



Mrs. Mary Lee Spells

October 25, 1930 - November 5, 2015

Mrs. Mary Lee Spells, age 85, passed away on Thursday, November 5, 2015 at the St. Elizabeth Medical Center.

Born in Americus, GA, Mary was the daughter of the late Anna Mae (Jolly) and Crawford Gary, Sr. Raised and educated in Florida, Mary relocated to Utica in the 1950's with her family.

Mary began her working years at Abelow's Laundry. She had an industrious entrepreneurial side to her that allowed her to support her family. Mary worked hard to balance her obligations at work and her maternal responsibilities in rearing her children. She was strong in her convictions and beliefs and did her best to instill those values in her children. A life member of St. Matthew's Temple Church of God in Christ, Mary was a God-fearing, dedicated, faithful parishioner. She made sure her family was raised knowing the glory of the Lord and the value of Sunday church services. As time passed, Mary completed her studies in the church and was honored as a Missionary. Education was so important to Mary that she made sure all her children graduated from high school, and many continued their academic studies, earning degrees to improve their lives.

Mary is survived by her children, Barbara Jimenez, Edward Brown Jr., Richard Brown (Diana), Harry Brown, and Valentine Spells, all of Utica, Sarah Brown of California, and William Spells Jr. of Virginia; a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She will also be remembered by her sisters, Katie Mae Lusane of Belle Glade, Florida, and Henrietta Blue of Syracuse; her brothers,

Crawford Gary Jr., and Willie Frank Gary, both of Utica; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and cousins.

The family extends a heartfelt thank you to Mary's granddaughter, Schyvaughn Lumpkin, and Darlene Mack-Brown for the compassionate care they provided to Mary, allowing her to enjoy her life in her golden years.

Visitation will be held Friday, November 13th from 10:00-12:00 noon at St. Matthew's Temple COGIC, 110 Washington Street in Utica. Mary's Homegoing Celebration will commence at 12:00 noon, immediately upon the conclusion of visitation. Interment will follow graveside in New Forest Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

New Forest Cemetery

2001 Oneida Street
Utica, NY

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 13. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Matthew's Temple Church of God in Christ
110 Washington Street
utica, NY 13502

Funeral Service

NOV 13. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Matthew's Temple Church of God in Christ
110 Washington Street
utica, NY 13502

Tribute Wall

EM

“ To Sister Mary Spells family I always had fond memories of her. She always had a kind word and good advice for me especially when I was attending school. Rest in peace. Pastor Eleanor -Steele McDonald, Fort Lauderdale ,Florida



Eleanor-Steele McDonald - November 12, 2015 at 11:38 PM

RH

Hi, my condolences to the family.. My name is renetta Harris and my grandfather name is Eugene Harris sr. I was told by my father Eugene Harris Jr that his mother name was Mary spells.. And she was from repley, Tenn... My father haven't seen his mom since he was 6, his dad told him a story about his mom disappearance.. My father never believed it.. With that being said we would really like to know if this is the person we're looking for... I wanted to know who my grandma was.. If I'm wrong, my apologies! And again my condolences to ur family..

Renetta harris - January 17, 2016 at 04:05 PM

Edwina
Harris

“ To the family, I pray that God will strengthen & comfort you during this time of loss. I have many memories of Ms Mary Lee, as a friend's mom, as a caution giver to a young woman, as a reflector of people & times, as an encourager in church life. She was always engaging, had a wonderful way of telling funny stories on herself, she made things plain. Missionary Spells leaves a void in many. - Edwina Clayton Harris



Edwina Harris - November 12, 2015 at 09:29 PM

JW

“ *Mary lee was a customer of mine when i worked at dons ford.I am very sorry to hear of her passing.She was a great customer and woman.She always brought a smile to my face.She will be missed. her friend
joe*

JOE WEIBEL - November 11, 2015 at 02:34 PM

DN

“ *To the Family of Sister Spells you have our sympathy from Mrs. Pearl Colvin Utica and Dr Nate Nichols, West Palm Beach, Florida*

Don't weep so much for her because she has run the race and finish the course that God had for her. She will be missed, but, she is going to the land where she never grow old.

Dr Nate Nichols - November 10, 2015 at 06:07 PM