

**A CELEBRATION OF LIFE**  
**IN MEMORY OF**  
**MOTHER MARDES LEE WILSON BATTLE**

**Descended unto the Veil of Time**  
**May the Thirty-First**  
**Nineteen-Twenty**

**Ascended unto the Veil of Eternity**  
**August the Thirty-First**  
**Nineteen-Ninety-Five**



**Celebration**  
**-Wednesday September Sixth-**  
**In the year of our Lord Nineteen Hundred Ninety Five**  
**One O'clock**

**Antioch Baptist Church - Courtland - Batesville, Mississippi**  
**Pastor - Dr. Obie Silas Fox - Officiating**  
**Reverend Zannie Leland Jr. Pastor In Charge (Macedonia Baptist Batesville)**

## *Obituary*

**TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON AND A TIME FOR EVERYTHING UNDER THE HEAVEN:**

**A TIME TO BE BORN:** Sis. Mardes Lee Wilson Battle was born May 31, 1920, in Panola County, Mississippi to the late Mrs. Adeline Johnson Wilson and Willis Wilson. She grew up in a religious home on a farm of six children; two boys and four girls.

**A TIME TO DIE:** During the morning of August 31, 1995, at 11:17 a.m., the anxious efforts of the physicians of South Panola Community Hospital gave way to the will of the "Great Physician", the God of Life, who gave Sis. Mardes W. Battle birth into eternity.

**A TIME TO PLANT:** Sis. Mardes W. Battle was baptized at an early age at the Macedonia Baptist Church and remained a faithful member until she married her husband and moved her membership to the Antioch Baptist Church where she remained faithful until the end. The church was in Sis. Battle's heart and her heart was in the church. In her Christian walk she cheerfully served in the Church in many capacities such as: Baptist Training Union Quiz Person, Critic for Choirs. Mothers Board President, Secretary -Historical Committee, Teacher and Assistant of the Young Adult Class, Kitchen Committee, Missionary Society, Usher Board and Bible Class Member. She was a homemaker and mother to many. During her season she touched many lives teaching first grade for forty years; she extended love, friendship and a warm smile to all and her inspiration is a light that will shine forever. She was united in Holy Matrimony in 1955 to the late Henry C. Battle and to this union was born one child.

**A TIME TO PLUCK UP THAT WHICH IS PLANTED - A TIME TO MOURN:** Rejoicing in her homegoing and birth into eternity are those who loved her most: her Daughter, Henrine Battle Rogers, two Step-sons, Rev. Charles Swearengen and Larry Swearengen of St. Louis, MO.; two Sisters, Pearline Mae Hudson and Lois Allen, one Brother Willis Drane Wilson all of Memphis, TN; two brothers and one sister preceded her in death; In -Laws, Annie Wilson, Odie Battle(Clemmie) of Memphis, TN.; Mrs. June Wilson of Missouri; Frank Battle(Willie), Wesley Battle (Eddie B.) of Kenner, LA.; a beloved Grandson Lorenzo Clifton Rogers; an Aunt, Lillie Mae Johnson of Oakland, CA; an Uncle William Johnson (Georgia) of Lansing, MI; a host of Nieces, Nephews Cousins and dear friends, Jerry Watson, Susie Lawson, Eloise Curry, Josie Battle, Lugene Hill and many others who have been made better by her passing this way.

# AUTOBIOGRAPHY

"Reprinted at the Request of Mardes Lee Wilson Battle. Written 1955."

## "THIS IS HER LIFE"

*I, Mardes Wilson Battle, the fourth child of ten children born to Mrs. Adeline Johnson Wilson and Willis Wilson, was born in Panola County May 31, 1920, seven miles west of Batesville, Mississippi. I grew up on the farm in a religious home of six children, two boys and four girls. I am a member of the Baptist Church. Attended Macedonia Elementary School under Prof. J. E. Bell's administration. After I completed the 8th. grade my father's income was too low to send me to High School, so I, determined not to give up kept on in the 8th grade another 3 years making a total of 4 years. I was so determined to finish High School that after 4 years in the 8th grade I asked my mother to let me stay with an Aunt in Batesville, and that is how I got my start.*

*One day in my Senior year at Batesville Colored High School, Mrs. G. B. White, our Jeanes Supervisor making her visit to the school, talked with the Seniors, and inspired me to be a teacher. After graduating from High School I had to go into the Teaching Profession to further my education. I attended Jackson and Rust College receiving a B.S. Degree in Elementary Education from Rust College June 4, 1956, and has done graduate work at Tennessee A. & I. State University, Nashville, Tenn. where*

*I plan to get a Master's Degree in Elementary Education. (On August 8, 1959, she received a Master's Degree in Elementary*



*Education from Tennessee A & I State University, Nashville Tennessee. She became the 1st Black Woman of Panola County to receive a Master's Degree.)*

*I taught 9 years at Macedonia Elem. School, and am now in my 5th year at Batesville Colored High School. All of these years I have taught the First Grade, with the exception of one term when I taught First, Second and 5th grades, and 6 grade History and Geography.*

*I like all sports, Basketball and Baseball being my favorites.*

*Reading is my hobby, I like to sit and read for hours and hours.*

*While teaching at the Batesville Colored High School, I met and married a quiet homely and handsome gentleman, Henry C. Battle. We have one daughter 18 months old.*

### ***Mardes Lee Wilson Battle***

#### ***OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS:***

***Order of Eastern Star Panola Chapter #2 - Secretary, Vice-President Thrifty Savings Club, Grand Royal Secretary of the Floral Eastern Star Grand Chapter, Secretary of the Senior Citizen Club. She retired from teaching school after 40 years as a First Grade Teacher.***