



Deaconess Alberta (Huff) Hill

November 15, 1923 - December 18, 2021

N. UTICA – Deaconess Alberta (Huff) Hill, age 98, passed into the arms of the Lord on Saturday morning, December 18, 2021, in the comfort and dignity of her home with her devoted daughters Norma Jean and Lillian by her side.

Alberta was born the youngest of eight children in Lockhart, AL on November 15, 1923 to the late Rev. Jesse and Jessie Bell (Harris) Huff. Alberta spent her formative years in Eufaula, AL, where she was educated in the public-school systems. She was blessed to grow up in a loving, Christian family, headed by her father who was an ordained, itinerant minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. From an early age, Alberta's parents had instilled in their children a love of God, the importance of worship, and principles of Christian living.

In the early 1940s, Alberta came to Utica to live with her mother-in-law, Mrs. Eddie C. Hightower. Alberta remained there while awaiting her impending marriage with her beloved Norman Hill, who was soon to return after being honorably discharged from the U.S. Air Force. The couple was married on August 24, 1946, and were then blessed with two daughters: Norma Jean and Lillian. Alberta loved her daughters immensely, and believed they were as "precious as pearls." Indeed, Alberta was a devoted wife and mother who centered her life around her family and her church. After 67 years of their loving marriage, Norman sadly departed this world on January 28, 2014.

Alberta's deep faith in God was practiced at St. Paul's Baptist Church, of which she was a long-standing member. She had joined the faith community shortly after her marriage to Norman, so that the pair could serve God united in the same church, in the same denomination. Alberta delighted in growing her knowledge of the Lord, and enjoyed attending the Adult Sunday School classes. Additionally, Alberta prioritized her daughters' faith formation, and enrolled them in their age-appropriate classes to further their Christian development. By her example, Alberta taught her daughters the power of prayer and the importance of reading the scriptures daily before any other activity.

Furthermore, Alberta was a member of the gospel choir, and was even invited to serve on the Deaconess Board, where she diligently carried out the various duties required of the ministry. Upon her retirement, Alberta was honored with the title "Deaconess Emeritus." Additionally, Alberta was a member of and contributed to the Eastern Star Organization,

under the Prince Hall Masons (Hiram Lodge). She participated in many of their activities and community service projects.

Alberta was employed briefly as a domestic housekeeper to several Utica families, but in later years shifted trajectories and embraced a position as a school crossing guard for the City of Utica. Alberta greatly enjoyed her duties of guiding the children at the crosswalks at the St. Joseph and St. Patrick Parochial School. Alberta enabled students to safely cross the streets to their schools for eight years, even winning a contest for “The Best School Crossing Guard in the City.” This achievement gained her the opportunity to be celebrated in an appearance on WKTV News.

Left to cherish Alberta’s memories are her daughters, Norma Jean Hill, and Lillian Woods; as well as her many special nieces and their families, Nellie Jo Moore; Sheridean Huff; Dorothy Scotton; Gladys Scotton; Angenette Scotton; and Alberta’s special nephews, Oscar, and Michael Anderson; Jerome Long; and Bruce Scotton. She is additionally survived by her cousins, Jimmie Connor, Albert Jr. and Sarah Jones. Alberta leaves behind numerous special friends, Bertha Whiteside-Robinson, John and Joyce Mitchell, Walter and Judith Young, Willie and Gloria Maffett, Patricia Baker, the Ed and Brenda Bonner family, sisters, Margaret Reed Shelton, Darlene Shelton, and Melvina Adams; Rev. Mary Webster, Ernestine Wilson, Rachel Hamlett, Betty Clemons, Mary and Larry Cross, Patricia and Cleon Frazier, and Beulah Thompson; and many fellow parishioners of St. Paul’s Baptist Church – they were held dear to her heart, and she had great affection for them. Alberta was predeceased by her siblings, Rev. Colonel Moses Huff, Rev. Edgar Lee Huff, Mary Anderson, Josephine Long, Clara Bell Lynn, Emma Andrews, and J.W. Huff; as well as her mother-in-law, Eddie C. Hightower.

