



## Mrs. Nettie B. Martin

November 5, 1949 - May 8, 2013

Nettie B. Martin departed this life May 8, 2013 in Kalamazoo, MI. She was born November 5, 1949 in Prairie Point, MS, the daughter of Johnie B. Little and Mard (Little) Nabors. She was a long time resident of Kalamazoo and a graduate of Kalamazoo Central High School.

She was a professional storyteller who traveled for the past twenty years performing for diverse audiences of all ages. Prior to her storytelling career, she was a homemaker and also served the community as a coach and manager for the Northside Little League.

She accepted Christ at an early age and attended Galilee Baptist Church and Faith Temple Church of God, throughout her youth. She also attended New Covenant Church in Kalamazoo and later became a faithful member of Christian Life Center.

She is preceded in death by her father, Johnie B. Little; 2 brothers, Lorenzo and Andrew Little; and her maternal and paternal grandparents. Nettie is survived by her husband of 43 years, Matthew Martin Jr.

She is also survived by her mother, Mard Nabors; 2 daughters, Candace Martin-Green of Forestville, MD and Annette (Tony) Kinsey of Detroit, MI; two sons, Matthew III and Jason both of Kalamazoo; 8 brothers and 3 sisters:

John Little, Robert (Jackie) Little, Albert Little, Robert Sam (Rhonda) Little, Orlando (Marvita) Little, Dimitrius Little, Curtis of Shuqualak, MS, L.B. Bush of Columbus, MS; Geneva (Melvin) Jackson, Lageta Little and Tammy Kelley; 15 grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild; sisters-in-law, Ida Franks, Ivy Jeffries, Nancy Buchanan and Jill Little; and brother-in-law, Joseph Martin. Also, a host of nieces and nephews.

# Cemetery Details

## Riverside Cemetery

Kalamazoo, MI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 17. 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home, Inc.  
521 Douglas Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI 49007  
(269) 342-1000  
info@harperfuneral.com  
<https://www.harperfuneral.com>

## Service

MAY 18. 12:00 PM (ET)

Christian Life Center  
1225 W. Paterson Street  
Kalamazoo, MI 49007-1789

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Nettie B. Martin*

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ *Mrs. Nettie B. Martin*

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ *Granny I miss you more and more everyday  
But now that your are gone I know your with  
me every step of the way.*



**Marcharnae Martin** - September 23, 2013 at 05:12 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers go out to the  
Martin/Little family.*



**Barbara Phillips & Family** - May 18, 2013 at 09:55 AM

MR

“ *Ms. Nettie was a ray of sun light every time she was in your presence. I will really miss her. God has Nettie and she is still in charge in heaven. My prayers are with the family.*

*Montiella Robertson*

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**Montiella Robertson** - May 17, 2013 at 11:53 PM

NF

“ *Necole Jackson & Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin*



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**Necole Jackson & Family** - May 17, 2013 at 07:26 PM

CP

“ *Carlton and Ruby Parks purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin.*



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**Carlton and Ruby Parks** - May 17, 2013 at 08:02 AM

MA

“ *2 files added to the album Ms. Nettie @ Black Arts Festival '11*



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**Ms. Ann** - May 16, 2013 at 08:52 PM

TF

“ *Tiffany Fields sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin*



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**Tiffany Fields** - May 15, 2013 at 06:48 PM

TF

*Sorry for your loss but the Lord needed another angel to come home. Keeping Mr. Martin and family in my prayers always.*

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**Tiffany Fields** - May 15, 2013 at 06:51 PM

EF

“ *Earline Fields And Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin*



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**Earline Fields and Family** - May 15, 2013 at 06:42 PM

JR

“ *My heartfelt condolence to the Martin family. Praying you'll be filled with hope and that God's love, joy and peace will shine on you today and always.*

*Janie Reed*

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**Janie Reed** - May 15, 2013 at 06:00 PM

GS

“ Gwendolyn Smith lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin



Gwendolyn Smith - May 15, 2013 at 03:46 PM

NA

“ Miss Nettie and I met around 1998 in Ghana W. Africa at the International Storytelling Conference. She was a dynamic and very powerful storyteller. We remained friends over the years. Although both of our lives was full it was great to catch up at the NABS conferences. I was heartbroken to hear of her passing but I do know that all things come together for good for them that love the Lord. The last tome I spoke to Nettie was about three years ago. She called to share her trials with diabetes and her series of amputations on one of her legs. I can only imagine everything she must have gone through, and I hope her suffering was not to long. I bid farewell to my friend. I trust God will keep her friends and family in perfect peace for we know she was a good soilder who fought the good fight. Rest in Peace my friend.....Norma Ashong, Macedonia Ohio



Norma Ashong - May 15, 2013 at 12:27 PM

CH

“ Charlene Harkness lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin



Charlene Harkness - May 15, 2013 at 10:13 AM


MD

“ *You will be missed.  
Loving memories from The Dunning Family,  
Kim and TaKarra.*



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**Ms. Kimberly Dunning** - May 15, 2013 at 09:01 AM

  
Jermaine  
King Sr.

