



## Mrs. Mamie Blanche Hayes

November 15, 1925 - November 1, 2025

To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under Heaven.  
Ecclesiastes 3:1 NKJV

### A Time to Be Born

Mamie Blanche was born on November 15, 1925, in a small rural community in Pitt County, North Carolina. Her Beloved's knew her simply as Blanche. The 16th, of 19 children blessed to the late Perry and Julia Davis Hopkins. Blanche was reared in an 8-room farmhouse along with her beloved siblings in the close-knit farming community of Pactolus. There she spent her formative years, forging a dedicated work ethic, yet more telling, a devoted love for family and tradition. At nine years of age, she was giving the task of cooking for the entire family as they returned home from the fields. Here began the 95 plus years of feeding her family.

### A Time to Die

Blanche departed this earthly life, at home, victoriously transitioning to her heavenly home on Saturday, November 1, 2025.

### A Time to Plant

Mamie Blanche received her elementary education in the Pitt County Public Schools system. Attending school with her siblings and treasured cousins, Blanche enjoyed her time at Cherry Lane Primary, valuing days spent with

family and friends. Though she was brought up around many of her Hopkins relatives, Blanche was also very close to her Davis family in her Mother's beloved hometown of Scotland Neck, in Halifax County, North Carolina. Blanche embraced all branches of her family tree with the dedication and care instilled in her by the parents she deeply adored. Upon completing her primary education, Blanche left home to attend college at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical College in Greensboro, North Carolina.

### A Time to Gather Stones

Blanche, while studying to become a teacher, developed another love, that shaped the next 70 years of her life, Sewing. While attending the illustrious HBCU. Blanche experienced the devastating loss of her cherished father, Perry. Despite the great absence of her father, Blanche, continued her studies, encouraged and supported by her Mother Julia. Inspired by her father's character, and value for education, Blanche remained in Greensboro, graduating with the class of 1948.

### A Time to Build

Blanche, returned to Greenville after graduating, to assist her mother and siblings, on what had then become a very large working farm, with acreage, that surpassed the dreams of both her parents and ancestors. In 1951, While catching up with her friend from college, that had relocated to New York, Blanche was encouraged to pursue a teaching position in New York City. Arriving in Brooklyn, NY, Blanche shared an apartment with 2 trusted North Carolina natives and began her life as a New York resident. New to the City, she put her sewing capabilities to good use, which led to her meeting her lifelong love.

### A Time to Gain

Blanche, while employed as a seamstress in Brooklyn, began a courtship with

“her” David. David Hayes, a native of Malone, Florida, a consummate creative, who shared her love of sewing and design. After a 6-month courtship, David proposed, and Blanche said yes. Culminating in a small wedding in June of 1956.

### A Time to Sew

Blanche, now a devoted wife and partner settled in to build a warm and loving home for both she and David. Soon they became three, as a result of the greatly anticipated birth of the 1st of 3 daughters, Julia Celeste in the spring of 1957.

### A Time to Love

Blanche and David shared many things in common, nothing more evident than their love of tradition, family and faith. Both reared in the south, anchored by the art of southern hospitality, and by the presence of an extensive village. They both honed a love and dedication to each other and their families. As new parents, their Brooklyn family became the village that they grew to love, protect, and trust with their children. Blanche and David grew their family with the addition of a 2nd daughter, Stephanie Denise, in the fall of 1960, and 3 years later, Diane Lee, was born, completing the Hayes family footprint. Blanche spent 40 years in Brooklyn, rearing her family, enhancing her skills as an excellent cook, and gifted seamstress. Blanche served her community, with her many talents. As a member of Mount Olivet Presbyterian Church, she offered her time, talents, and skills to fellow members in the community. Her skills as a seamstress were worn at family events, ceremonies, and holiday celebrations. Her brilliance exemplified creative genius, and a deep love for her craft. She was truly gifted. The only thing that surpassed her love of cooking and sewing was her love for family.

## A Time to Keep

Blanche was the epitome of grace, beauty, and humility. Born to affluence, never did she exude an attitude of entitlement, or conceit. Reminding her children and later grandchildren to be thankful for God's grace and mercy. She never ceased to inspire, encourage, or attentively listen to the many people who crossed her New York threshold. Admired by so many, Blanche was known to welcome each and every one who came to her door. Quote "A grace carried, was a grace learned" that was modeled by her beloved mother, Julia, exemplifying the golden rule of life, "treating people like you wish to be treated". In 1994, after 40 years in New York, Blanche decided to return to her beloved roots in North Carolina. There she spent her autumn and winter years with family that she had grown up with and had sorely missed. She was blessed with three additional decades of reminiscing, rejoicing, and recollecting. Time spent from a life well-lived. Sorrowfully, losing David after 64 years of marriage in November of 2020. She continued to share with her beloved grand and great-grandchildren the family history and the legacy, sharing her knowledge that became wisdom, leaving an indelible mark for the family she created. Her life offered everyone she touched, the power of love, faith, and hope. 1 Corinthians 13:13 reads "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." Honoring God, family, and truth.