The Hill family wishes to express their appreciation to Hospice and Palliative Care, Inc., and Caregivers Home Health Agency. A special note of thanks is extended to Pastor Marilyn Bell, Deaconess Sandra Wilkerson, Deaconess Dale Hunt, Missionary Pamela Williams, and Deacons Kenneth Bowens and Timothy Wilkerson.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, December 23, 2021 from 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM at St. Paul’s Baptist Church, 219 Leah St. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Deaconess Alberta’s Home Going Service and Celebration of Life which will commence at 12:00 at the church. Regardless of vaccination status, face masks are required, to remain in compliance with the state and county mask order. She will be laid to rest in New Forest Cemetery in the Spring.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **23**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul's Baptist Church
219 Leah Street
Utica, NY

Home Going Service

DEC **23**. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul's Baptist Church
219 Leah Street
Utica, NY

Tribute Wall

GL

“ To LILLIAN AND NORMA JEAN
FROM KEITH & GLORIA WASHINGTON
LILLIAN YOU HAVE OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCE ON THE PASSING OF
YOUR LOVNG MOTHER. I REMEMBER SPEAKING TO MAMA ON THE
PHONE DURING ALL THE HOLIDAYS. SHE WOULD GIVE ME TIPS ON
DIFFERENT RECIPES!! SHE WAS SO PLEASANT ALWAYS LAUGHING WITH
ME OVER THE PHONE. PRAYERS FOR OUR LORD TO GIVE YOU AND
NORMA JEAN STRENGTH MY FRIEND. 🙏🙏 LILLIAN YOU KNOW YOU CAN
CALL ME ANYTIME. GOD BLESS

YOUR FRIEND,
GLORIA & KEITH WASHINGTON
ATLANTA, GA.

Gloria - December 23, 2021 at 11:07 AM

DW

“ Lillian and Norma im so sorry for your loss of your mother.
Sending prayers of comfort to you both. She was a
beautiful lady. 🙏❤️🕊️



Dawn Winston - December 21, 2021 at 08:45 PM

ON

I am really going to miss one of my favorite aunts voice. To hear my aunt Alberta talk to me gave me a lot of joy just to hear her voice, my aunt Alberta her and myself enjoyed each other's company especially when I was younger we had a good time so rest easy and Alberta and when you speak to your sister my grandmother and your husband Norman you tell him I'll see them in the future

Oscar Anderson one of the nephews - December 23, 2021 at 08:09 AM

JM

“ Jim and I are so sorry for the loss of this amazing lady. We lived next door to them for several years in North Utica. She certainly was a class act and we so enjoyed our little chats with her and her daughters. May you fly with the angels Mrs. Hill.

Jim & Deb McAllister - December 21, 2021 at 10:11 AM

JR

Joe & Vern Reid Sorry for your loss of your mother she will always be in our hearts so many years of being in her presence. What a beautiful person she earned her wings in heaven God has her now and forever.

Joseph & Vern Reid - December 31, 2021 at 10:32 PM



“ *Our deepest sympathy to Norma and Lillian. We are so sorry for your loss and was saddened by passing of your mom. May God grant you comfort and peace. Mary and Bobby Wells* 🙏👼



Mary Wells - December 21, 2021 at 09:33 AM

RS

“ *Rose Pearson-Simmons*



Roseann Simmons - December 21, 2021 at 09:16 AM

BF

“ *My condolences to Lillian and Norma Jean. The Hill family were are neighbors on State St. for as long as I can remember. Mrs. Hill was like a second mother. Always looking out for the Dallas girls. Such a beautiful women of God. I will miss her sitting on the front seat at St. Paul's Baptist Church and that beautiful smile. S.I. P. Mrs. Hill you've earn your reward. Tell my parents and Edith hello.*

Brenda Fudge - December 21, 2021 at 07:22 AM

BF

“ *Brenda Fudge lit a candle in memory of Deaconess Alberta (Huff) Hill*



Brenda Fudge - December 21, 2021 at 07:18 AM

BW

“ To Lillian and Norma, my heart is broken, but I know that Your mom is in the arms of God now, no more pain, no more sorrow. Your mom was like a second mom to me. She was such a beautiful and loving Christian women. I will miss talking with her on the phone and seeing her when I travel to Utica, but I have such good memories of her and those will last forever. Love Bertha Whiteside-Robinson & family

Bertha Whiteside-Robinson - December 20, 2021 at 08:58 PM