

In Loving Memory



Glennie Mae Houston

SUNRISE SEPTEMBER 10, 1918

SUNSET NOVEMBER 22, 2016

DECEMBER 3, 2016 AT 11:00 A.M.

ABUNDANT HARVEST CHURCH
PASTOR MICHAEL C. HICKMON

SERVICE OFFICIATED BY
PASTOR CARL RAY
MT. OLIVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Obituary



Glennie Mae Houston was born September 10, 1918 to Alfred and Sally Johnson in the Macedonia community of Panola County near Batesville, Mississippi. She accepted Christ at an early age, was baptized and attended both Macedonia MB Church and Concord MB Church. Glennie was married to Walter Houston in August 1941. They enjoyed 49 years of marriage prior to Walter's death in 1991. To this union seven children were born, a son who died soon after birth, Larry (deceased), Marva, Charles, Annette, Walter and Mark, all of whom have become successful in their respective professions.

Glennie always maintained a high regard for education and the nurturing of all young children. Glennie was in the first group of students to attend the Macedonia School on the site of the current Macedonia Community Center. Her father and several other men in the community, purchased land and materials to build the school, sought out a schoolmaster for this school and initially helped pay his salary. They financed this venture by tak-

ing advantage of the Rosenwald Fund, a matching grant program established through an alliance between Booker T. Washington, president, and founder of the Tuskegee Institute and Julius Rosenwald, president and chief executive officer of Sears, Roebuck & Company, to improve the learning environment for black students in the south.

Glennie completed the eight grades officially offered at the Macedonia School, plus an additional year of ninth grade classwork provided by the Macedonia School schoolmaster. It is important to note that during this time, African American students did not have access to bus transportation to the high school in Batesville, preventing Glennie from continuing her schooling. This obstacle did not deter Glennie from pursuing her education. After marrying and raising a family, Glennie went on to pursue training as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). While working as a CNA, she returned to school and completed additional training for work in the Head Start program. Glennie held several positions in the Head Start program. She eventually obtained her GED, in the same year that one of her children completed college, in order to earn the certification to be a Head Start teacher.

Glennie's love for education did not stop there. Glennie is considered a pioneer member of the Head Start program in Tallahatchie County. As a Head Start teacher for 26 years, she was able to pass on the gift of education to countless children that grew up in the Tallahatchie County area.

Glennie's life was dedicated to giving to her family and her community. She always strived to improve the quality of life for others. One way that she accomplished this was by actively participating in a variety of civic and service organizations. Glennie is a charter member of the NAACP Tallahatchie County branch and served as its treasurer for more than 20 years. She is a charter member of the Tallahatchie Unit of the American Cancer Society. Over the years Glennie was involved in numerous organizations includ-



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ing, Charleston Day Club, Business & Professional Women's Federated Club, Parent Teacher Association and the USDA Extension Services' Home Demonstration Club.

Most importantly, Glennie has been a faithful member of Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church for over seventy years, where she was a Church Mother, a member of the Usher Board and participated in many church activities.

Glennie Mae Houston was the Grand Marshall in Charleston MS's 2014 MLK Day Parade. In March 2015, she was honored as one of three recipients of the Charleston Arts and Revitalization Effort's "Living Legends" award. Glennie was one of fifty-four Mississippi Delta women profiled in a recently published book, *Delta Jewels: In Search of My Grandmother's Wisdom*.

Glennie was an outstanding cook and lavished her family and friends with wonderful home cooked meals. She was known throughout the area and by all of her family for her fabulous "Rum Pound Cake".

Glennie was preceded in death by her husband Walter Houston, parents Alfred and Sallie Johnson, two children Larry and her first born son, siblings Marvin, Andrew, Vernon, Lloyd, Richard, Willie and Harvey Johnson, Fairy Robertson, Rosetta Brittan, Nezzie Jackson and Marvin (Jack) Harris.



Glennie Houston is survived by five children, Marva Moore of Randolph, MA, Charles (Janie) Houston of Grenada, MS, Annette (Greg) Johnson of Chicago, IL, Walter (Linda) Houston of Clinton, MD and Mark (Jacqueline) Houston of Jackson, MS; her sisters-in-law Ruth Johnson and Allie V. Johnson. Also, left to continue her legacy are twenty-five grand and great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and a host of other relatives.

The family would like to acknowledge Earlie Gates, Dorothy Jones, Maureen Jones, Annie B. Goodman, Myrtle Jordan and Tamika Jones for being Glennie's special angels. We will be forever grateful to each of you.



Parade grand marshal Glennie Houston (left), a longtime Charleston resident, is driven in grand style Monday.

Glennie would love for you to continue her legacy by supporting organizations that were dear to her. Please make contributions for student scholarships in memory of Glennie Houston to one of her favorite organizations.

National Charleston Day Organization
Scholarship Fund
P.O. Box 21219
Chicago, IL 60621

Community Friends of ICS
Attention: Fannie Lampley
P O Box 5711
Holly Springs, MS 38634

Memo: Eva Covington Head Start Center Scholarship Fund

