



## Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington

October 26, 1941 - January 10, 2022

\*\*\*\*NOTE: SEE CORRECTED FUNERAL SERVICE TIMES BELOW\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*IN LIEU OF FLOWERS: IN REMEMBRANCE OF ARLENE WASHINGTON'S LIFE, the family asks that in lieu of flowers a charitable donation be made to [SLDRead.org](http://SLDRead.org).

\*\*GALILEE BAPTIST CHURCH IS HOSTING SERVICES IN LOVING MEMORY FOR THE FAMILY OF MRS. ARLENE D. WASHINGTON ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2022.

\*\*\*\*NOTE: PLEASE SEE VISITATION & FUNERAL SERVICE TIMES & LOCATION BELOW

\*\*\*MASKS & SOCIAL DISTANCING WILL STILL BE REQUIRED WHEN ENTERING THE CHURCH AND WE ASK FOR MASKS TO REMAIN ON WHILE ATTENDING SERVICES\*\*\*\*

---

\*\*\*\*ATTENTION TO THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO VIEW SERVICES ONLINE YOU HAVE (3) OPTIONS TO CHOOSE FROM:

1. Go to Galilee Baptist Church's website at: [gbckazoo.org](http://gbckazoo.org)

-Or

2. Go to YouTube and type in The Galilee Baptist Church Livestream
- Or
3. Go to Facebook, if you have a facebook account. after logging in, type in Galilee Baptist Church
- Or-
4. Use the GBC App, Instagram or Twitter

If you have any questions please contact us at: (269) 342-1000

---

## THE OBITUARY

Mrs. Arlene (Elliott) Washington passed away quietly on Monday, January 10, 2022.

Arlene was born on October 26, 1941, to the late James and Susie Elliott in Waldo, Arkansas. Arlene was the youngest of two children.

Arlene moved to Kalamazoo, MI with her family in 1944 from Waldo, Arkansas. Arlene attended Kalamazoo Public schools and graduated from Kalamazoo Central High School in 1958. Arlene attended Western Michigan University, where she met the love of her life, James Edward Washington Sr. They were united in marriage on August 20th, 1960.

Arlene accepted Christ as a teenager as her personal Savior at Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Kalamazoo, MI. and was amongst a group of teens that joined Galilee Missionary Baptist Church, under the leadership of Rev. Mabry Gardner. Arlene was a faithful member who served in many capacities which included playing the piano for the Gospel Choir, a member of the Woman's Ministry, worked along with her church family building and being a part of the Dorothy Hobbs Food Pantry and teaching Sunday school alongside her husband. Arlene also designed and wrote the Galilee newsletter, "The

Galilean”.

Arlene worked for several different law offices as an Administrative Assistant. Arlene tried her hand with real estate along with husband James at Pierson Realtors and she also worked for Upjohn Company for over 25 years, where she retired to take care of her parents. Arlene and James opened up the famous “What Not Box” on Douglas Avenue.

After selling the ‘What Not Box”, James and Arlene decided that Kalamazoo needed a way to get information out to the community, so they started a newspaper called Community Voices. Arlene worked hard at making sure that the information that she shared would make the black community of Kalamazoo and surrounding communities proud.

Arlene was preceded in death by her husband of 56 years, James Edward Washington Sr, and her parents, James and Susie Elliott.

Arlene leaves to cherish her memories, two daughters, April (Vance) Goodwin and Suzen Washington; one son, James (Amy) Washington Jr. all of Kalamazoo; one brother Charles (Judy) Elliott of Kalamazoo; three sisters-in-laws, Clarissa Hale, Diane Hammuck and Oshia Washington all of Springfield, Ill; one brother-in-law, Michael Washington of Houston, TX. Seven grandchildren, Me’Shale (Bryan) Hinton of Suffolk, VA, Ra’Shel (James) Abbott, Ryan (Elizabeth) Washington, Vance Goodwin II of Kalamazoo, MI, Dawnielle Goodwin of Norfolk VA, Brooklyn Washington of Atlanta GA and Taylor Washington of Chicago, IL; 8 great-grandchildren, several godchildren, a special cousin Erma (Sally) Prude, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

There are three special nurses by the name of Dotty Rice, Terri O’linn and

Diane Boylan from Plainwell Pines Nursing Home, that took excellent care of Arlene while she was a resident from 2016 to 2022! The entire staff at Plainwell Nursing Home, we thank you and appreciate you for your patience and willingness to help take care of our loved one! We will never forget you!

# Cemetery Details

## Mt. Ever-Rest Memorial Park (S. Westnedge Avenue)

3941 S. Westnedge Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 18. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

The Galilee Baptist Church  
1216 North Westnedge Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

## A Service in Loving Memory

JAN 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

The Galilee Baptist Church  
1216 North Westnedge Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

# Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington



Harper Funeral Home - January 16, 2022 at 08:42 PM



“ Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ Karen Gray sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington



Karen Gray - January 24, 2022 at 11:30 AM

TF

“ *The Green Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington*



---

**The Green Family** - January 18, 2022 at 12:16 PM

JP

“ *Condolences and prayers to the Washington/Goodwin family.*



---

**James Phillips** - January 18, 2022 at 11:57 AM

SM

“ *Stephanie Moss lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington*



---

**Stephanie Moss** - January 18, 2022 at 08:10 AM

MR

“ *Modean Reeves lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington*



---

**Modean Reeves** - January 17, 2022 at 10:15 PM

QM

“ Quinton & Diane Moss lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington



Quinton & Diane Moss - January 17, 2022 at 09:14 PM

HB

“ Hal & Janet Buchanan lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington



