



Viola Williams

November 28, 1958 - December 24, 2022

“John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” As a woman of profound faith, we know that our beloved Viola Williams was favored by God and will have everlasting life. Viola began her earthly life on November 28, 1958, in Littleton, North Carolina and became in the presence of our Lord on December 24, 2022. Her parents were George C. Brinkley and Ellen (Bert) Brinkley. Given that Viola’s biological mother passed early in her life, Viola was also raised by her stepmother, Celia (Bunn) Brinkley. Viola spent her early life in Littleton, NC, where she graduated from Eastman High School in Halifax, NC in 1977. Viola accepted Christ early in her life at Walter’s Chapel Holiness Church under the leadership of Elder Sidney Harris whom she loved dearly.

In 1978, Viola relocated to New Haven, Connecticut and subsequently joined Faith Temple Revival Center in Hamden, Connecticut. It was there at Faith Temple, that Viola met and later married Harvey Williams on June 17, 1989. They were married for 33 years and served as loving Godparents to many over the years. Even as she was transitioning, Viola expressed deep concern about Harvey’s wellbeing and maintenance. She gave deference to him even while grappling with her own mortality which was certainly an indicator of her love for Harvey.

Viola had a deep love of family. She enjoyed spending time with aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and siblings. Although her family was spread across many different states, Viola stayed closely connected by attending family reunions, making many phone calls, posting on social media, and sending all types of cards ... birthday, get well, thank you, congrats, etc. She would never forget the birthday cards. She loved calling her brothers “bruh,” and referred to her sisters-in-laws as “sisters-in-love” or just “sisters.”

Although Viola loved every family member, she had a very close day-to-day connection with her family in Connecticut. She enjoyed scheduling breakfast and dinner meetings with the local family for birthdays or when people came in from out-of-town. She loved those meetups especially since it made for a chance for her elderly aunts and uncles to get out and mingle. There was lots of laughter during those times.

Viola also had a profound love for her church family as well. It was a large component of her life. As a member of Faith Temple, Viola took on the role of caretaker and assistant to the then Pastor Mary Wilhelmina Redmon. During her tenure of service to Pastor Redmon, Viola figuratively became part of the Pastor’s extended family. After Pastor Redmon’s passing, Viola took on the role of assistant to the new Pastor, Carolyn Ohene, who is the daughter of former Pastor Redmon. Over the years, Viola’s friendship with Pastor Ohene blossomed into a sisterhood. Pastor Ohene often described them as joined at the hip. This was certainly on full display as Viola brought Pastor Ohene to many of the Brinkley family functions. They were indeed traveling partners. They were also dinner partners as they often enjoyed going out to Jimmy’s Seafood following church service.

Prior to her death, Viola worked many years for Masonicare providing assisted living and independent care services to her patients.

Viola is survived by her spouse Harvey Williams. She leaves to cherish her memories her siblings: Johnny (Shirley), Wavley (Barbara), Alonzo (Shelley),

Velma, and Calvin (Doris), as well as her stepbrother Nathaniel (Christine), and stepsister Celia Mae. Viola is also survived by six sisters-in-laws: Daisy, Dorothy, Karen, Patricia, Vicky, Mariam; and by two brothers-in-laws: Alonzo and Ervan. Viola was preceded in death by her parents, George C. and Ellen Brinkley. Also gone before her are siblings George W., Frank, Mary, Robert, Henry; her stepbrothers, John, Percy, Charles, Burnett; and brothers-in-laws Willie C., and Curtis Ray.

In addition to her siblings and a plethora of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, Godchildren, and friends, Viola will be deeply missed by her Godmother Phyllis Counsel and Pastor Carolyn Ohene.

Cemetery Details

Hamden Plains Cemetery

Hamden, CT

Previous Events

Calling Hour

JAN 6. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Faith Temple Revival Center
832 Dixwell Avenue
Hamden, CT

Funeral Service

JAN 6. 10:00 AM (ET)

Faith Temple Revival Center
832 Dixwell Avenue
Hamden, CT

Tribute Wall



“ *Viola Williams*

October 09, 2023 at 06:14 AM



“ *Janet Dixon lit a candle in memory of Viola Williams*



Janet Dixon - January 07, 2023 at 12:32 PM

BP

“ *Harvey Williams and the Brinkley Family,*

I was sad to hear about Viola's passing. My sincere condolences to the the entire family.

