



## Mrs. Shirley Purvis Respass

July 25, 1930 - June 7, 2024

Shirley “Zet” Respass was born on July 25, 1930 to S.L and Mary Bell (Baker) Purvis. Reared in a Christian home and a strong Christian family, Shirley became a believer In Jesus Christ at an early age.

Shirley was a strong, determined woman who was shrewd in business, direct In sharing her perspective, and loved to talk on the phone. She enjoyed watching television--especially wrestling and Family Feud with Steve Harvey. Though she was often outspoken, three things really softened her heart--family, Mt. Zion, and the Lord, Jesus Christ.

Shirley loved her family. In fact, she lived to engage with them, whether in person or over the phone as she often did with her cousin, MC, and others. Her husband, Gilbert, was truly the love of her life and beneficiary of her affection; but her son, Harry, was the apple of her eye. Like her family, Mt. Zion held a special place in her heart as well. For nearly 80 years, she was a faithful member who served in a number of capacities committing her time, money, and opinions to all things Mt. Zion. She truly loved her church.

Above all, Shirley loved no one and nothing more than her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. She would quickly tell you that she was “saved, sanctified, and filled with the Holy Ghost as evidenced by the speaking in tongues!” She could often be heard saying, “God Is a good God” and her life reflected both His favor toward her and her faithfulness toward Him.

Shirley Is predeceased by her husband, Gilbert H. Respass; son, Harry D. Respass, grandson, Donald Bush; and brother, James E. Purvis, Sr. To

cherish her memory, she leaves daughter-in-love, Gloria Respass (Harry); grandsons, Dr. Christopher J. Respass (Charmaine) and Dr. Roger Bush (Christer); great-grandchildren, Amber (Elton), Christopher "CJ" (Jasz), Lauren (Patrick), Alex, Paris, Sierra, Madison, and Juan; great-great-grandchildren, Kyler and Aria; and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews, other family members, and friends.

# Cemetery Details

## Woodlawn Cemetery

299 W Pine Street  
Williamston, NC 27892

# Previous Events

## Viewing/Visitation

JUN **22**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Mt. Zion Holiness Church  
201 Jamesville Road  
Williamston, NC 27892

## Celebration of Life Service

JUN **22**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Mt. Zion Holiness Church  
201 Jamesville Road  
Williamston, NC 27892

# Tribute Wall

HB

“ *Helen Bennett lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Shirley Purvis Respass*



Helen Bennett - June 22, 2024 at 09:08 AM

MB

“ *My condolences to the family. May Zet rest in peace. God bless.* 🙏



Monica Bennett - June 22, 2024 at 08:54 AM

PW

“ *Thanks so much for your spiritual guidance, love and kindness when I attended Mt. Zion. You were a wonderful Christian role model.*



Phileria Ann Evans Washington - June 21, 2024 at 12:18 AM

AF

“ *Antionette Andrews Wheeler & Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Shirley Purvis Respass*



Antionette Andrews Wheeler & Family - June 18, 2024 at 06:06 PM

CF

“ *Most of my life I knew Shirley as "Aunt Zet", only later to find that she was actually my cousin. Titles aside, Zet was a bounty of family history knowledge and we loved hearing stories about the family from the younger years. Her presence and spirit is surely missed.*

*I'm sure you were received, arms wide open, by the family. Rest well sweet lady.*

*Cathy & Mary Foreman*

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**Cathy R. Foreman** - June 18, 2024 at 11:56 AM

JK

“ *Janie Knight lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Shirley Purvis Respass*



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**Janie Knight** - June 15, 2024 at 06:30 PM

GM

“ *Grover And Clorette Mason sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Shirley Purvis Respass*



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**Grover and Clorette Mason** - June 15, 2024 at 01:11 AM

PF

“ *Pastor Milton & Delorse Staton Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Shirley Purvis Respass*



Pastor Milton & Delorse Staton Family - June 13, 2024 at 02:04 AM

MB

“ *Sis Shirley Rest in peace*

mary Brown - June 12, 2024 at 09:23 PM

LP

“ *Cousin/Aunt Zet, you always call us doll baby. We had a wonderful time when went to Indiana. You always looked beautiful and loved your hats. Sleep in Heaven 🙏😭💔*



Linda Pugh - June 12, 2024 at 06:22 AM

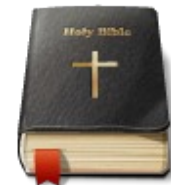
CG

*Praying for you and the Respass Family may God comfort you all and give you all strength I am the sister of Mother Rosa Hyman she called me Glenda my name is Carrie Bridgers.*

Carrie Bridgers (Known as Glenda). - June 17, 2024 at 05:45 PM

GM

“ *Grover And Clorette Mason sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Shirley Purvis Respass*



Grover and Clorette Mason - June 11, 2024 at 04:39 PM

GT

“ *Dr. Chris Respass , I am so sorry to hear about your loss of your Grandmother Meme. May she RIP. Praying for Peace for you and your family. Charmaine take care of Chris.*



**GAYLE Taylor** - June 11, 2024 at 10:35 AM

EH

“ *My Thoughts And Prayers Are With The Family*



**Evangelist Gwen Hudson** - June 11, 2024 at 06:04 AM

GT

“ *To the Respass family I am praying for Peace. Will miss that beautiful smile. Rip Mrs Respas*



**GAYLE Taylor** - June 10, 2024 at 08:34 PM

BP

“ *Brenda Purvis lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Shirley Purvis Respass*



**Brenda Purvis** - June 10, 2024 at 06:06 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** - June 10, 2024 at 02:07 PM

CB

*Praying for the Respass Family from Carrie Bridgers known as Glenda as she use to call me may God give youall strength and comfort you at this time of sorrow.*

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**Carrie Bridgers Blessed** - June 12, 2024 at 04:58 PM

VB

*The enemy death has visited our loved one and you have my deepest sympathy. I will always remember Muzet as we called her and the impact she had on my childhood.  
Knowing the condition of the dead is a source of comfort as well as a blessing-Ecclesiastes 9:5,10!  
Veronica Reddick Bell*

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**Veronica Reddick Bell** - June 14, 2024 at 07:51 AM