



## Mildred Louise "Sister" Blackshear

March 31, 1947 - March 25, 2016

Mildred Louise "Sister" Blackshear, age 68, of Utica, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, March 25, 2016 at the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center on the blessed day of Good Friday. At the time of her passing, those she loved the most were by her side.

Born in Utica on March 31, 1947, Mildred was the daughter of the late Willie "Bill", Sr. and Bernice (Martin) Blackshear. Raised and educated locally, she graduated from Utica Free Academy/Class of 1965. Mildred and her high school sweetheart, Albert Hill, shared in a longtime relationship and in 1977 they married. They knew each other's hearts and were loyal to the end.

Mildred's working career was diversified and rewarding. She began at the General Electric Company on French Road. In subsequently she worked for the J.C. Penney Department Store. For over 36 years Mildred had been a loyal employee of the Utica City School District; during the school year she was a Teacher's Assistant and during the summer months she monitored the care of the playground and was a daycare provider to those entrusted to her. She was truly loved by coworkers and children alike. Mildred was genuine in her spirituality, selflessness, and compassion. When she was sought out for her advice and guidance, she spoke from her heart. She was blessed with a gracious smile and the ability to embrace everyone's needs. She loved her grandchildren and helped to raise them. She also opened her heart to a special relationship with her grandchildren Mark Brooks, and Cahsim. In years past, Mildred made many memories singing and dancing with her siblings.

She loved holidays, picnics, and her “Aunt Ethel’s pepper steaks”! She enjoyed games of chance at the Casino and nail manicures with her special aunt, Helen Wilson. Mildred’s heart and hands were made for praying, and God orchestrated her life. She worshipped at the St. Matthew Temple Church of God in Christ, where she served on the Hospitality Committee.

Mildred is survived by her children’s father and best friend, AJ; her children and their loves, Mildred “Poochie” Hill, Thelma and Kevin Lockhart, Albert Hill, Donelle “Donny” and Lakeshia Hill, and Tina “Matree” Hill; her 11 grandchildren; and her 3 great-grandchildren. She was so proud of her siblings and held a great love for them: Thelma Porter, Robert and Josephine Blackshear, Sr., Louise Blackshear, Bernice and Theodore Brown, Walter and Faith Blackshear, Mary Blackshear and Steve, Edward Blackshear, and Julius and Kathie Blackshear; her sisters in-law, Marie Smith, Diane Blackshear, Mable Blackshear, Juanita Wallace, and Naomi Hill. She will also be remembered by a host of nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, especially Pastor Jimmie Griffin; her aunts, Annabelle Dorsey and Nellie Yarbough, and one uncle Richard Frank. She also shared a special bond with each of her dear friends, Annie Mae Smith, Christine Dobrzanski, and Linda Washburn. She was predeceased by her brothers, James Blackshear, Richard Blackshear, Matthew Blackshear, and William Blackshear; her sister, Gloria Blackshear; and her nieces, Bernice Blackshear, III, and Karen Blackshear; and her nephew, Andre Blackshear Ward.

The family would like to thank various staff members of the Faxton-St. Luke’s Healthcare Center, the ICU, especially Mike; the dietary staff with special mention of Peter Starowicz, Mia Santiago, Marilyn LaBarbera, and Chef Jim Hockersmith, and the 6th floor especially Danielle, Michele, and Rachael; the 3C nurses and staff at St. Elizabeth Medical Center; Dr. Odunsi from Roswell Park Cancer Institute. Her spirits were lifted each day that her granddaughters Caleigh and Caydence came to visit her. The special spiritual bond she shared with her cousin, Rev. Jimmie Griffin was of great meaning to her. During this time of difficulty and sadness, the Blackshear family found great

comfort from the companionship of Derrick George who they love as family. Visitation will be held Wednesday from 5:00-8:00 at the St. Matthew Temple Church of God in Christ at 110 Washington St. Floral offerings are graciously accepted. For those wishing to make a memorial contribution, please consider Team Blackshear for the annual American Heart Run & Walk; envelopes will be available at the service. Mildred's funeral service and Home Going Celebration will commence on Thursday morning at 11:00 at St. Matthew Temple Church of God in Christ with her cousin, Rev. Jimmie Griffin, officiating the ceremony. Interment will take place in New Forest Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR **30**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

## Funeral Service

MAR **31**. 11:00 AM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall

LB

“ *LONNIE BROWN lit a candle in memory of Mildred Louise "Sister" Blackshear*



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**LONNIE BROWN** - February 29, 2024 at 04:54 PM

JG

“ *You are often in my thoughts and I miss you dearly. I picture your beautiful smile and the tender love that you extended to everyone you encountered. Rest In Peace, in the Lord's care.*

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**Joanne Griffin** - July 13, 2017 at 02:21 AM

TH

“ *Tina Hill lit a candle in memory of Mildred Louise "Sister" Blackshear*



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**tina hill** - September 25, 2016 at 10:13 PM

TH

“ *Missing you so much mom. Please keep watch over us. I love you forever and always*

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**tina hill** - September 25, 2016 at 10:12 PM

SJ

“ I knew Mildred from UFA. We shared many classes together and there wasn't a sweeter woman than Millie. My sincere condolences to her family.