I am so honored to celebrate her life! I have known Viola all of my life! We were neighbors and our mothers (Blanche Pullen and Mrs. Ellen) were friends, so Viola was one of my childhood friends! I fondly remember us kids laughing, running and playing in the Brinkley's big yard! Viola was nice and easygoing even as a kid! I can't remember us ever having a disagreement!!

Although Viola left North Carolina upon her high school graduation, somehow we managed to stay in touch throughout these 60 years!

What a kind and thoughtful soul! She always remembered and celebrated my birthday with a card and many years with a phone call as well! We laughed together, prayed for our families, and encouraged one another ! I thank God for Viola's life and our friendship.

On behalf of my siblings, Wyvonne Pullen Brown and Booker T Pullen, we will lift your family in prayer.

With love and precious memories,

Barbara Pullen-Smith , Garner, North Carolina

Barbara Pullen-Smith - January 05, 2023 at 07:14 PM

IP

“ *To the Williams and Brinkley Families sending my deepest condolences PRAYING for everyone we love you all The Taylor family*

Iwana Taylor Payne - January 03, 2023 at 08:24 PM

SD

“ Viola was God's gift from Heaven she was a true friend and a caregiver for 14 years, and also Viola and Harvey were wonderful godparents to my niece Alicia. My mother (Durcell) and sisters Yolanda, Gelasia, myself Shanda will truly miss her. Love from The Dillon family and friends

Sherell Dillon - January 03, 2023 at 05:16 PM

SD

“ Sherell Dillon sent a virtual gift in memory of Viola Williams



Sherell Dillon - January 03, 2023 at 04:50 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Viola Williams.



January 03, 2023 at 04:42 PM

DG

“ SENDING LOVE AND PRAYERS 🙏❤️
THE GLORIFIED DELIVERANCE CENTER CHURCH FAMILY.
PASTOR AND ASST. PASTOR GRAY.

DANIEL AND JUDY GRAY - January 03, 2023 at 03:58 PM

TC

“ Tonya Clark lit a candle in memory of Viola Williams



Tonya Clark - January 03, 2023 at 01:31 PM

CC

“ So sorry to learn of Viola’s passing. We were childhood friends as our families were very close as we attended church together at Walter’s Chapel United Holiness Church in Hollister, North Carolina. May God strengthen you during this difficult time.
Claudean Cooper
Winterville, N. C.

Claudean Cooper - January 03, 2023 at 10:27 AM

CC

“ So sorry to learn of the passing of Viola. She was a childhood friend and church member as we wished together at Walter’s Chapel United Holy Church in Hollister, North Carolina. I will always remember her family and our family having a very close relationship. May God give them strength doing this difficult time.
Claudean Cooper
Winterville, North Carolina

Claudean Cooper - January 03, 2023 at 10:17 AM

TB

“ My condolences to Harvey, Viola’s extended family and her Faith Temple Church Family. Viola was a bright light of joy and sisterhood. She will be missed. Tina Beamon

Tina Beamon - January 03, 2023 at 09:08 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Viola Williams.*



January 02, 2023 at 02:38 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Viola Williams.*



December 31, 2022 at 12:59 AM



“ *To Mr. Harvey Williams and family... Our family is deeply sadden to hear the news. Viola was a beautiful soul, a wonderful friend who became family, a caring nurse for several years to Sherell Dillon and wonderful godmother to Alicia Dillon-Biamby. We will miss her smile, laugh, jokes and her famous joke line "hot diggigy dog. Viola served faithfully on this earth to her husband, family, friends and church, we know she's in the hands of father. Well done my good and faithful servant. We love you Viola, you will be in our hearts forever. Praying for the Williams, Brinkley and Faith Temple family. Love the Dillons, Sherell, Yolanda, Gelasia Alicia, Chandis, Durcell and Coz. God bless.*



Yolanda Dillon - December 31, 2022 at 12:39 AM



I am sorry about the passing of the passing Violo. She was very friendly with a beautiful smile. Her late sister Mary and I were very good friends. My sincere condolences her Family. Ella Moore

David Moore - January 05, 2023 at 09:20 PM

PS

“ *Peggy Shuford lit a candle in memory of Viola Williams*



Peggy Shuford - December 30, 2022 at 06:42 PM