

With God's Help. "I Did It My Way"



Dorothy Lucille Flack Ray

Sunrise: June 19, 1924

Sunset: February 3, 2019

Life Celebration

February 9, 2019

*Reverend John Wesley Brewster, Pastor
Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church, Asheville, NC 28801*

*Pastor Alfred E. Blount-Host
Tried Stone Missionary Baptist Church, Asheville, NC 28801*

*Bishop Louis Hunter, Sr. Family,
AME Zion Church, Suwanee GA*

*Bishop Carolyn E Briggs
Living Waters Christian Ministries, Shelby, NC*

Lucille's Life Story

Dorothy Lucille Flack Ray was born June 19, 1924 in Knoxville, Tennessee to Myrtle Florine Stepp and Lee Virgil Flack. She was known as Lucille, Lu, Cille, RayRay and Ms. Ray in her beloved community. The family returned to Asheville, NC from Knoxville when she was four years old.

Lucille was a loving mother; devoted wife, and active church member. She was a poet, teacher, singer, motivational speaker, and cultural activist. Lucille's professional work was in health care and early childhood education. She was a two-time cancer survivor and a rock of Gibraltar for her family. She was fiercely independent, socially gregarious, unbought and unbossed, fun loving, funny, and mischievous. She loved life. One of her favorite sayings to express her joy was, ***"I am as happy as bro rabbit in the briar patch"***.



Lucille, happy and stylish

Lucille believed in having fun and being devilish. She liked people who were devilish and fun loving like her. She would say, ***"I can't stand people who are so heavenly bound they ain't no earthly good"***. She had a signature way of ending her sentences with, ***"so that's just the way it is,"*** and ***"I won't complain, I am glad things are as well as they are"***.

She arrived into the world with a healthy dose of curiosity, sassiness, intelligence and a mind of her own. Another one of her favorite sayings was, *"I don't mind people who think they can boss me. I believe in people using their own mind; 'cause. I am not going to let anybody use mine, unless they are giving some good advice and doing something to help me."*

As a child, she challenged rules that she viewed unjust to her. She questioned things that did not make sense to her. Lucille had a signature, distinguishable voice that was melodic. Some referred to her as a songbird, because her speaking was song like. She was gifted with a beautiful alto soprano singing voice but did not share it with others until later in life. After she began singing, she became a longtime choir member at her home church, Hill Street Baptist Church. Later, she transferred her membership to Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church.

Lucille attended Hill Street Elementary School and Stephens Lee High School where she made life long friends.

In 1941, Lucille married Malcolm Hunter Briggs. They had six children; Carol, Donald, David, Daniel, Sharon and Douglas. She loved each of her children in a very special way. She loved telling stories about their childhood antics, such as the time someone called one of her sons, a "colored boy". He came home and asked, "Mama am I a color?" She used that opportunity to affirm how beautiful his color was. During her marriage to



Lucille and Douglas

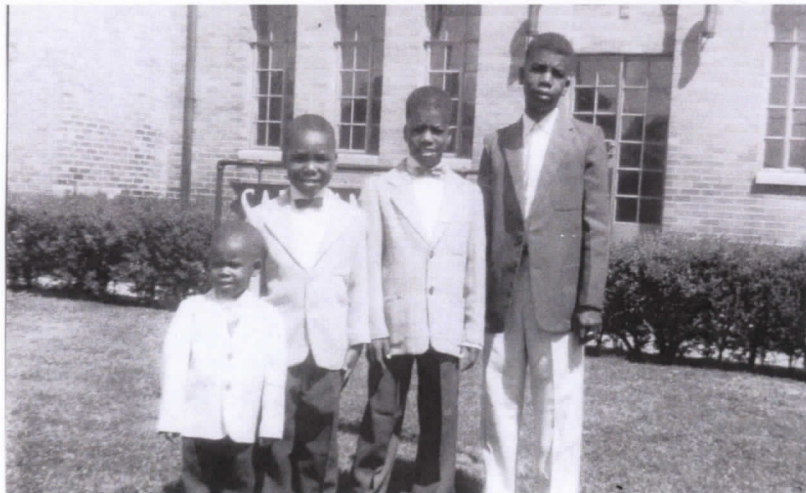


tained daily contact through phone calls, and visits. Lucille made a distinction between using and misusing people. She would say, ***"I don't believe in misusing people. I believe friends should use each other by being good to each other and helping each other."*** They were good for each other and to each other.

Lucille was determined to maintain her independence until the end, and she did. She did it her way. Another one of her favorite sayings, was, ***"I paid the cost to be the boss and ain't nobody bossing me, but me"***. She was BOSS until the end.

Lucille was preceded in death by: her husband, David Ray, parents Myrtle and Lee Virgil Flack, two children, Donald and Douglas Briggs, a brother, Charles Frederick, grandson Johnny Wright, and great great-grandson, Prince Anderson Wright.

Ms. Ray is survived by four children: Carol Hovey of Newnan GA,, David Briggs of Charlotte, N.C., Daniel Briggs (Carolyn) of Clinton, MD, Sharon Briggs of Asheville and daughter-in-love Luretta Briggs of Hendersonville, N.C. She will be affectionately remembered by her niece and nephew, Geraldine and John Troy Ray, her extensive and caring family and her awesome friends, acquaintance and colleagues.



Douglas, Danny, David-Lee, Donald

GRANDCHILDREN:

Gregory Wright (Mary) of DeSoto, TX

Marlon Wright of South Fulton, GA.

Anthony (Alsenia) Briggs of Kenya Africa

Theresa Briggs of Charlotte, NC

Andre Briggs of Charlotte, NC

Damion Briggs of St Petersburg FL

Brandon Briggs of Charlotte, NC

Nakia Briggs, Columbia, Maryland

Brian (Kiristin) of Havertown, PA

GREAT GRANDCHILDREN:

Christopher Wright

Gregory Wright, Jr.

Quinn Wright

Jayda Wright

LeAsia Brown

LaMar Briggs

Teria Briggs

Kingston Briggs

Shamariyah Briggs

Ahvraham Briggs

Skylar LuciAnn Briggs

GREAT GREATGRAND CHILDREN

Amiyah Briggs

Christopher Jon Wright, Jr.

Trayvon Wright

Allister Wright

Camille Torres



Sharon, David-Lee, Danny, Mother, Donald, Carol

Acknowledgements

Lucille's Road Buddies

Andrea Clarke
Brenda Hall
Cheryl Johnson
Catherine Riley
Darlene Williams
Deidre Wiggins
Linda Jones
Marian Thompson
Richard Bowman

Lucille's Caregivers

Dr. Lisa Lavellee and MAHEC Doctors and Staff
Barbara Johnson
Premiere Home Health
John Keever Hospice



"Grandma's Hands"

REPAST

***Tried Stone Fellowship Hall
Immediately following the memorial service
Avery Memorial Chapel 525 Hendersonville Rd.
Asheville NC 28803***