



In Loving Memory of

Lillie Mae Keaton

FEBRUARY 3, 1929 - JULY 21, 2025



FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 2025

FAMILY HOUR 10:00 A.M. | SERVICE 11:00 A.M.

FROM THE HEART CHURCH MINISTRIES®

5055 ALLENTOWN ROAD | SUITLAND, MD 20746

BISHOP JOHN A. CHERRY, II - PASTOR

Obituary

Lillie Mae Keaton, affectionately known as “Mom Keaton” or “Aunt Lillie” was born on February 3, 1929, in Halifax County, North Carolina, to the late Frederick and the late Anliza Moore. She went home to be with the Lord Jesus Christ on July 21, 2025, at the age of 96.

Lillie was the sixth of eleven children born into a loving religious family that was active in the Church in the Halifax County Community of Scotland Neck, North Carolina.

Her formal education began at Mullens Elementary School, where she encountered an educator named Mrs. Anthony, who believed that everyone had something positive to contribute to mankind, including Lillie. At Brawley High School in her hometown, Lillie, the class valedictorian, encountered yet another educator who was instrumental in her life, Principal John Bias. Under his guidance, she was awarded four college scholarships, a testament to her academic excellence and promise. Lillie, a model student, was very appreciative of the financial support; however, she refused the offers, as she did not want to teach. Her plan was to work first and attend college later, a decision that was frowned upon by several of her teachers. After much reflection, she ultimately enrolled at Hampton Institute in Virginia, where she pursued her true passion, nursing—her life’s dream and truly what she was meant to be and do.

In 1951, after graduating from Hampton Institute, she found employment at Saint Paul Catholic Hospital and later Cook County School of Nursing in Chicago, Illinois. Several years later, the ambitious Lillie enlisted in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. She vowed to nurture the homeless and the vulnerable, to offer courage and hope to those in despair, and to protect the dignity of every individual in her care. However, this did not always come easily. She experienced some terrifying, scary, and even uncertain moments, but she always felt the presence of the Lord and was confident that He would keep her in perfect peace,

She often read the Bible for comfort using the New Testament Bible Mr. Bias had given her when she graduated high school. Inside he had scribed the words, “Let this be your guide.” Lillie carried the Word with her to every assignment and read it for direction, inspiration, and solace.

As an Army nurse, her travels expanded the world, and her horizons were broadened beyond measure. She served overseas in Germany, Japan, Vietnam, and throughout the United States. While a surgical supervisor at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, she cared for 125 patients and managed 100 personnel. Passionate about her work, Lillie’s patients depended on her and trusted her to always provide proficient care, and she delivered.

In 1961, while stationed in Germany, Lillie met the love of her life, a fellow soldier named Charles Keaton, whom she affectionately called “Key.” They married four years later, and for 48 years they enjoyed traveling together, fishing, and working for the Lord.

In Vietnam, Lillie directed, organized, taught, and counseled staff all while maintaining quality care for those acutely injured in the combat zone. As she progressed through the ranks, her responsibilities became much more complex. Her various assignments afforded her the opportunity to mentor and foster professional growth in those with whom she worked.

During her extensive career, she had the privilege of serving under the leadership of Major General George Patton, IV, son of World War II famed General George Patton, Jr. Additionally, she received the prestigious Legion of Merit Award for exceptional meritorious conduct, the Bronze Star Medal for exemplary service, and more than eleven other commendations for her extraordinary achievements over time.

After 22 years of dedicated service, Lieutenant Colonel Lillie Keaton retired from the U.S. Army Nurse Corps in 1977. Her military family was near and dear to her heart and those who knew her will not forget the passion she showed. Her commitment to caring for others was evident in every aspect of her life, and she embraced her calling with the compassion and dedication that defined her character.

Lillie and her husband joined From the Heart Church Ministries (FTH) in 1994, where they received the uncompromising Word of God, actively participated in the Seniors Ministry, and served in the Physical Stewardship Ministry prior to their health failing. Charles, her greatest supporter, passed away in 2017.

She leaves to cherish her memory, her brother, Cornelius Moore (Patricia); sister, Ann Moore; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. She will also be greatly missed by her FTH family. She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Keaton; and siblings: Mary Docia Young, Phillip Moore, Benjamin Franklin Moore, Dorothy Moore Jones, Robert Lee Moore, Frederick Douglas Moore, Hattie Mae Brown, and Caleb Moore.

