



Mrs. Magaline M. Turner

August 31, 1930 - May 12, 2021

Mrs. Magaline M. Turner, age 90, entered eternal rest on Wednesday, May 12, 2021, in Washington, DC.

Magaline Evelyn Ruth Markham Turner was born to Delaney Markham and Sylvia W. Markham on August 31, 1930. She was the great granddaughter of the Reverend Edian Markham, founder of St. Joseph A.M.E. Church in Durham, North Carolina.

Born and raised in Durham, she was a proud Durhamite. She loved and cherished her rich history with St. Joseph A.M.E. Church. Magaline graduated from Hillside High School in 1948. She also attended North Carolina Central University and Cortez Peters Business College. After stretching her wings, Magaline moved to Washington, D.C. and ultimately worked in the Federal Government. She retired from government after 36 years of service in 1993. Twenty-four years of that service were with the United States of America Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. After retirement, Magaline volunteered for local political campaigns and participated in neighborhood projects in Washington, D.C. However, wherever life lead her, she was always a Durham girl and always valued her friendships from school and work.

Gloria, Robert, and Magaline spent many memorable moments laughing, poking at each other (as siblings do), and discussing political and civic issues;

but always loving and supporting each other.

She will be remembered as a quiet, caring, and very loving person.

Mrs. Turner was preceded in death by her husband Gilbert Turner.

Leaving to mourn her is her only child Carol Downtin of Washington, D.C.; sister, Gloria Allen of New York City; nieces, Cecilia F. McGarrah of Florence, S.C. and Monique Markham of Washington, D.C; great nieces Jordan Garrison of Washington, D.C. and Andrea Porter of Newport News, Virginia; great nephew Anthony Franklin of New York City; great-great nephew Johnathan Satomayor of Newport News, Virginia; a dear friend Bill Caraway who stood by her for many years; and a host of relatives and friends.

A service to celebrate the life of Mrs. Magaline M. Turner will be held on Sunday, May 23, 2021, at 1:30 p.m., at St. Joseph AME Church, 2521 Fayetteville Street, Durham, North Carolina 27707, with a viewing at 1:00 p.m.

Interment will take place at Beechwood Cemetery.

Please keep this family in your thoughts and in your prayers.

Cemetery Details

Beechwood Cemetery

3300 Fayetteville St
Durham, NC 27707
(919) 560-4154

Previous Events

Viewing

MAY 23. 1:00 PM - 1:25 PM (ET)

St. Joseph AME Church
2521 Fayetteville St
Durham, NC 27707
(919) 683-1379

Celebration of Life

MAY 23. 1:30 PM (ET)

St. Joseph AME Church
2521 Fayetteville St
Durham, NC 27707
(919) 683-1379

Tribute Wall

MM

“ *You are truly loved and missed.*

M. Markham - February 18 at 08:13 AM

CD

“ *Mommy.... Not a day goes by that I don't miss you. God, please hold her close and give her kisses from me. I love you Mommy.*

Carol Downtin - June 27, 2025 at 08:11 PM



“ *Mrs. Magaline M. Turner*

October 05, 2023 at 11:31 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mrs. Magaline M. Turner.*



May 21, 2021 at 11:26 AM

WB

“ *I would like to offer my sincere condolences to the family of Mrs. Magaline M. Turner. Looking at her start to end date. Let's me know she lived a long and full life while here on earth. And judging from her lineage. I am sure her dash blessed many along the way. May she rest in Heavenly Peace.*



Wayne Bostick - May 20, 2021 at 09:48 PM

AV

“ *Andre D. Vann lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Magaline M. Turner*



Andre D. Vann - May 19, 2021 at 10:31 AM

GG

“ *What a beautiful person, Ms. Turner always treated me like a son. May she Rest In Peace.*

Garney Gary - May 19, 2021 at 10:16 AM

CB

“ *I was saddened to hear about the passing of Mrs. Turner. I send my heartfelt condolences to her daughter, Carol. Mrs. Turner and I were close neighbors and friends for almost 20 years. She was a very kind and sweet lady, and everyone who knew her in the building where we lived adored her. I will miss our conversations discussing the Bull City and its rich Black History. I too have roots in Durham, North Carolina.*

*Charles (Carlos) Bright
Washington, D.C.*

Charles E. Bright - May 16, 2021 at 01:52 AM

TP

I am so sorry to hear of Magalines passing away. She was a beautiful person inside and out. I send my condolences to the family. God bless you all. 💕

Tammy Pittman - May 16, 2021 at 12:28 PM

MR

*Very sorry to hear of Mrs. Turner's passing. Heaven has gained a true Angel. Sending Prayers of comfort to Carol and family.
Michael, YaYa and Mike Jr*

Michael and Carolyn Robinson - May 20, 2021 at 01:22 AM

MM

*Aunt Magaline was kind hearted like her own mother, my grandmother, Sylvia Markham. She is deeply missed. I will always love her.
XXXOOO*

Monique Markham - October 01, 2022 at 04:57 PM