



**- Acknowledgements -**

The MAY FAMILY would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for all of the love, acts of kindness, and support that everyone has shown us during this time of bereavement for the passing of our loved one.

- With Love, The FAMILY -

SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO:

**Hornes Funeral Home**

Farmville, NC • Ph: 252-753-2320

Artistry By: J. Cherry • 252-367-1473

*In Loving Memory*



*Rhyllis J May*

**Tuesday, January 26, 2021**

**- 11:00AM -**

**Sunset Memorial Park**

Farmville, NC

Rev. Dr. Margaret Blackmon, Officiating



## **- Graveside Service -**

*Processional*.....Minister & Family

### **- Scriptural Reading -**

*Sis. Cassandra Blue*

*Old Testament*.....Psalm 23

*New Testament*.....John 14:1-7

*Solo*.....Bro. James Dildy

*Prayer of Comfort*.....Rev. Dr. Margaret Blackmon

*Remarks*.....Mrs. Mildred Council  
*Pitt County Chapter Alumni Assn., Shaw University*

*Other Remarks (if desired) Please limit to 3 minutes  
Up to five (5) People*

*Solo*.....Bro. James Dildy

*Acknowledgements/Obituary*.....Mrs. Jean Brown

*Eulogy*.....Rev. Dr. Margaret Blackmon

*Mortician's Brief*.....Hornes Funeral Home

***Committal & Benediction***

## **- Obituary -**

### ***Mrs. Phyllis J. May***

(BORN PHYLLIS WHEATLEY JONES)

was born June 15, 1944 in Portsmouth, Virginia to Mr. Oliver Jones and Ms. Rosia Lee Davis. She was later reared by her mother and bonus father, Mr. Haywood W. Gay. She was preceded in death by her parents. God called her from labor to rest on January 17, 2021.

*Phyllis* grew up and attended school in Farmville, North Carolina. As a high school student, Phyllis was honored with a Citation by the North Carolina Joint Council on Health and Citizenship, being saluted for a significant contribution to the Cause of Health and Citizenship. She subsequently graduated from H.B. Sugg High School on May 30, 1963. After graduating high school, Mrs. May pursued higher education at illustrious Livingstone College in Salisbury, North Carolina, studying Music and being heavily involved in performances there.

*Phyllis* subsequently graduated Magna Cum Laude with her Bachelor's degree in Sociology from the illustrious Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina. During her time at Shaw University, Mrs. May excelled academically and was inducted into the National College Honor Scholarship Society, Alpha Chi. She was also consistently named to The National Dean's List. Phyllis was honored at many Academic Awards Day ceremonies at Shaw University, also being honored with the Pinnacle Award and The Bronze Pin. Finally, Mrs. May was selected and honored for her participation in Shaw University Divinity School Church Leadership Conference workshops.

Feeling called to a life of service to others, Mrs. May continued her higher education at Shaw University, earning a degree in Master of Religious Education.

This life of service to which she was called, is evident by the many honors and recognitions she received throughout her life—some of which included: Certificates of Appreciation from the Pitt County Board of Commissioners, including being named to the Adult Care Home Community Advisory Board, the Pitt County Department of Social Services, and the North Carolina Social Services Association.

*Mrs. May* was also honored to complete the Citizens Police Academy through The Greenville Police Department in 2007. During her tenure with the City of New York, Department of Social Services, Mrs. May was a highly valued employee.

After retirement, Mrs. May began teaching, encouraging, and growing tomorrow's leaders as a substitute teacher for the Pitt County Public School System. She loved and believed in her students, and they loved her. In her spare time she enjoyed decorating and creating crafts.

*Mrs. May* was a life-long member of the African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Zion Church, and was very active at her local congregation, St. Stephen A.M.E. Zion Church, before her health began to fail. She could be heard beautifully singing as a Soprano with the church's choir. Among other awards, she was honored for her Program Leadership and also received the highly coveted award For Outstanding Contributions to St. Stephen A.M.E. Zion Church. In 2007, Mrs. May received the Certificate of Life Membership from the Connectional Lay Council of the A.M.E. Zion Church.

Left to cherish her memories are her loving son, DeWayne C. May and his wife Tiwana. Three grandchildren, Samantha, Angelina, and Savannah; a bonus mother, Mildred Jones; her brother Andre D. Gay (Pam) and sister Caroline Gay Israel (Utonuwa); two nephews, William and Jesse and two nieces, Bianca and Jessica, and her dear friend Ethel Jean Brown. Phyllis will also be remembered by an uncle, Willie (Bill) James Davis and a host of other relatives and friends. DeWayne is extremely thankful for those family members, neighbors and friends who routinely kept a close eye on her, in his absence in New York.

