Bettie Jean Banks

June 29, 1954 - March 11, 2025

Life and Legacy

Bettie Jean Banks was born on June 29, 1954, in Birmingham, Alabama, to the late Clara Scott Banks and Willie Banks. She was the fifth of ten siblings. From an early age, Bettie confessed to Christ and was baptized at Stewart Chapel CME Church, beginning a lifelong journey of faith.

Bettie graduated from Holy Family High School in Birmingham as a proud member of the Class of 1972. She was a vibrant and social student, actively involved in numerous school clubs. As the captain of the cheerleading team, she brought energy and spirit to every event. Bettie was known for her warm personality, and her involvement in school-wide activities made her a beloved favorite among teachers and classmates alike. She continued her education at Lawson State Community College and later attended the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) School of Nursing.

In the 1980s, Bettie relocated to Atlanta, Georgia, where she built a distinguished career at Emory University Hospital’s Department of Nursing as a Bed Placement Coordinator. She dedicated 37 years of service before retiring in July 2020, forming lifelong friendships along the way. In addition to her work in healthcare, Bettie pursued her passion for real estate, becoming a licensed agent and earning numerous accolades, including the prestigious

Million Dollar Club award. She took great joy in helping others achieve homeownership, guiding family members, friends, and clients with care and expertise.

Bettie was deeply devoted to her faith. She was a longtime member of St. Philip A.M.E. Church, where she served in multiple ministries, including the Lay Organization, Class Leaders, Sunday School, and the Nettie Lewis-Moore Missionary Society. She also dedicated time to the women and children's homeless ministry. Additionally, Bettie was a proud and active member of Mae Lee Chapter #35 of the International Masons and Order of Eastern Star, an organization dear to her heart, especially as her mother, Clara Banks, was the founding member and Worthy Matron.

Later in life, Bettie expanded her faith journey by joining Berea Apostolic Faith Church in Stone Mountain under the leadership of Pastor Edward C. Matheny. There, she continued to serve as a Sunday School leader, a coordinator for the Toys for Tots campaign, and a biblical teaching worship leader.

On Tuesday, March 11, 2025, in the early morning hours, Bettie was called home to be with the Lord at Emory University Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia. She was preceded in death by her parents, Clara Scott Banks and Willie Banks, as well as her brother, James Banks, and sister, Velma Burroughs.

Bettie leaves behind a legacy of love and faith. She is survived by her three sisters: Delores and Barbara of Birmingham, AL, and Angela of Snellville, GA; four brothers: Clyde of Brunswick, GA, Willie Earl (Vivian) of Camp Hill, AL, Anthony of Birmingham, AL, and Timothy of Lithonia, GA. She also leaves behind twelve cherished nieces and nephews, including her youngest niece, Kristine of Snellville, GA, who was especially dear to her and lovingly considered a daughter by those who knew them. Her uncle, Edward Scott of Birmingham, AL, was her beloved family historian. Additionally, she shared a

special bond with Kia and her five children—Londyn, Landon, Kayden, Keynard, and Amari—whom she embraced as her own.

Bettie Jean Banks lived a purpose-driven life, touching the hearts of all who knew her. Her kindness, generosity, and unwavering faith will forever be remembered. The family thanks

everyone for their love, support, and prayers as they celebrate the life of a truly remarkable woman.

Celebration of Life Services for Bettie Banks will be held on Friday, March 21, 2025 at 11:00 AM. These services will be recorded and streamed live. If the event is interrupted at any time due to technical issues, the entire event will be uploaded and available to view later in the day. Please copy and paste the link to share, or simply click on the link to view the event.

https://vimeo.com/event/4997927

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **20**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Rainbow Park Baptist Church
2941 Columbia Dr
Decatur, GA 30034

Funeral Service

MAR **21**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Saint Philip AME Church
240 Candler Road Southeast
Atlanta, GA 30317-3436

Tribute Wall

MA

A life well-lived is a tapestry woven with kindness, generosity, and purpose. It is a symphony of experiences, both grand and humble, that shape us into the people we become. The echoes of laughter and shared moments resonate long after the events themselves have passed. Ultimately, a life well-lived leaves a legacy of love and inspiration for generations to come.