## A Time to Say So Long

Blanche leaves to cherish her loving memory, her Beloved 3 daughters, Julia Celeste Hayes, of Brooklyn, New York, Stephanie Denise Hayes (of the home), Diane Lee Hayes Johnson and husband, Dr. Leon Johnson, (Blanche's Son-in-"Love") of Greenville, North Carolina; sisters-of-the-Heart, Clementina Wise of Brooklyn, New York and Curlie Spell Green of Greenville, North Carolina; dear Sister-in-"Love", Evelyn Hopkins of Greenville, North

Carolina; devoted nephews, Ray Hopkins (Brenda) of Newport News, Virginia and John Wilson (Robin) of Temple Hills, Maryland; niece daughters, Swanza White Deluze (John) of Greenville, North Carolina, Alma Belcher (Charles) of Greenville, North Carolina, Debra Green (Larry) of Greenville, North Carolina, and Ruby Washington (William) of Silver Spring, Maryland. The joy and loves of her life; grandson, Evan Alezander Johnson; granddaughters Arielle Alezandra Johnson, Kiara Celeste Hemmings (Kyle), Gayla Alezandria Johnson, Jaslyne Nicole Hemmings; great- grandchildren, Zion Avery Johnson, Nigel Alexander Johnson and Kamara Brielle Edwards; a host of nephews, nieces, cousins, family, and friends.

Well done, faithful servant. Rest well.

# Cemetery Details

## Homestead Memorial Gardens

4251 E. 10th Street  
Greenville, NC 27858

# Previous Events

## Viewing/Visitation

NOV **14.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Congleton Funeral Home and Cremations  
3205 E. 10th Street  
Greenville, NC 27858  
(252) 355-9995  
congletonfuneral1@gmail.com  
<http://congletonmortuary.com>

## Celebration of Life Service

NOV **15.** 1:00 PM (ET)

Sycamore Hill Missionary Baptist Church  
1001 Hooker Road  
Greenville, NC 27834

# Tribute Wall



“ Prayers to the Hayes family, what a wonderful soul to have in heaven! It was touching to hear all the close memories of your loved one. Elder Julia, may you be comforted through God's peace and blessings! Kenya Ragin-SPCBC

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**Kenya Ragin** - November 15, 2025 at 02:16 PM

AA

“ May your family continue to be wrapped in Gods loving arms and may the memories and legacy live on forever. Love you always Ms. Julia  
Larry & Ayeshia Artis

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**Ayeshia Artis** - November 15, 2025 at 11:19 AM

EL

“ My deepest condolences to Elder Julia Hayes and family. May your mother's life speak for her in a bountiful, beautiful, becoming way. I pray God massages your heart with kindness, fond memories and confidence in knowing your Mom will spend eternity with Our King! With love, respect and sincere condolences. Elder Lisa Laborde and family.

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**Elder Lisa Laborde** - November 15, 2025 at 12:54 AM

LL

“ To my brother friend, Dr. Leon Johnson and his family, I am sending heart felt condolences to you on the the tremendous loss of a great woman, who means so much to you all. My prayers are with you as you sorrow her absence, yet rejoice in her rest and reward. May God strengthen you day by day.

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**Leon Lewis** - November 14, 2025 at 02:55 PM

CA

“ I’m sending condolences to Mama Julia of SPCBC, NY. The boys and I are sending you love, light ,and prayers. May God bless you and your family at this time as you remember your mom and all the good times 🙏  
-C YawTrellis

Carlette - November 13, 2025 at 08:52 PM

DP

“ To my Hayes Family, I never met most of you or Mom in person but feel like we have been family for a long time. May God comfort you and keep your fond memories fresh. Remember the good times im sure there is plenty. God Bless and keep all of you.



Dorinda Pannell - November 13, 2025 at 07:51 PM

RH

“ Celeste, Stephanie, and Diane  
To be absent from the body is to be present with the lord. We will miss you Aunt Blanche love Ray and family. Rest in eternal peace.

Ray Hopkins - November 13, 2025 at 07:02 PM

AA

“ Anuola Austin lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mamie Blanche Hayes



Anuola Austin - November 13, 2025 at 06:48 PM

SH

“ *Cousin Blanche was a light from within. I am so grateful to be graced with her presence when meeting her. She will forever remain in our hearts. Many prayers to the Hopkins/Hayes family from the Brooks Family: Sharvéy, Evan and Rushon,*

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**Sharvey** - November 13, 2025 at 06:13 PM

AW

“ A Loving Tribute to  
Mamie Blanche Hayes  
1925–2025

*I want to pay homage to a woman who was so much more than my mom's best friend—Mamie Blanche Hayes was like a second mother to me. I loved her deeply, and being around her always felt like comfort, safety, and home.*

*I can still hear her sweet voice, gentle and familiar, a sound that wrapped around me with warmth. And I will never forget the love she poured into everything she touched. Every birthday, she baked me the most delicious cakes—made with her hands, her heart, and her joy. Those cakes weren't just desserts; they were memories, traditions, and pieces of my childhood that I will cherish forever.*