Order of Service

Invocation

Congregational Hymn *“God Will Take Care of You”*

Scripture Reading

Old Testament: Psalm 23
New Testament: Philippians 4:4-9

Prayer of Comfort

Selection..... *Mrs. Linda Gray*

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Mrs. Hazel Dent
Mr. Ernest Powell
Mr. Cornelius Moore
Mr. Douglas D. and Mrs. Lola Moore

Obituary (Read Silently)

Song of Preparation *Mrs. Linda Gray*

Message of Hope *Reverend Willette O. Wright*

Call to Christ

Benediction

Recessional



Congregational Hymn

God Will Take Care of You

Be not dismayed whate'er betide,
God will take care of you;
Beneath His wings of love abide,
God will take care of you.

Chorus

*God will take care of you,
through every day, o'er all the way;
He will take care of you,
God will take care of you.*

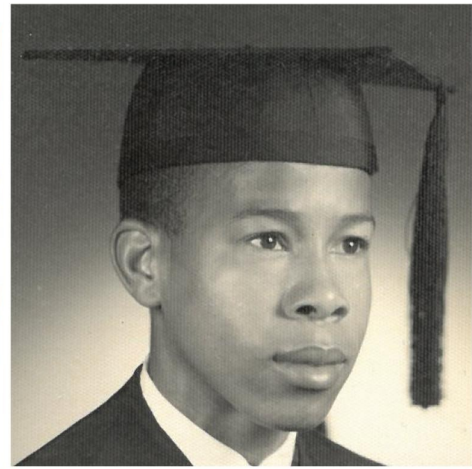
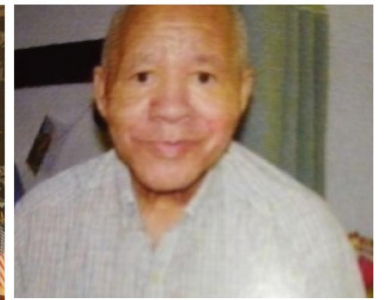
Through days of toil when heart doth fail,
God will take care of you;
When dangers fierce your path assail,
God will take care of you.

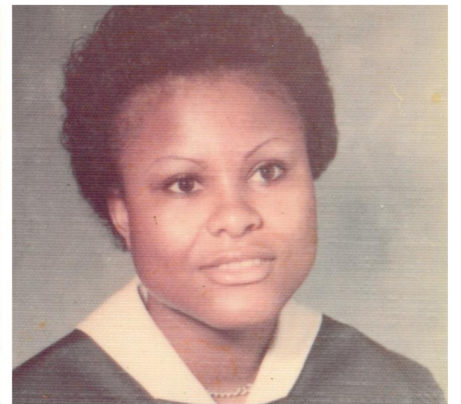
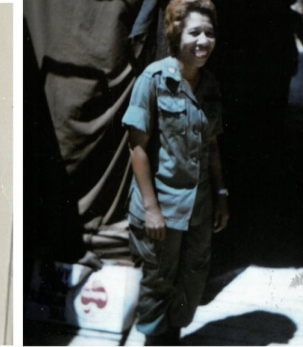
Chorus

No matter what may be the test,
God will take care of you;
Lean, weary one, upon His breast,
God will take care of you.

Chorus











In His Hands

Author Unknown

*We know not what tomorrow brings, although we plan ahead,
For only God alone can know, the pathway we must tread.
We cannot know the future, not one minute nor one hour,
Each circumstance that we must face lay only in His power.
It's vital that we live by faith, from minute unto minute,
And trusting that each step we take, He's walking with us in it.
We cannot see the future, nor the trials we must face,
But in all things, God promised us, sufficiency of grace.
This alone should give us hope, whatever be our plans,
In knowing that our future lies, in His sweet, loving hands.*

Acknowledgements

The family of Lillie Keaton acknowledges with deep appreciation every act of kindness and expression of love shown to us during our time of bereavement. May God richly bless you. We love you all.

Special thanks and appreciation to Ernest and Jean Powell, and William and Carol King for being caring supportive neighbors and friends for many years to Lillie Mae Keaton; especially after the passing of her beloved husband, Charles. In gratitude to the From the Heart Church Ministries family and dear friends for your love, prayers, encouragement, and support during this difficult time. *For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister (Hebrews 6:10).*

Flower Bearers

Family and Friends

Services Entrusted to:

*J. B. Jenkins Funeral Home
7474 Landover Road
Landover, MD 20785*

