



Ms. Mary Frances Knight Booker

September 10, 1939 - February 2, 2021

The Life of Mary Knight Booker

Favorite Quote: Life is not a Bed of Roses

On February 2, 2021, Mary Frances Knight Booker, 81, lately of Baltimore, Maryland, went home to be with the Lord. Her public viewing and funeral service will be held at the Pope Funeral Home, Forestville Maryland, and officiated by Pastor Anthony G. Maclin on February 13, 2021 at 10:00 am. A gravesite service will be held at Mt. Olivet Cemetery following the funeral services.

Mary was born September 10, 1939, to the late Susie Lee Griggs in Bethel, NC. She was raised and attended schools in Bethel, NC. At the age of 16, she married Charlie Mack Knight and moved to Washington, DC. From this union, four children were united, Linda Gail Ballard, Gary Knight (deceased), Lisa Renee Knight, and Teresa Knight. She later married her 2nd husband James Julius Booker in 1985 until his death in April 2017.

Mary was a genuinely loving and energetic person who loved her family dearly. She always made it her business to keep in touch with everyone from North Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, Florida, New Jersey and anywhere she knew family was located. She always made it clear, family was everything to her and that her doors were always open and a hot meal available. She

greeted everyone that came to visit with a drink, some good food, music, and great conversations. She prided herself in making sure everyone always felt welcomed and expressed how they were always welcome to return. She always radiated with confidence and spunk and she had a way of making you feel like you could conquer the world.

Mary belonged to a social group called “The Sunshine Girls” back in the late 60s and early 70s. Mary and the ladies in her group would cater and organize social events often. She absolutely loved being around family and friends, especially holidays. Her house was the go-to for family celebrations, birthdays, graduations, baby showers, and the usual “Sunday Soul Food Dinners”.

Mary learned early in life the importance of working hard. After moving to DC, Mary began working as a caregiver to children of a local judge. That opportunity served as the catalyst to her reading and networking skills. During this time, she was offered a position full-time at Stone Industrial located in Greenbelt, MD, also while working part-time providing cleaning services downtown DC where she retired from both jobs after 33+ years of service. After her retirement, she worked for a short period of time at Homeland Security in Washington, D.C.

Mary always found a way to take care of her family, even if that meant working two jobs to provide for her girls. She was dedicated and exemplified a no-nonsense attitude about the importance of working hard. When we would complain about work or life, she would always say “Life is not a Bed of Roses”, and with that, we knew to hold our head up, push our shoulders back and finish strong. Mary was spunky and full of fire!!! She wanted her girls to know, “Always be prepared because you never know how life will come at you. You cannot just count on others to save you. You got to be able to take care of yourself. Be strong and push. Cry for a minute and move on. Life will

always be what you make it". She was a tough cookie on the outside, but deep down inside, she was always also very caring.

She always put God first and expressed the importance of being actively involved in church. Later in life, Mary joined the Sanctuary at Kingdom Square Church where she remained a devoted servant.

Mary was preceded in death by her beloved husband James Julius Booker. She leaves to cherish her memories of her brothers and sisters, Willie Salisbury (deceased), Shirley Redmond, Pearlie Mae Little, Whit Salisbury, Jr., Clarence Salisbury (deceased), Walter Salisbury, James Earl Salisbury, Gloristine Gorham, Janice Crosby, Juanita Salisbury (deceased), three daughters, Linda Gail Ballard, Lisa Renee Knight, Teresa Knight, six grandkids, Michael Shaun Ballard (deceased), Leon Christopher Ballard, Crystal Renee Ballard, Chiana Nichole Coleman, Briana Jenay Coleman and Quendin Farod Mims, and four great grandkids, Destiny Reshay Hughes, DeLonte Maurice Wilson, Xavier DeLonte Moore, Aaliyah Vaniece Finger and a host of beloved nieces, nephews, cousins and devoted friends.

So today we say goodbye to the matriarch of our family. We say goodbye to a woman who loved everyone, for who they were, and never for what they had. We say goodbye to one of the most generous, loving, compassionate and kind-hearted wives, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, daughter, sister, aunt, cousin and friend. It's a love we can only hope to match as we move through our lives without you. Thank you Ma for teaching us the importance of family, love and last but not least---STRENGTH. We are strong because of you, but we are weak without you. Until our eyes meet again, for all eternity, we love you and miss you so much Ma.

