



Mrs. Mary Ernestine (Wicks) Thomas

April 10, 1929 - January 20, 2011

Mrs. Mary Ernestine (Wicks) Thomas, age 81, of Utica, was called Home to be with her Lord on Thursday, January 20, 2011. At the time of Mary's passing, she was surrounded by the love of her family in the comfort of her home.

Born in Mechanicville, NY on April 10, 1929, Mary was the daughter of the late Ernest and Sally Wicks. She was raised and educated in Mechanicville and furthered her education at the college level. On May 22, 1965 she married William H. Thomas. God brought them to each other and it was their mutual faith and trust that sustained their bond throughout 45 years of marriage.

Mary worked for the State of New York Office of Taxation and Finance, and at Kelsey-Hayes in the data entry department. She later held a position at the Teamsters Union from which she retired. Mary was a woman of many hats and possessed one for every occasion. Her hats were almost as numerous as the many roles she played throughout her life. She and her husband founded Christ Temple Church of the Apostolic Faith in 1975, where she proudly served as the Mother of the Church, first lady, record keeper, Sunday school teacher, usher board leader, missionary treasurer, and cook. Because her faith led her heart, she never gave up and she wasn't afraid to face the world. It was her Love of the Lord that allowed her to work through adversity to make sure everyone around her was taken care of. She enjoyed the constant companionship of her family and stressed the importance of this closeness during the weekends. On Saturday nights she would prepare her children and

get their Sunday outfits together. She served the Sunday morning hot chocolate, and later the Sunday meal, all the while tending to her husband, children and grandchildren. Her nurturing maternal qualities were instilled upon her by her mother. Mary was strong, wise, determined, giving, and selfless. She gave everything to family and God.

Mary is survived by her husband, William; her daughters and sons-in-law, Patricia Stinney of Harvard, MA, Charlene and Ronald Brandow of Nassau, NY, Nadine and Donell Washington of Albany, and Sharon Hawkins of Utica; and her grandchildren, Jocelyn, Krystal, Shannon, Shauna, Kristofer, Jasmine, Alexander, Jr., Denzel, Shniya, and 2 adopted grandchildren, Nikki, and Ashley. She will also be missed by her special canine companion, Amber; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great nephews, cousins, in-laws, Herman and Jody Thomas of Albany; and her special friend, Prophet Margaret Bell. She was predeceased by a sister, Louise Wicks-Waters. The family extends heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Razia and her staff for the care given to Mary.

Visitation will be held Tuesday from 4:00-7:00 at the Christ Temple Church, 1505 Seymour Avenue in Utica. For those wishing to express an act of kindness, please consider memorial contributions to Hospice and Palliative Care, Inc.; envelopes will be available at the service. Mary's Home Going Celebration will commence on Wednesday morning at 11:30 at the Peter Spencer Union American Methodist Episcopal Church, 843 Bleecker St. with Mary's nephew, Elder Herman Thomas, Jr. officiating. Committal prayers and interment will take place in Graceland Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave.

Tribute Wall



“ Eannace Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Mary Ernestine (Wicks) Thomas



Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. - January 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AR

“ I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT MOTHER THOMAS WAS A VERY SPECIAL FRIEND TO ME.SHE WAS VERY COMFORTING WHILE I WAS SEEKING THE HOLY GHOST,I WILL MISS HER DEARLY.& I WILL CONTUINE TO GO TO CHIRST TEMPLE CHURCH TO FEEL HER SPIRT)MAY GOD BLESS BISHOP THOMAS,&FAMILY. LOVE,ANITA AND FAMILY

ANITA RUFFIN - January 26, 2011 at 08:08 AM

AR

“ ANITA RUFFIN lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary Ernestine (Wicks) Thomas



ANITA RUFFIN - January 26, 2011 at 08:00 AM



Cynthia Ruffin

“ *Mother Thomas I'm Blessed to have had you be a part of my life. You were a true blessing to the (RUFFIN)family when ever we were in need. The memories will always be in my heart. Im going to truly miss your great smile that you gave when greeting the church. MAY GOD BE WITH YOU PASTOR (THOMAS)& FAMILY. LOVE ,CYNTHIA & FAMILY*

Cynthia Ruffin - January 24, 2011 at 07:57 PM

EM

“ *I thank the Lord for all the wonderful memories of 1st Lady Thomas of her smiles, words of encouragement, tarrying with those who needed the holy ghost, songs of Zion and her dancing and praising our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. A true woman of God that kept the faith ,lived a holy life and was an example unto us all.*

Evangelist Miller - January 24, 2011 at 07:23 PM



Cynthia Ruffin

“ *Cynthia Ruffin lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary Ernestine (Wicks) Thomas*



Cynthia Ruffin - January 24, 2011 at 07:14 PM

CB

“ *Mother Thomas we love you and realize we have not "lost " you because when you lose something you don't know where it is. But mother we know that you are resting awaiting for the return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ . So take your rest because you truly deserve it. We love you, Prophetess Margaret Bell and Family*

Cynthia Bell - January 24, 2011 at 06:47 PM

RS

“ mom mary like a mom to me she a loving person and a careing mom she love her family she going home to be with king jesu, she got her victory and joy in god we walk by faith and love of god i will miss you mom love son amos rev stinney

rev stinney - January 24, 2011 at 02:17 PM

YR

“ To the Thomas Family,
You are in my thoughts and prayers. I will always have fond memories of Aunt Mary. She was a very nice woman of God. Always had a wonderful smile on her face. I am really lost for words but I want you to know the family is close to my heart. I Love You all and I know that you will continue to look to the Lord for the strength you need because he is the only one that can do it.

Yvonne Ross - January 24, 2011 at 11:51 AM

MB

“ Marilyn Betton lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary Ernestine (Wicks) Thomas



Marilyn Betton - January 24, 2011 at 10:54 AM

LH

“ I met Mrs. Thomas in 1990 and even though I did not know her very long, she always stood out as a very loving and compassionate woman. She touched many lives and her legacy will live on through her children and her grandchildren.

LaVeda Hawkins - January 23, 2011 at 09:25 PM

MM

“ Unfortunately, I was never given the opportunity to meet Mrs. Thomas but I know she left quite a mark on my life-long friend Krystal and her family. They are an extraordinary group of people whom walk each day beside the Lord. My heartfelt condolences go out to the Thomas and Hawkins' families in this time of sadness and a time of celebration of the life of Mrs. Thomas.

Marissa Montana-Guzman - January 23, 2011 at 11:11 AM

KH

“ Ken Mary Heaton lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary Ernestine (Wicks) Thomas



Ken Mary Heaton - January 23, 2011 at 08:34 AM