her friendly personality. She served in many capacities at the church, Senior Choir, Home Mission, Kitchen Community, Lady Steward, Ladies Fellowship, Church Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary and was consecrated as a Church Mother. She did all of this with a smile as she was happy when there was work to do. Mother Connie received numerous certificates, awards and plaques acknowledging her faithful service. In addition, she was a member of the Faithful Club and served as its secretary. She continued to work and attend service until her health failed.

Connie worked several jobs during her stay on earth, but her best loved job was a Sales Representative for Stanley Products. She also enjoyed her work with W. H. Lee Publications in New Haven, Conn.

In 1975 she remarried to Governor Barnes, there they lived happy and content in Greenfield Heights until his health began to decline.

Connie was predeceased by her husband Governor Barnes, one daughter Connie Phillips Sullivan, five sisters, Fannie Britt, Eva Burney, Diazell Dupree, Novella Fleming, and Nellie Lunsford and four brothers, William Fields, Fred "Bud" Fields, Charlie Fields and James "JT" Fields.

Connie was a good mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend to many.

She leaves fond memories to her daughter Joyce Phillips Jackson (Tommie) of Lorain, Ohio, three stepchildren, Mittie Mitchell (Jimmy) Fountain, NC, Edna Thomas (James) Virginia Beach, VA and Johnnie Barnes, Wilson, NC. She is survived by three grandchildren Rosalyn Ellis Harris (Emmanuel) of Windsor, CT, William Spruill, III (DeAundrea) of Hephzibah, GA and Andrea Darden (Kenisha) of Lithia Springs, GA and seven great grandchildren, eight great-great grandchildren, three step-grandchildren and nine step-great grandchildren, one aunt Mable Wilkes Miller of Maury, NC. A special niece who looked after her daily, Dorothy Ross. She is survived by thirteen nieces, eight nephews, and a host of cousins whom she loved dearly. We would be remiss if we did not mention her great love for her church family and friends.

Done in Love and Sorrow,

The Family