



## Mrs. Lillie Powell

September 16, 1925 - January 8, 2016

Lillie Hicks Powell, a longtime resident of Greenville, NC, died peacefully on Friday, January 8, 2016, in Durham, NC. She was 90 years old. She was a devoted and beloved wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, and friend.

Lillie Hicks Powell was born on September 16, 1925 to the late Daniel Webster Hicks and Mattie Mattocks Hicks of Maysville, NC. She was educated in the Jones County school system and she graduated from St. Augustine University with an Education Degree. She continued her education at East Carolina University and retired from a career as an elementary teacher at Our Lady of Atonement Catholic School in Kinston, NC and St. Peter's Catholic School in Greenville, NC.

While attending St. Augustine University, Lillie met and later married the late Attorney Richard Powell in 1948. Shortly thereafter, she was employed with the Washington, D.C. government. Later, the couple moved to Durham, NC, where her husband, Richard Powell attended and completed North Carolina Central University School of Law in 1950. They made their home in Greenville, NC where they raised four children; Harriette, Richard, Kennon and Sharron.

Lillie was a member of St. Gabriel's Catholic Church in Greenville, NC for over fifty years where she served as an organist, pianist, and school volunteer. She

served in various community organizations including, but not limited to, the League of Women Voters, AARP, NAACP and local Black Catholic organizations. Lillie was a dedicated member of the Greenville (NC) Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority serving in several capacities, including but not limited to Chapter President and State of NC Protocol Chair for the South Atlantic Region. She was a Platinum Member of the Wilson-Rocky Mount-Tarboro Chapter of Links, Inc. where she served in leadership, namely as President. Her volunteer services included working at voting poll sites, providing soup for the local soup kitchen, volunteering at various schools in the Greenville area. She taught etiquette and dance for the local Jabberwock Program participant and actively participated in numerous public service programs and projects hosted by her chapters of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and Links, Inc.

Lillie Hicks Powell is survived by two daughters, Harriette Powell Nichols of Durham, NC, Edythe Sharron Gianessi of Weirton, WV, two sons, Richard Powell, Jr. of Washington, DC, Kennon Howard Powell (Claire) of Bowie; eleven grandchildren, Atty. Tara L. Nichols of Durham, NC, Tamara N. Helms (Thomas) of Durham, NC, Edward Powell of Bowie, MD, Donald R. Gianessi of Weirton, WV, David A. Gianessi II of Westover, WV, 1st Lieutenant Samson J. Gianessi (Jessica) of Fayetteville, NC, 1st Lieutenant Sharron M. Gianessi of Lacey, WA, Keisha Powell of Lynchburg, VA, 1st Lieutenant Seth Gianessi of Manhattan, KS, Francesca Powell of Jacksonville, NC, and Dazja N. Gianessi of Honolulu, HI; one great grandson, Anthony Carter Gianessi of Westover, WV. She will be missed by her caregiver for the past two years, Yesenia Castro of Durham, NC and two goddaughters, Veda Smith Miles of Plano, TX and M. Annette Goldring of Winterville, NC, as well as nieces, nephews, other family members and friends.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Joy Soup Kitchen located at 700 Albemarle Ave., Greenville, NC 27834 in her honor. Donations can be

made via check payable to the Joy Soup Kitchen with "In honor of Lillie Powell" in the memo line with the mailing made to the attention of Barbara Taft.

# Cemetery Details

## Homestead Memorial Gardens

4251 E. 10th Street  
Greenville, NC 27858

# Previous Events

## Viewing

JAN 16. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Gabriel Catholic Church  
3250 Dickinson Avenue  
Greenville, NC 27834

## Service

JAN 16. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Gabriel Catholic Church  
3250 Dickinson Avenue  
Greenville, NC 27834

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Lillie Powell*

October 06, 2023 at 05:52 AM



“ *The Hagans and Singleton families would like to extend their condolences to the Powell family for your lost. But your lost is heavens gain. We are praying that God will strengthen you in the days ahead. God Bless*

**Elder Jay Hagans and Family** - January 16, 2016 at 09:39 AM



“ *Betty E Reed lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lillie Powell*



**Betty E Reed** - January 16, 2016 at 07:11 AM



“ *Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Mrs. Lillie Powell.*



January 15, 2016 at 03:02 PM

GJ

“ *Mrs. Powell was the epitome of style and class. She had a way of listening to you that made you feel important and she always talked to me like I mattered. Even when she was in the hospital, she displayed sophistication and elegance.* ”

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**Grace Jones** - January 15, 2016 at 08:32 AM

JY

“ *The family have my deepest sympathy.* ”



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**James Boot Yarrell** - January 15, 2016 at 08:24 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Lillie Powell.* ”



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January 15, 2016 at 05:02 AM

TH

“ *I light this candle in your memory Grandmother because your bright smile, your contagious spirit, and your infectious energy was a light that shined everywhere you went! You will be greatly missed, but I rest in the comfort knowing that you are now in perfect peace in the arms of our Lord Jesus Christ. My heart is heavy now, but the memories we shared (our laughs, our talks, our outings, our travels, and our time watching sports together) bring happiness and resolve to my soul! I love you to infinity and beyond! Forever my friend, my FLOSSY!*



*Love Always,  
Tamara & Omari*

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**Tamara Nichols Helms** - January 14, 2016 at 11:20 PM

SF

“ *Sending love and prayers, Norene and Candy and family. purchased the Fruits and Blooms Basket for the family of Mrs. Lillie Powell.*



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**Sending love and prayers, Norene and Candy and family.** -  
January 14, 2016 at 10:50 PM



“ 78 files added to the album Life Tributes



Congleton Memorial Mortuary - January 14, 2016 at 08:56 PM

DF

“ Dr. J.Juergen Taylor, MD (Brody '89) and Family purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Mrs. Lillie Powell.