Sandy Johnson - April 04, 2016 at 06:42 AM

JM

“ My sympathy to the family. Joanie Canfield Mooty Class of 1965.




Joan Canfield Mooty - April 01, 2016 at 01:23 AM

CS

“ Deepest heart felt condolences to the family!

Charleston Collins Sr. - April 01, 2016 at 12:46 AM

 Yaritza Rivera-Roman

“ Yaritza Rivera-Roman lit a candle in memory of Mildred Louise "Sister" Blackshear



Yaritza Rivera-Roman - April 01, 2016 at 12:38 AM

 Yaritza Rivera-Roman

*The most amazing woman i knew in my whole entire childhood*

Yaritza Rivera-Roman - April 01, 2016 at 12:39 AM



“ *Classie Boyd lit a candle in memory of Mildred Louise "Sister" Blackshear*



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**Classie Boyd** - March 30, 2016 at 11:27 PM



“ *Prayers to the the family, Miss Hill was my kids teacher at Miller Street School, she will be missed, great lady. So Sorry. Emma*

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**Emma** - March 30, 2016 at 06:30 PM



“ *On behalf of the Nichols and Fitzgerald family we would like to extend our deepest thoughts and prayers for the family at this time. Mildred was always a smiling face and good friend of our family. She was a special kind of person whom you do not encounter often - I am so honored to have known her and please know that her presence will be truly missed by all who knew her. SIP Mildred.*



*Freda and Dani Faulkner  
Peal Colvin ( Nichols)*

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**Freda & Dani Faulkner** - March 30, 2016 at 05:10 PM

LW

“ I knew Mildred for 54 years...She was in choir with me in high school, she was my aide in Kindergarten at King School...She was my right hand back then....We had several conversations about our faith...I know that this past Sunday, she would have said to all of those who are grieving...."Don't cry for me, I'm spending Easter with Jesus !!!" My heartfelt condolences to all of her family.  
Lovingly,Linda Washburn

Linda Clem Washburn - March 30, 2016 at 04:37 PM

LM

“ So sorry to hear of Mildred's passing. She was a wonderful women. I worked with her over 20 years ago in the school district and just spoke of her to someone a few days ago.  
May she rest in peace. Prayers to her family.

linda Maske - March 30, 2016 at 02:51 PM

CJ

“ I am so very sorry for your loss,My Heart goes out to all of the family,with much Love,May your sister Mildred rest in peace,prayers for you all!



Cynthia A. James - March 30, 2016 at 12:56 PM

DW

“ Mildred was always smiling and encouraging. A dear family friend. Cared about everybody. Will truly be missed by all. Job well done.  
R.I.P Mildred. <3



Dawn Winston - March 30, 2016 at 12:25 PM



“ *Shades of Purple was purchased for the family of Mildred Louise "Sister" Blackshear.*



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March 30, 2016 at 11:48 AM



“ *Mable and Kimberly wish we could be there to say good bye to Mildred. We love and will miss you.*



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**Kim Blackshear** - March 30, 2016 at 10:54 AM



“ *With love, Eric & Valarie Blackshear & Family purchased the Red Rose Fireside Basket for the family of Mildred Louise "Sister" Blackshear.*



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**With love, Eric & Valarie Blackshear & Family** - March 30, 2016 at 10:24 AM



“ *I will always remember her beautiful smile that always made you feel welcomed in her presence. She was a kind and loving woman that loved the Lord and she will truly be missed!*

*Rest in Heaven Cousin Mildred*

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**Flori Patterson** - March 30, 2016 at 07:13 AM

WM

*R.I.P. Cousin Mildred*

**Wanda L. Bass Manning** - March 30, 2016 at 10:55 AM

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“ *R .I.P Mrs . Blackshear YOU WERE A GREAT TEACHER WITH A BEAUTIFUL SMILE & PERSONALLY You going to truly be missed & Remembered By Cynthia Ruffin*



**cynthia Ruffin** - March 29, 2016 at 06:29 PM



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Mildred Louise "Sister" Blackshear.*



