



Mrs. Clara May Gilkes

November 18, 1940 - November 18, 2018

Her Story:

Clara May Gilkes was born on November 18, 1940 in Henning, Tennessee to the late Norman Anderson Lee and Rena Bell Jones-Lee. She was the youngest of seven children. Clara's parents, two brothers: James Lee and Robert Lee, and three sisters: Laruth Ross, Reather Duncan, and Louvenia Willis all preceded her in death.

The Lee Family moved to Paducah, Kentucky, then to East Moline, Illinois where Clara received her high school education at United Township High School, the family then moved to Benton Harbor, Michigan. Clara eventually moved back to Illinois where she pursued a career at Rock Island Arsenal Unit, then transferred to headquarters: U.S. Army Tank Automotive Center in Warren, Michigan. In 1996 she retired from the Government of the United States of America following 35 years of loyal clerical service, Clara came out of retirement and worked an additional ten years at the State Juvenile Court System then retired a second time.

In 1964, Clara settled down in Detroit, Michigan and placed her church membership at Greater Northwest C.O.G.I.C. under the leadership of the late Bishop Green D. Moore (founder), and under the leadership of Superintendent Tommy C. Vanover-Pastor. As a born again believer she remained faithful until illness took over and God called her home on her birthday. Clara volunteered

in several capacities at the church: Sunday School Teacher, Purity Class Leader, Usher Board, Church Bulletins, and Church Secretary for 43 plus years. One of Clara's favorite pastimes was finding gems in resale shops, and helping people in special ways.

In 1964, Clara attended a C.O.G.I.C. Youth Convocation where she locked eyes with Lionel Raffiel Gilkes, and on July 16, 1966 the two were joined together in holy matrimony, and to this union one child was born Mark Anthony Gilkes, and three stepchildren blessed this union.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Hope Memorial Gardens

17840 Middlebelt Road
Livonia, MI 48152

Previous Events

Visitation

Thursday, Nov. **29**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home
17600 Plymouth Road
Detroit, MI 48227
(313) 838-9770
info@pyefuneralhome.com

Family Hour

Friday, Nov. **30**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Greater Northwest COGIC
15811 Rosa Parks Blvd.
Detroit, MI 48238

Funeral Service

Friday, Nov. **30**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Greater Northwest COGIC
15811 Rosa Parks Blvd.
Detroit, MI 48238

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Clara May Gilkes*

January 21, 2023 at 09:34 PM