Dr. J.Juergen Taylor, MD (Brody '89) and Family - January 14, 2016 at 01:52 PM

JM

“ My heartfelt condolences go out to Harriette, Sharron, Tara, Tamara, and the remainder of the family as we fill our hearts of the loving memories that we all hold so dearly...  
The Powell home was a place of refuge that I could always visit without advance notice and be welcomed like a second mother with open arms during my tenuous days in medical school there in Greenville. She will never know how much she helped me through those tough times by just being there. She was an amazing lady!

*J. Juergen Taylor, MD  
East Carolina University, Brody School of Medicine, '89*

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**J. Juergen Taylor, MD** - January 14, 2016 at 01:50 PM

HC

“ Please accept our deepest sympathy at the passing of your Mother/Grandmother, Mrs. Lillie Powell. She and you are in our thoughts, our prayers and our hearts.

*Howard Croft/Cynthia Kain*

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**howard and Cynthia Croft** - January 14, 2016 at 09:51 AM



“ Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Lillie Powell.



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January 14, 2016 at 08:02 AM

CS

“ Congleton Funeral Home And Staff sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Lillie Powell



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**Congleton Funeral Home and Staff** - January 13, 2016 at 08:36 PM

JM

“ A Tribute To Aunt Lillie,

*A smile for all, a heart of gold. One of the best the world could hold!  
Never selfish, always  
kind! These are the memories you left behind!*

*With Deepest Sympathy and Love,*

*Jackie and family*

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**Jacquelyn Mann** - January 13, 2016 at 08:23 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Lillie Powell.*



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January 13, 2016 at 06:47 PM

AF

“ *Alicia (Johnson) Braxton & family purchased the Sweet Sincerity for the family of Mrs. Lillie Powell.*



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**Alicia (Johnson) Braxton & family** - January 13, 2016 at 03:36 PM

AB

“ *Alicia Braxton lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lillie Powell*



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**Alicia Braxton** - January 13, 2016 at 02:40 PM


 Tanya Thompsor

“ *Tanya Thompson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lillie Powell*



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**Tanya Thompson** - January 13, 2016 at 02:32 PM

 Tanya Thompsor

*Sending prayers of comfort to my Linesister Tara Nichols and Family during their time of bereavement. Tara, your Angel (our Soror) is now resting in the arms of her Savior, our Lord, Jesus Christ. May Heaven pour down comfort onto your soul and may the memories always fill you with Peace, Love, Joy, and Happiness.*

*Love,  
Soror Tanya*

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**Tanya Thompson** - January 13, 2016 at 02:36 PM

SF

“ *Sherwood Thompson and Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Lillie Powell.*



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**Sherwood Thompson and Family** - January 13, 2016 at 02:06 PM

DE

“ *Hi Harriette,  
I was so sorry to hear about the passing of your Mom. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time. You were such a loving and caring daughter to your Mom. May the wonderful memories you all shared and God's Love and Grace be of comfort to you in your time of need. You resembled your Mother so much and you definitely have her smile. :-) I pray your Mom is resting now in the Kingdom with the Father. Take care and Blessings to you and your family.*



*Best Regards,*

*Debra Lee  
EPA, Durham, NC*

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**Debra** - January 13, 2016 at 01:24 PM

EC

“ *E. Sharron Gianessi And Children lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lillie Powell*



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**E. Sharron Gianessi and children** - January 13, 2016 at 10:35 AM

MC

“ *Metropolitan Washington Council lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lillie Powell*



Metropolitan Washington Council - January 13, 2016 at 09:55 AM

TC

“ *Harriette, Richard, Kenneth, Sharon, thinking of all of you during the loss of your sweet mother, Mrs. Powell. What a lovely picture here of your mother. What fond memories we have of our early days at St. Gabriel's Catholic School & church & even the years beyond. As your mother is resting in the peace and presence of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, I trust that you all will find comfort in the beautiful long life in which she lived. May God continue to bless you and your families in every area of your lives.*  
*Sincerely,*  
*Terry Kimber Claiborne*



Terry Kimber Claiborne - January 13, 2016 at 07:49 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Lillie Powell.*



January 13, 2016 at 01:41 AM

MS

“ *Our sincere condolences on the passing our beautiful Aunt, Great-Aunt Lille Powell, we will miss her, but the sweet memories will always be with us. Love, Robert A. (brother) Smith, Sadie and Marilyn A. Smith....Greensboro, NC*



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**Marilyn A Smith** - January 12, 2016 at 10:22 PM