



Mrs. Olivia Shirley Ann Gilmore

October 30, 1943 - January 7, 2025

Condolences are being expressed to the family of Mrs. Olivia Shirley Ann Garner Gilmore, age 81, who passed away on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, at Duke Regional Hospital. She was born on October 30, 1943, in Durham, North Carolina.

Mrs. Olivia Gilmore leaves to cherish her memory one son, Exter G. "Trey" Gilmore, III; daughter Reverend Dr. Onjerya "Kem" Gilmore and bonus daughter Patsy Merritt Pilgrim; five grandchildren and five bonus grandchildren; one great grandchildren and two bonus great grandchildren; and a host of extended family members and dear friends.

The Homegoing Service to celebrate the life of Mrs. Olivia Shirley Ann Gilmore will take place at Union Baptist Church, 904 N Roxboro Street, Durham, North Carolina 27701, on Friday, January 10th; visitation 12:30 p.m., service 1:30 p.m.

The Homegoing Service will be streamed live via Union Baptist Church.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the North Carolina Central University Marching Band in the name of Olivia G. Gilmore.

Interment will take place in Glennview Memorial Park.

Cemetery Details

Glennview Memorial Park

NC Hwy 55
Durham, NC 27713
(919) 596-8102

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JAN 10. 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM (ET)

Union Baptist Church
904 N. Roxboro Street
Durham, NC 27701
(919) 688-1304
info@myubc.org
<http://www.myubc.org/>

Celebration of Life

JAN 10. 1:30 PM (ET)

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904 N. Roxboro Street
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Tribute Wall

RG

“ *Mama, I miss you so very much. I still have difficulty believing that you're gone. I'm doing my best to go with my life without you being here. Help me mama to live! I love you.*

Rev Dr Kem Gilmore - July 18, 2025 at 05:57 PM

RL

“ *On behalf of the entire body of the First Chronicles Community in Durham, North Carolina, we would like for you to know that we have you in our prayers.*
Pastors William & Pebbles Lucas



Rev. Pebbles Lucas - March 24, 2025 at 11:12 PM

HR

“ *Dear Family, I was so sorry to hear about your mother. I met her and your dad Exter Gilmore at Allen's Wrench when I worked there as office manager. We became great friends. I heard she was at Treyburn Assisted Living and I went to visit her around Christmas. We would send each other texts on the phone. I had no idea that she had passed until today. I sent her a text yesterday and Trey saw it before he had her phone disconnected. I am so thankful for him letting me know about her. They are rejoicing together with their Lord and Savior and they are back together again. I loved both of them very much. May God Give You Comfort and Peace During This Difficult Time! My Thoughts and Prayers Are With You!*

Hope Raynor - February 13, 2025 at 10:27 PM

RD

“ *Dear Dr. Kem and the Gilmore Family...*

Mrs. Olivia will truly be missed and you will remain in our hearts, in our thoughts and in our prayers.

-Rev. Rana M. Davis and Family



Rana Davis - January 15, 2025 at 06:50 PM

CS

“ Charles/Mary Baldwin, Sr lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Olivia Shirley Ann Gilmore



Charles/Mary Baldwin, Sr - January 11, 2025 at 04:00 PM

CS

We sincerely send our hacondolences to the Gilmore Family. We truly share in loss of your Mom, who was so kind and caring. Charles/Mary Baldwin, Sr.

Charles/Mary Baldwin, Sr - January 11, 2025 at 04:03 PM

KE

We all the Burkett family love Ms.Gilmore have not been able to see her but we will love her forever in our hearts .God bless the family and We will keep you all in our prayers .

