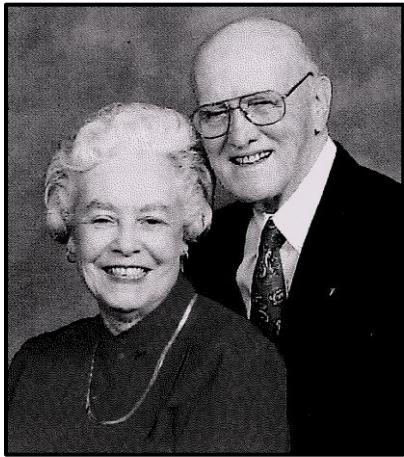


## A Service of Remembrance for the Life of



**Ernest Eugene "Gene" Mason**  
**June 16, 1926 – November 18, 2023**

**Joy Beam Mason**  
**October 14, 1928 – November 30, 2020**

November 21, 2023 1:00 p.m.  
Williamsburg United Methodist Church  
Assisting with Worship  
Rev. Meghan Roth Clayton  
Rev. Dave Rochford  
Organist  
Sarah Ford Bland  
Sound and Livestream  
Jimmy McCarter, Josh Clayton

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## **Ernest Eugene "Gene" Mason** **Joy Beam Mason**

Gene Mason was born June 16, 1926, in Norfolk, Virginia. The second son of Floyd H. and Bessie Funk Mason, Gene joined the US Navy at the outbreak of the Second World War and became a Pharmacist Mate, assigned to the 1st Battalion Tank division of the Marines. After the War, Gene completed a BA in Chemistry from the College of William and Mary, and began a long and accomplished scientific career, first at the Naval Weapons Station and later at NASA-Langley Research Center, working in the Orbiting Primates program, SKYLAB and the efficient use of energy by the U.S. space program. Gene retired in 1983 and would ultimately enjoy remarking that "I have been retired longer than I was employed."

Joy Beam was born October 14, 1928, in Atlanta, Georgia. The only child of Herman Monroe and Charlotte E. Beam, Joy's life of service began in 1949 when she graduated from Norfolk General School of Nursing, married Gene Mason, and began work as charge nurse at Eastern State Hospital. In 1955, she embarked upon the ceaseless employment of stay-at-home motherhood, and then in 1967 became the first full-time school nurse at Norge Elementary School. She retired from that position in 1974.

Gene and Joy Mason made a life together in Williamsburg marked by devotion to God, loving and providing for family, and service to their country and community. Gene is dearly remembered for his work with the Cub Scouts, the Williamsburg Fire Department and Williamsburg Rescue Squad. Joy shared her time generously with Scouting, PEO, and the Red Cross. In the busy life of Williamsburg United Methodist Church, there were very few ministries that were not shaped by the Masons' selfless example of servant leadership.

Gene and Joy are dearly remembered as the loving parents of four sons, Michael F. (Brenda), Chris C. (Donna), Patrick W. (Cary), Timothy G. (Tunyathon), and a Daughter-in-love, Melanie Brimhall (Craig). They delighted in ten grandchildren (Kathryn, Courtney, Jennifer, Andrea, Steven, Taylor, Heather, Rachel, Austin, and Hannah), and ten great grandchildren (Cole, Kennedy, Noah, Benjamin, Harper, Maelyn, Van, Kaleigh, Charlotte and Stella).

On November 18, 2023, after 71 years, 20 months of blessed marriage and a few years spent apart, Gene and Joy were reunited in the loving Spirit of the God who brought them together, and in Whom they trusted and delighted these many years.



**Satisfy us in the morning  
with your unfailing love**

~ Psalm 90:14a

A SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE  
for

**Ernest Eugene "Gene" Mason**  
June 16, 1926 – November 18, 2023

**Joy Beam Mason**  
October 14, 1928 – November 30, 2020

November 21, 2023 1:00 p.m.

Williamsburg United Methodist Church  
Williamsburg, Virginia

ENTRANCE

PRELUDE *There is a Balm in Gilead*  
(Robert J. Powell)

*Three Variations on Amazing Grace*  
(Albert Adcock)

THE WORD OF GRACE from John 11; Revelation 1, 22  
Jesus said, I am the resurrection and I am life.  
Those who believe in me, even though they die,  
yet shall they live, and whoever lives and believes  
in me shall never die. I am Alpha and Omega,  
the beginning and the end, the first and the last.  
I died, and behold I am alive for evermore,  
and I hold the keys of hell and death.  
Because I live, you shall live also.

GREETING  
Friends, we have gathered here to praise God  
and to witness to our faith as we celebrate  
the lives of Gene and Joy Mason.

We come together in grief, acknowledging our human loss.  
May God grant us grace, that in pain we may find comfort,  
in sorrow hope, in death resurrection.

\*HYMN *Hymn of Promise* UMH 707 (red book)

PRAYER

**O God, who gave us birth, you are ever  
more ready to hear than we are to pray.  
You know our needs before we ask,  
and our ignorance in asking.  
Give to us now your grace, that as we shrink  
before the mystery of death,  
we may see the light of eternity.  
Speak to us once more your solemn message  
of life and of death.  
Help us to live as those who are prepared to die.  
And when our days here are accomplished,  
enable us to die as those who go forth to live,  
so that living or dying, our life may be in you,  
and that nothing in life or in death  
will be able to separate us from your great love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

A TIME OF REMEMBRANCE

RESPONSIVE READING FROM PSALM 190  
Lord, you have been our dwelling place  
throughout all generations.

**Before the mountains were born  
or you brought forth the whole world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

You turn people back to dust,  
saying, "Return to dust, you mortals."

**A thousand years in your sight are like a day  
that has just gone by,  
or like a watch in the night.**

Teach us to number our days, that we may gain  
a heart of wisdom. Relent, Lord! How long will it be?  
Have compassion on your servants.

**Satisfy us in the morning with your  
unfailing love, that we may sing for joy  
and be glad all our days.**

Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us,  
for as many years as we have seen trouble.  
May your deeds be shown to your servants,  
your splendor to their children.

**May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us;  
establish the work of our hands for us -  
yes, establish the work of our hands.**

SPECIAL MUSIC *One Little Candle* Lou-Anne Smith,  
Soloist

READING FROM THE GOSPEL Matthew 6:25-34

MESSAGE Rev. Dave Rochford

WORDS OF FAITH Rev. Meghan Roth Clayton

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Rev. Meghan Roth Clayton

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass  
against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory forever. Amen.**

\*HYMN *It Is Well with My Soul* UMH 377 (red book)

\*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

\*POSTLUDE *God of Grace and God of Glory* (Wilbur Held)