Tribute Wall



“ *Pope Funeral Homes created a Webcast in memory of Ms. Mary Frances Knight Booker*



Pope Funeral Homes - February 13, 2021 at 10:52 AM

JB

RIH

Janessa L. Bland-Morgan - February 13, 2021 at 11:42 AM



“ *Ms. Mary Frances Knight Booker*

January 28, 2023 at 02:13 PM



“ *Ms. Mary Frances Knight Booker*

January 28, 2023 at 10:26 AM

JK

“ *Mary Francis Family,*

I am so sorry to hear about the loss of your mom. Growing up she was affectionately known as May Frances. She and my mom (Bettie Knight) were very close cousins/friends. My condolences to you and the family and I pray God continues to give you the strength to carry on. My heart and prayers go out to you during this difficult time.

*Love,
Jackie Knight Fields*

Jackie Knight - February 13, 2021 at 06:58 PM

LG

Continued Prayers for our family..

Lori Griggs - February 16, 2021 at 03:42 PM



“ *Garden Accent Stone - "Wherever a Beautiful Soul..." was purchased for the family of Ms. Mary Frances Knight Booker.*



February 13, 2021 at 11:49 AM

SR

“ *Shirley Redmond lit a candle in memory of Ms. Mary Frances Knight Booker*



Shirley Redmond - February 13, 2021 at 11:49 AM



“ *Condolence Snacks was purchased for the family of Ms. Mary Frances Knight Booker.*



February 12, 2021 at 06:11 PM



“ *Garden Accent Stone - "Wherever a Beautiful Soul..." was purchased for the family of Ms. Mary Frances Knight Booker.*



February 11, 2021 at 10:58 AM



“ *Mary will truly be missed
Emily Best*



Emily Best - February 10, 2021 at 09:45 PM



“ *You surely will be missed*



Emily Best - February 10, 2021 at 05:48 AM

EB

“ *Linda, Lisa, Theresa and family, so sorry to hear about the loss of your mom. My condolences to you and the family. Mary will be greatly missed. My heart and prayers go out to you at this most difficult time. Emily Best*

Emily Best - February 10, 2021 at 05:42 AM

LB

Thank you so much. You meant a lot to Ma. My memories of you and her are all happy ones

Linda Ballard - February 14, 2021 at 10:34 AM

LB

“ *Lisa Booker lit a candle in memory of Ms. Mary Frances Knight Booker*



Lisa Booker - February 09, 2021 at 10:02 AM

CG

“ *You will certainly be missed! Bethel family will miss you*



Camilla Griggs - February 06, 2021 at 09:14 PM

PB

“ *Pauline Bellamy lit a candle in memory of Ms. Mary Frances Knight Booker*



Pauline Bellamy - February 06, 2021 at 11:05 AM

MH

“ *Marion Hyman lit a candle in memory of Ms. Mary Frances Knight Booker*



Marion Hyman - February 04, 2021 at 09:17 PM

DH

“ *David Hamilton lit a candle in memory of Ms. Mary Frances Knight Booker*



David Hamilton - February 04, 2021 at 05:40 PM

TW

“ *Sorry For Your Loss, Jesus Christ Loves Me, We Love You*



Thomas Widgeon - February 04, 2021 at 03:36 PM

SR

I will miss the talks we use to have. You were getting tired and depressed, so now you can take your rest. You are now in a better place. There is no more pains thank you Jesus. You made it in. Even though you are are not here with us, I will all ways have my memories of you. You can now go and rest in peace. Love you Mary.

Shirley Redmond - February 05, 2021 at 06:08 AM

GG

“ *Gloristine Gorham lit a candle in memory of Ms. Mary Frances Knight Booker*



Gloristine Gorham - February 03, 2021 at 10:07 PM

LK

“ *This is a picture of my mom, Mary Knight Booker, and I attending another funeral at Pope Funeral Home. I already miss my mom so much. She was such a big part of my life. She lived a good long life. She touched many people. I hope my mom feels free as a bird now. No more, paralysis or pain for you mom, you have your wings now. Love you always.*

Your daughter Lisa Knight



Lisa Knight - February 03, 2021 at 08:35 PM

LB

Simply beautiful

Linda Ballard - February 14, 2021 at 10:35 AM