Kema - January 11, 2025 at 07:04 PM

PS

“ Pamela H. Stokes lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Olivia Shirley Ann Gilmore



Pamela H. Stokes - January 10, 2025 at 04:43 PM

DB

“ Condolences to Kim and Trey, and the entire family and friends, praying for God's Grace to cover you all during this difficult time. 🙏🥲
Debra Dorty Bradley, classmate Northern High School. RIHP 🙏🕊️

Deb Bradley - January 10, 2025 at 02:50 PM

AJ

“ Amaya Jarmon lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Olivia Shirley Ann Gilmore



Amaya Jarmon - January 10, 2025 at 12:42 PM

GB

“ Gladys Bruton lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Olivia Shirley Ann Gilmore



Gladys Bruton - January 10, 2025 at 12:38 PM

V-

“ Mr. and Mrs. Otis Johnson Condolences to the family.



velma Parker -Johnson - January 10, 2025 at 11:28 AM

CW

“ Cristal Polk Watson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Olivia Shirley Ann Gilmore



Cristal Polk Watson - January 10, 2025 at 09:52 AM

RS

“ Rebecca Suitt-Gray lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Olivia Shirley Ann Gilmore



Rebecca Suitt-Gray - January 10, 2025 at 08:55 AM

AT

“ Anita Satterfield Torian lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Olivia Shirley Ann Gilmore



Anita Satterfield Torian - January 10, 2025 at 08:54 AM

EH

“ *Your caring ways and smiles will be missed.*

Evelyn Hightower - January 10, 2025 at 07:35 AM

MH

“ *Mary And Alton Holloway lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Olivia Shirley Ann Gilmore*



Mary and Alton Holloway - January 10, 2025 at 06:17 AM

MH

We love you and will truly miss you.

Mary and Alton Holloway - January 10, 2025 at 06:19 AM

KM

“ *Kathy J. McNeill lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Olivia Shirley Ann Gilmore*



Kathy J. McNeill - January 09, 2025 at 10:22 PM

IH

“ *Illa Hill lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Olivia Shirley Ann Gilmore*



Illa Hill - January 09, 2025 at 09:48 PM

LP

“ *Linda Parker lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Olivia Shirley Ann Gilmore*



linda Parker - January 09, 2025 at 06:10 PM

LP

Olivia was a delight to know. I only knew her for a very short time, but she made my day every day I spoke with her. She was in the room next to my mom at Treyburn rehab. She would always greet me with her glorious smile and we would chat. She was a Young and the Restless fan, as am I. We are both scorpios (born in October) and both involved in health care. My conversations with her were always engaging, lively and thought provoking. She was such a lovely woman. My thoughts and prayers are for her family, especially Trey and Kem. No doubt about the love she had in abundance for you. She was fortunate to have you in her life. May God bless you.

linda Parker - January 09, 2025 at 06:20 PM

JH

“ Thoughts on the transition of my "Sister of the Heart"

Olivia, I thank God for putting you and Exter in our lives in 1969 when Rick and I moved to Durham. You were our first friends in Durham. We shared many, many happy times together. Even after the death of our spouses, we remained steadfast friends. You called us "Sister Friends" and I called you my "Sister of the Heart" and my "Sister in Love". Over a year ago when you were so sick in Duke Hospital and the outcome was looking grim, I prayed to God and asked Him not to take you then because I was not ready to deal with not having you in my life. He answered my prayer and gave us about a year and a half more together. I rejoiced and thanked God as your strength increased and you were able to walk again. On Jan 2nd you sent me a text asking that I pray with and for you that you would be discharged by the end of the month...that you had someone to provide home health services for you. I responded that I prayed for you everyday and that I was trusting God to continue to increase your strength so you could go home. I reassured you that God answers prayer. You replied " Thank you very much. I know God answers prayers. I know He hasn't brought me this far to leave me now. To Him be all the glory and honor". "Love you girl"! On Sunday I texted you to share that I had testified to my Church about you and what God was doing in your life. You texted me back to say that you had not been able to locate the service on You Tube, but you would keep trying. That was the last I heard from you. While we were getting excited and hopeful that you would be able to return home to Peppercorn St., little did we know that God was preparing you to move to a greater home. A home where there is no more sickness or death, because Jesus already "died once for all of us". Well, I am the only one left of our "foursome". Tell Rick and Exter "hello" and to "behave". Friendships built on mutual love, caring, honesty and respect are special. Please know that I will always love and remember you, my Sister. I praise and thank God for the times we spent together. While I will miss you terribly, I am comforted by the thought that you are safe in the arms of our Heavenly Father. He didn't leave you after all, He took you with Him. Until we meet again...I love you girl!!!