Hal & Janet Buchanan - January 17, 2022 at 07:24 PM

FF

“ FRANK & BETTY FORD lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington



FRANK & BETTY FORD - January 17, 2022 at 03:54 PM

FF

“ FRANK & BETTY FORD lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington



FRANK & BETTY FORD - January 17, 2022 at 03:52 PM

EM

“ Edward & Syble Moss-Marsh lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington



Edward & Syble Moss-Marsh - January 17, 2022 at 03:51 PM

RW

“ R Ann Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington



R Ann Williams - January 17, 2022 at 02:19 PM

DG

“ Darlene Goodwin sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington



Darlene Goodwin - January 17, 2022 at 12:26 PM

PG

“ Pauline Gardner lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington



Pauline Gardner - January 17, 2022 at 12:09 PM

IM

“ *Isabell Martin lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington*



Isabell Martin - January 17, 2022 at 11:07 AM

DF

“ *Dallas Boards And Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington*



Dallas Boards and family - January 17, 2022 at 10:48 AM

TF

“ *The Dawson Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington*



The Dawson Family - January 17, 2022 at 10:07 AM

VB

“ *Viola Bentley lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington*



Viola Bentley - January 17, 2022 at 10:00 AM

HW

“ *Helen Word sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington*



Helen Word - January 17, 2022 at 09:35 AM

HW

*My sincere sympathy to the family of Arlene Washington. I had the pleasure of babysitting for April and Jamie when they lived next door to us on Church St. I always thought she was such a beautiful women. May she rest in peace.*

Helen Word - January 17, 2022 at 09:41 AM

AR

“ *Audrey Rancifer-McGrew lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington*



Audrey Rancifer-McGrew - January 16, 2022 at 10:05 PM

CS

“ *Cindy Smith lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington*



Cindy Smith - January 16, 2022 at 04:59 PM

PF

“ *Patterson Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington*



---

**Patterson Family** - January 16, 2022 at 04:11 PM

CW

“ *Our deepest condolences goes to the Washington and Elliott families. We pray that you allow the Holy Spirit to comfort each of you to make this transition a bit more manageable as the days go by. We will keep you in our prayers.*



*Deacon Carl L and Deaconess Florest Wilson*

---

**Car L and Florest Wilson** - January 16, 2022 at 11:54 AM

SB

“ *Sally Bradshaw lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington*



---

**sally Bradshaw** - January 16, 2022 at 11:31 AM

WJ

“ *Cousin April, James Jr, and Susan, My sincerest condolences for you at this time. You have my deepest sympathy and unwavering support. There is no one in this world like your mother. I always admired Aunt Arlene's caring and selfless nature. Wishing you peace, comfort, courage, and lots of love at this time of sorrow. My heart goes out to you at this difficult time.*  
*Your Cousins.*  
*Billy, Rhonda and William III*



---

**William Washington Jr** - January 15, 2022 at 09:18 PM

LM

“ *Lori Miller lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington*



---

**Lori Miller** - January 15, 2022 at 05:53 PM

ML

“ *Malinda J. Ligon-Whitley lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington*



---

**Malinda J. Ligon-Whitley** - January 15, 2022 at 05:26 PM

SW

“ Selena Walker lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington



Selena Walker - January 15, 2022 at 05:07 PM

RL

“ My condolences to the family. Arlene was a beautiful and kind woman.



Ramona Lumpkin - January 15, 2022 at 02:28 PM

RL

“ Ramona Lumpkin sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington



Ramona Lumpkin - January 15, 2022 at 02:26 PM

JL

“ Jackie Little lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington



Jackie Little - January 15, 2022 at 02:08 PM

MD

“ Our sympathy and prayers to out to Mrs. Arlene Washington on behalf of the Dallas family.



Mr. & Mrs. Dallas - January 15, 2022 at 12:33 PM

AW

“ My heartfelt prayers to the family of Arlene. May Arlene’s soul travel well! For Life is but for a moment. I will never forget her support and kindness. For 5 years she displayed my Illustrated devotions, "What I'm Saying" in her and her husband's Community Voices Paper. She encouraged me to get my Copywrite in which I did. May God comfort and bless you all. ✨🙏✨



Anita & Rj Wilkerson - January 15, 2022 at 12:29 PM

LW

“ Laverne Walker lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington



Laverne Walker - January 15, 2022 at 11:02 AM

LC

“ *Lillie Cotton lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington*



---

**Lillie Cotton** - January 15, 2022 at 07:50 AM

HB

“ *Helen (Mills) Brooks sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington*



---

**Helen (Mills) Brooks** - January 14, 2022 at 08:01 PM

HB

“ *Helen (Mills) Brooks sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington*



---

**Helen (Mills) Brooks** - January 14, 2022 at 08:00 PM

MP

“ *Condolences and prayers to the family.*



---

**Mollie Peterson** - January 14, 2022 at 07:54 PM

AR

“ *ArleneBuchanan lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington*



**ArleneBuchanan** - January 14, 2022 at 05:02 PM

GS

“ *Our prayers and condolences are with the Washington and Goodwin families 🙏 Anthony and Gwen Smith!*



**Gwendolyn Smith** - January 14, 2022 at 01:10 PM

JG

“ *JoAnne & Renaford Owens Jr-Atlanta GA lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington*



**JoAnne & Renaford Owens Jr-Atlanta GA** - January 14, 2022 at 11:36 AM

EF

“ *Earline Fields lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Arlene Delores Washington*



**Earline Fields** - January 14, 2022 at 11:35 AM

EF

“ *Sorry for your loss my thoughts and prayers are  
with the Family God Bless*



---

**Earline Fields** - January 14, 2022 at 11:29 AM