



Mrs. Rosie Viola Briscoe

January 18, 1924 - May 15, 2020

Rosie “Viola” Starkey Briscoe was born on January 18, 1924 in Franklin County, Virginia to the late Albert M. Starkey and Rosie Terry Starkey, the eldest of ten children. Viola transitioned from her earthly vessel on Friday, May 15, 2020 at her home surrounded by her loved ones. She was fondly known by many as “Ms. Vi,” “Mrs. Briscoe,” “Dr. Vi” or “Girlfriend.”

At a young age, Viola accepted Christ and became a member of Hales Ford United Methodist Church in Moneta, Virginia. She moved to Harlem, New York where she married her husband, the late William A. Briscoe Jr. on October 26, 1947. Shortly thereafter, they moved their family to Lexington, Kentucky to be closer to family. Viola Briscoe joined Quinn Chapel AME Church where she was a dedicated and faithful member. She was a Sunday School teacher and a member of the Usher Board. She was well known by church members for wearing a variety of stylish Sunday church hats, some uniquely designed by her.

Viola was a stay-at-home mom who was very proud of her children. She always found an opportunity to brag to others about their accomplishments. She was a woman of boundless energy and worked tirelessly as a full-time homemaker to help support her family. She would babysit her grandchildren and other children who lived in the neighborhood. She was the “neighborhood doctor” that had a home remedy to cure any pain or fix any injury with tender

love and care. Her mother taught her to sew at an early age and she went on to become an extremely talented seamstress making alterations, clothing items and let's not forget her famous cabbage patch doll series. In her spare time, she enjoyed arts and crafts, gardening (Ms. Green Thumb), cooking, and in her later years she enjoyed watching basketball games and traveling, both domestically and internationally. Viola lived a full life and lived it her way with God, church and family first.

In addition to her parents and her husband, she was preceded in death by five brothers, Milton Starkey, Lloyd Starkey, Leonard Starkey, James Lee Starkey and Albert Starkey, and two sisters, Mattie Barnett and Eulalar Taylor.

She leaves to mourn and cherish her memories eleven children including five daughters, Barbara Goode of Richmond, Virginia, Rosalind Cater, Carmon (Sherman) Stout, Delphine (Marvin) Wilson and Corrice Patterson all of Lexington, Kentucky; and six sons, William A. Briscoe III of Lexington, Kentucky, Ronald L. Briscoe of Lafayette, Louisiana, Marcus (Claudia) Briscoe of Germany, Michael (Michelle) Briscoe of Austin, Texas, Timothy (Sylvia) Briscoe of Georgetown, Kentucky and Darrell (Daphanie) Briscoe of Dayton, Ohio; twenty-three grandchildren; twenty great-grandchildren; two sisters, Sylvia (Curtis) White of Salem, Virginia, and Maeola (James) Strother of Richmond, Virginia; two brothers-in-law, Fred Taylor of Boones Mill, Virginia and Richard (Cora) Briscoe of Lexington, Kentucky; three sisters-in-law, Hazel Starkey of Boones Mill, Virginia, Minister Carlana Starkey of Wirtz, Virginia and Lida Mae Simpson of Lexington, Kentucky; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Cemetery Details

Camp Nelson National Cemetery

6980 Danville RD
Nicholasville, KY

Previous Events

Service

MAY **22**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Quinn Chapel AME Church
744 Charles Ave
Lexington, KY 40508

Graveside

MAY **26**. 9:00 AM (ET)

Camp Nelson National Cemetery
6980 Danville RD
Nicholasville, KY

Tribute Wall

SS

“ To our Briscoe family in Kentucky, thank you for making it possible for us to virtual attend Aunt Vi homegoing celebration. We share in your sorrow and send our sincere condolences. We know weeping may endure for a night, but JOY comes in the morning (Psalms 30:5) We rejoice in knowing that Aunt Vi no longer have to live in her home on Price Road. She gone to her new heavenly home where the streets are made of pure gold (Rev 21:21).

As we look back over the years of her accomplishments so elegant expressed in the obituary:

The traveling she experienced, all the things she could do and the loving things she did for her family, church, and neighborhood can only be summed up as “It’s Amazing!” Her life was well-lived and she should be celebrated. We know through her 96 years, she had some trials and tribulations but she faithfully pressed on as a devoted Mom, loving Grandmother, dear Sister, dedicated Church Member,

kind Neighbor, sweet In-law, dear Cousin, great Aunt and loyal Friend.

We think Psalms 37:2-5 speaks for Aunt- “I have been young now I am old, I never seen the righteous forsaken not his seed begging bread. “ God was merciful to her that her seed (11 children, 23 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren) have not had to beg but have been blessed.

Her Legacy Lives On through them, her sisters, in-laws, nephews, nieces, cousins, other relatives, neighbors, church family and friends. She has touched each one of us with her Gift of Love. Rest in Peace Aunt Vi, just know you were Blessed and Highly Favored by God and all of us.

Prayers of Love from Sharon Starkey, Mom Min. Carlana Starkey of Wirtz, VA and Brother Kenneth and Debbie Starkey of Roanoke, VA.

Sharon Strkey - May 25, 2020 at 07:12 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Rosie Viola Briscoe.*



May 21, 2020 at 10:52 PM



“ *Ron,
I will continue praying for you and your family.
Even though I've never met her, I'm certain
she lived a great life. Send my condolences to
your family.*



Lift up your head, rejoice because your mother lived a long and a beautiful life . In Jesus name!

Wanda Clayton

Tyler Hall, Tiffany, Jaxon,Jaicee, &Terry Parker

Wanda Clayton - May 21, 2020 at 10:42 PM



“ *Ron,*

I was sorry to hear about the loss of your mother. In this time, my family and I will keep you and your family in our prayers. Its hard to loose someone you love. Judging from you, your mother must have been a trully special person.

Mike DeMetz

Total Safety HSE Specialist

Mike DeMetz - May 21, 2020 at 09:16 PM

NM

“ *Nellie McKnight lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosie Viola Briscoe*



Nellie McKnight - May 21, 2020 at 12:17 PM

RC

“ *Condolences & prayers for the Starkey & Briscoe family.*

Roberta Taylor Carter



Roberta Carter - May 21, 2020 at 10:50 AM