Jacqueline N Howell - January 09, 2025 at 02:28 PM

DP

“ *Dean-Na Pratt lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Olivia Shirley Ann Gilmore*



Dean-Na Pratt - January 09, 2025 at 12:21 PM

JJ

“ *To my Dear Olivia. I want to thank you for the many years of sisterhood and brotherhood we've shared. I will miss you but I know God needed to bring you home with him. I will always have our memories to enlighten my days in the years to come. Rest in peace by dear sister.*



Your brother and lifelong friend,

Joseph L. Garner, Jr.

Joseph L. Garner Jr. - January 09, 2025 at 11:21 AM

TD

“ *Thaddeus Daniels lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Olivia Shirley Ann Gilmore*



Thaddeus Daniels - January 09, 2025 at 11:12 AM

KT

“ *to the family she is all right now she with the Lord, I remember her from John Umstead in Butner NC she is resting in peace now*

Kenneth H Terrell - January 09, 2025 at 11:00 AM

SJ

“ *One of my very DEAR BFF's - we've known each other since Jr. High School (Whitted), through High School (Hillside), through college (NCCU), through many years of employment(at DSS until she left there), through family social activities (Double Dozen Club) and on, and on, and on... You've led a BEAUTIFUL, GOD-FEARING life - I'm sure the LORD was waiting to welcome you HOME and I'm very sure you were glad to see EXTER, your Mom and Dad! I'm so glad to have been a part of your life - I love you - REST IN PEACE! - Sue*

Sue Jarmon - January 09, 2025 at 10:05 AM

BH

My condolences to the family, I will miss texting and visiting you, always had a beautiful smile rest on classmate. RIH

Belinda Brown Hayes - January 10, 2025 at 12:15 AM

SB

“ *Many Saturday mornings when Mr. & Mrs. Gilmore would stop by Kem's house before going to a NCCU football game, I would look out my window and say "they love then babies" and just smile. ☐*



Mother Gilmore, you are now HOME!! ❤️☐🌻🌹🌸🌸🌸🌸🌸🌸🌸☐❤️

Stephanie Buie - January 09, 2025 at 07:32 AM

BJ

“ *Betty Jones lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Olivia Shirley Ann Gilmore*



Betty Jones - January 09, 2025 at 04:11 AM

RG

“ *Mama Sunshine, I will always love you! Thank you for being the mother I needed most! I'm missing you so much. Who will I call and talk with late at night? Love Your Daughter Sunshine, Kem*



Rev Dr Kem Gilmore - January 08, 2025 at 10:53 PM

PG

I worked with Olivia at John Umstead Hospital, and I saddened to hear of her passing away. My thoughts and prayers are with her family. Patricia Gibson

Patricia Gibson - January 09, 2025 at 09:47 PM

CH

It was my pleasure meeting Cousin Olivia for the first time after the pandemic. We connected on Facebook through her daughter, Rev. Dr. Kem Gilmore, who I later found out was my cousin. We never knew after attending high school together.

Trey and I were external colleagues for a nonprofit company. Talk about a small world not knowing who you are kin to.

She always said, "I wish you were here in Durham so you could bring me some of those delicious meals that you share on Facebook."

I am so glad we connected. Thank you for the moments given. You will forever have a special place in my heart.

Rest in peace, cousin! You earned your wings in God's paradise.

Cherie

Cherie - January 10, 2025 at 12:22 PM