March 29, 2016 at 05:49 PM

CP

“ *Christa Pittorf lit a candle in memory of Mildred Louise "Sister" Blackshear*



**Christa Pittorf** - March 29, 2016 at 03:55 PM

M(

“ Grandma, i miss you so much words cant explain how much i miss you. You touched so many hearts and was loved by so many. Your words of encouragement, your great personality and your warm heart will truly be missed.I love you grandma and im glad you got a chance to meet my baby. Until we meet again give the family love for me and just watch over the family our guardian angel

*Love always Michelle*

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**Michelle Richardson (granddaughter)** - March 29, 2016 at 03:01 PM

KM

“ Karin McMullen lit a candle in memory of Mildred Louise "Sister" Blackshear



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**Karin McMullen** - March 29, 2016 at 12:22 PM

JJ

“ Jackie Jones lit a candle in memory of Mildred Louise "Sister" Blackshear



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**Jackie Jones** - March 29, 2016 at 12:03 PM

DW

“ I worked with Mildred at MLK Elementary School. She was a great assistant and we had many laughs. I am away at this time but I just wanted to send my sympathy to all of her family.  
*Diane Waskiewicz*

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**Diane Waskiewicz** - March 28, 2016 at 06:39 PM

TH

*Thank you.*

tina hill - March 29, 2016 at 07:28 AM

TL

*Thank you to everyone who have left their kind words and sympathy to my family.*

thelma lockhart - March 29, 2016 at 08:38 AM

CM

“ *My condolences to my Blackshear family. May all find comfort @ this heat breaking time.I praying for my family. May our beautiful loved one rip. Good nite sister luv u and will truly miss that warm hug and beautiful smile*

Charlene miller - March 28, 2016 at 05:15 PM

MH

“ *MOM thank you everything you have done for me and my children. You was my best friend, and god knows my heart is very heavy. I will forever keep your memory alive within my heart. I love you and miss you so much.RIP MOM, until we meet again.*

MILDRED Hill - March 28, 2016 at 02:49 PM

JD

“ *My dear cousin "Sister" I l've you dearly and you will be missed tremendously!  
We will be connected forever by our Birthdate March 31st. Happy Birthday  
Rest Peacefully Cousin*

*Jody Dorsey*

Jody Dorsey - March 28, 2016 at 02:49 PM

TL

“ Mommy I can't help but to keep saying how much I love&miss you. You were a beautiful person who touched so many lives. I thank you for teaching me about life, respect, kindness and always trusting God. You will always be my rock. ...I love you mommy.

Thelma Lockhart - March 28, 2016 at 12:54 PM

CH

“ Dear Mrs. Blackshear,

I would like to thank you for always being someone I could talk to when I spent time with Donny growing up. You had a smile that would light the room up and a voice just as calm as the ocean. You will be missed by many because you had a special place in the life's of us all. You were like a second mom to me and always believed in everything I did. I miss you already and it saddens my heart today to know you have gone to another place. Love Clinton (Clint) Hammett.

Clinton Hammett - March 28, 2016 at 12:19 PM



“ Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mildred Louise "Sister" Blackshear.



March 28, 2016 at 10:38 AM

DH

“ Mommy you will be greatly missed. I will miss your loving smile and constant words of encouragement. Your faith in God has been a constant reminder that if you put God first all things are possible. Thank you for raising and helping me become the man I am today. I love you mommy your baby boy Donny

Donny Hill - March 28, 2016 at 10:37 AM

AB

*With Deepest Sympathy, Those we love don't go away, They walk beside us everyday, Unseen, unheard, but always near, Still loved still missed and very dear. We are praying for your continued strength and healing. Love Adrienne Sumner family*

Adrienne Burnett - March 28, 2016 at 09:18 PM

AG

“ My most deepest and sincere condolences to the family, and my friend Thelma. Hold on to your faith and keep your trust in God; He will get you through this most difficult time. I love you and I am here for you. Anjela Garland

Anjela Garland - March 28, 2016 at 09:24 AM

TL

“ Mom I will miss your smile, encouraging words and ,sense of humor.....you were the real deal in all aspects of life.....I thank God for you ...Love you so much!!! Thelma

Thelma Lockhart - March 28, 2016 at 06:29 AM

AH

*Mom i'm going to miss your smile and your big heart for caring, and generosity loving nature, i thank god i had you for the years i had you as my mom. Love you words can't really express how i really love you. Albert*

Albert Hill - March 28, 2016 at 10:30 AM

TH

“ *Memories of you being my kindergarteners teacher & some kids didn't know why I always kissed you when you went home for the day. I'm missing you like crazy. Tina your baby girl*

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**tina hill** - March 27, 2016 at 09:42 PM