*I remember watching her sewing in her home, her hands steady and skilled as she worked as a seamstress. The soft hum of the sewing machine, the way she concentrated, the care she put into every stitch—those moments are stitched into my heart just as surely as the garments she created.*

*Her love, her kindness, and her steady presence shaped me in ways I will always be grateful for. She gave me guidance, comfort, and a mother's touch without ever needing a title. Her life was long, blessed, and full—and her impact will be even more lasting.*

*Losing her leaves a space in my heart that only her spirit can fill. I will forever miss her presence, her voice, her warmth, and the way she made me feel seen and loved.*

*Rest peacefully, Mrs. Hayes.  
Your legacy lives in every memory, every sound, every taste, and in all the love you gave so freely.*

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Audrey Wise - November 13, 2025 at 02:27 PM

RP

“ *Mrs Hayes made my bridal dress in 1989, she was such a sweet spirit, my mom Clementina wise and sister Audrey Wise swns our love and prayers to the entire family. May Mrs hayes Sleep in heavenly peace. Rosalie Powell*

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**Rosalie Powell** - November 13, 2025 at 01:57 PM

CS

“ *Cecily Sene lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mamie Blanche Hayes*



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**Cecily Sene** - November 12, 2025 at 07:48 PM

RW

“ Tribute to Aunt Blanche

*Aunt Blanche was more than just an auntie to me — she filled the spaces my mother, Mamie, and her sisters left behind. She became my go-to source for family stories, old-fashioned remedies, and treasured memories of times gone by — especially stories about my daddy.*

*We shared a special kind of laughter. Who was the funniest between us? I’m still not sure! We’d tell each other stories and giggle like schoolgirls. I’ll never forget one tale she loved to tell — about the night she and my uncles were in the graveyard and thought they saw a woman. Everyone took off running, swearing they saw her too! We would laugh about that one every single time. Our personalities just blended naturally, and sharing the same birth month made our bond even sweeter. Over time, she became more than family — she became my friend. We always ended our phone calls in unison with, “I love you.” In recent visits, we made sure to share a hug and take a photo to capture the moment.*

*I will miss our chats dearly. Aunt Blanche’s longevity and grace are a shining example for us all. My heartfelt condolences go out to her daughters, who so kindly shared her with me.*

*Much love,*

*Ruby*

*Representing the Mamie Murchison Redmond Robinson legacy*

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**Ruby Murchison Washington** - November 11, 2025 at 04:51 PM

SR

“ *I always remember cousin Blanche as a sweet and kind woman, with a soft voice and such a mild demeanor. She also had the strength and determination of a lioness and a heart of gold. She will truly be missed, but she led a full long life that was very well lived. Condolences 🙏 to my family.*



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**Sybrina Richardson** - November 11, 2025 at 01:58 AM

JP

“ Our prayers and sincere condolences are with all of our Family.

*Reflections of the closeness of our families go back to so many cherished memories and years that we will always remember.*

*We love you and will keep you in our prayers and thoughts.*

*Stephanie, Diane and Celeste and Grandchildren*

*Jasper, Juanita, Sidney and Timothy Payton*



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**Jasper Payton** - November 07, 2025 at 06:38 PM

EH

“ We light a candle to honor the memory of the beloved Mrs. Mamie Blanche Hayes -

*family/childhood friend of Mrs. Curlie Spell Green--so many sweet memories for our Sis. Curlie.*

*Alton, Ella Elizabeth, and Amber Nannette Harris*



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**Ella Harris** - November 07, 2025 at 02:16 PM

CS

“ Cecily Sene lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mamie Blanche Hayes



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**Cecily Sene** - November 06, 2025 at 08:09 PM

PJ

*A candle lit for the life of Mrs Hayes; in sympathy to her daughters and a host of family, friends and all those who'd loved her. Condolences from the Blount and Jenkins families ❤️*

**Penny Blount Jenkins** - November 15, 2025 at 08:35 AM

DJ

*“ Wishing you strength and comfort through this difficult time.” Eddie, Della and family*

**della Johnson** - November 06, 2025 at 06:32 PM

AB

*“ Aunt blanche, I love you to the moon and back. . .your niece alma*

**Alma j. Belcher** - November 04, 2025 at 05:40 PM

CS

*“ Congleton Funeral Home and Staff wishes to express our sincere condolences on the passing of your love one. We light this candle in their memory.*



**Congleton Funeral Home and Staff** - November 03, 2025 at 05:11 PM

EH

*“ My Condolences And Prayers Are With The Family 🙏*



**Evangelist Gwen Hudson** - November 03, 2025 at 01:32 PM

CS

“ Congleton Funeral Home and Staff wishes to express our sincere condolences on the passing of your love one. We light this candle in their memory.



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**Congleton Funeral Home and Staff** - November 03, 2025 at 09:29 AM

BB

*My sincere Condolences to you and your family throughout this grieving period. 🙏🙏🙏❤️❤️❤️🙏🙏🙏 Love you more than you know.*

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**Berneda Brothers** - November 15, 2025 at 12:04 AM