Ms. Bettie, you were a pillar of knowledge and strength. Thank you for sharing your life and teachings with me and our entire work unit.

To the family:

My deepest condolences to you all. Please find comfort in knowing that she helped many achieve greatness during her life.

Mac - March 22, 2025 at 08:49 AM

EM

Bettie, I will truly miss our 40+ year friendship which started when we were young nursing school students. You have always had an unwavering love for your family. You fought a good fight and you have now won the battle of eternal life. I love you, girlfriend. Elaine McCloud

Elaine R McCloud - March 21, 2025 at 11:25 AM

SH

To the Banks' Family: You have my deepest sympathy for your loss. May God grant you peace and comfort. I considered Bettie a friend indeed. One of the first people to welcome me at St Philip. She definitely will be missed by everyone who knew her.

Rest in Peace Bettie,
Shelby Hall

Shelby - March 19, 2025 at 09:48 PM

A Memorial Tree was planted in honor of Bettie Jean Banks.

March 18, 2025 at 07:00 PM

Calm & Comfort Bouquet for Sympathy - Florist C hoice was purchased for the family of Bettie Jean Banks.

March 18, 2025 at 07:00 PM

AB

Bettie: You were more than just a sister. There are too many adjectives to describe you: SHERO, supporter, counselor and true blue sister. Thank you for demonstrating kindness, unconditional love and how to live a purpose driven life. I'm still processing this loss to our family. Rest well sis. Heaven earned another angel. I love you. Your baby sister, Angela

angela banks - March 15, 2025 at 09:32 PM

CD

Our family's heartfelt condolences are shared with the Banks' family in the loss of Bettie Banks. May God's peace, comfort, and grace be with you all.

Connie Delaney - March 18, 2025 at 02:24 PM

FM

My deepest sympathy in the loss of your beloved and genuinely authentic Bettie. Her love, passion and commitment to Christ was exhibited in everything she put her hand to. One never left Bettie's presence without an encouraging word. She was a treasure and will be truly missed.

Frieda Minga - March 21, 2025 at 08:17 PM

MD

May God give continued comfort and peace to the Banks family. I can, like others feel the loss of a dear friend and church sister. Tonite(Friday) we would be on our weekly prayer line call. Words can not express the sadness. But we would always remind each other that God is in control. Rest in peace my sister. You will live on as a treasure in our hearts.

Mary Dukes - March 21, 2025 at 11:24 PM

Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Bettie Jean Banks.

March 15, 2025 at 06:51 PM

PJ

Bettie was a lifelong friend of Ameche Jett and Paula Jett. Bettie and Ameche were classmates at Holy Family High School. They both moved to Atlanta, Georgia and continued their friendship, until their demise. Bettie will always remain in my heart, as a lifetime friend of the family. Rest in Peace- Prayer Warrior. Paula Jett

Paula Jett - March 15, 2025 at 12:53 PM

JH

Bettie's beaming personality taught the 1972 graduating class of Holy Family High School (Birmingham, AL) to live, laugh, and love. That's something we'll never lose. Rest well dear class from Ensley, I'll see you on the other side. Janice Hunter Hill

Janice Hunter Hill - March 20, 2025 at 07:42 PM

EB

I am sorry to hear of the loss of Bettie. Although I have not seen her for many years, I remember her from Saint Philip AME Church. My thoughts are with her family. E. JoAnn Bacon

E J Bacon - March 14, 2025 at 11:23 PM

EM

Edward M. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Bettie Jean Banks.

Edward M. - March 13, 2025 at 06:51 PM

EM

Edward M. purchased the Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of Bettie Jean Banks.

Edward M. - March 13, 2025 at 06:51 PM