“ *I will always remember the Cornbread Man story... What a great  
person to be missed here in Kalamazoo. Our prayers will keep the  
Martin family lifted...*

*Elder Jermaine King and Family*

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**Jermaine King Sr.** - May 14, 2013 at 10:53 PM

MW

“ *Ms. Flora Walker lit a candle in memory of  
Mrs. Nettie B. Martin*



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**Ms. Flora Walker** - May 14, 2013 at 08:40 PM

MP

“ *Matt and Family,*  
*So very saddened by the passing of Nettie,*  
*she will be missed by many whose life she*  
*touched so deeply. Our prayers are lifted*  
*heavenward for all of you. Nettie fought a*  
*good fight of faith inspite of her health, let the sweet memories of*  
*her gentleness and beautiful smile forever remain in your heart. It is*  
*with deepest sympathy as Marshall and I express our sorrow but*  
*also rejoice in knowing she is with our Lord and Redeemer resting*  
*in His presence.*  
*With all of our love and prayers,*  
*Marshall and Annie Pearson*



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**Marshall and Annie Pearson** - May 14, 2013 at 12:58 PM

FH

“ *Nettie was a dear friend. We met in 1968*  
*when I enrolled at KCHS. I was a new student*  
*from Loa Angeles. Nettie embraced me and*  
*we nurtured our friendship for over 45 years.*  
*The last time we were together she*  
*expressed that she wanted to tell stories again. Having said that We*  
*prayed for that dream to come true...Well MS. Nettie is telling a*  
*story today through all the memories we share. Ms Nettie's*  
*"Momma's Little Baby Loves Shorting Bread" will live on in our*  
*hearts, for Jesus loved her to Himself much more than we loved her*  
*here. To Nettie's family, may you be comforted by the many lives*  
*she touched through her life's journey. My prayer is that God will*  
*strengthen you and keep you in his watchful care. Much love Flora*  
*Harrell*



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**Flora Harrell** - May 14, 2013 at 12:16 PM

JR

“ *Janie Reed lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin*



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**Janie Reed** - May 14, 2013 at 10:49 AM

MA

“ *Margo Anderson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin*



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**Margo Anderson** - May 14, 2013 at 10:23 AM

V.

“ *May the memory of Nettie's commitment to Christ, her encouraging spirit and passion for storytelling comfort you during this difficult time of loss....Psalm 23:4  
She will surely be missed at NABS.....*

*My prayers are with you!  
Victoria Burnett*

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**V.Burnett** - May 13, 2013 at 11:04 PM

EG

“ *Edith Gardner lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin*



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**Edith Gardner** - May 13, 2013 at 08:32 PM

MJ

“ *Ms. Debbi Jones sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin*



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**Ms. Debbi Jones** - May 13, 2013 at 06:06 PM

TF

“ *The Abbott's Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin*



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**The Abbott's Family** - May 13, 2013 at 05:08 PM

TK

“ *The Abbott's Family Of Kalamazoo lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin*



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**The Abbott's Family of Kalamazoo** - May 13, 2013 at 05:07 PM

MC

“ *Martha Morris Coash lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin*



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**Martha Morris Coash** - May 13, 2013 at 04:23 PM

CA

“ I have the fondest memories of this special lady. We went to school together and I don't remember her ever without a smile and kind word. She was a wonderful woman who will be missed by many. Rest in peace Nettie.  
Carol



carol - May 13, 2013 at 02:13 PM

CA

“ Carol lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin



carol - May 13, 2013 at 02:11 PM

PF

“ PATTERSON FAMILY lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin



PATTERSON FAMILY - May 13, 2013 at 02:10 PM

RF

“ Renaford Owens Jr & Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin



Renaford Owens Jr & Family - May 13, 2013 at 01:14 PM

DA

“ *My prayer are with Nettie Martin's family. She will be missed dearly.*

*Deborah Asante*

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**deborah asante** - May 13, 2013 at 11:55 AM

LC

“ *Lillie Cotton lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin*



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**Lillie Cotton** - May 13, 2013 at 11:43 AM

EM

“ *My condelences to the family. God bless you as you go through and know that we are praying and will miss her also. Peace and Blessings. Mother Minter, NABS Youth Director/Charlotte, NC*

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**Elisha Minter** - May 13, 2013 at 10:03 AM

HS

“ *Nettie will be missed by so many; She were a special lady! An Angel were born and her light will always shine. Family keep your heads to heaven and we all will be with her again.*

*THANK YOU NETTIE!*

*Hilda Bradford Snell*

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**hilda snell** - May 13, 2013 at 08:35 AM

MS

“ *Michelle Snell lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin*



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**Michelle Snell** - May 13, 2013 at 08:13 AM

DS

“ *Denise Scurry lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin*



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**Denise Scurry** - May 13, 2013 at 07:32 AM

KD

“ *To the family of Nettie B. Martin, may you find joy and laughter in remembering the rich life that was shared with her. It is well. I knew Nettie through my affiliation with NABS.*

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**Keesha Dixon** - May 13, 2013 at 01:06 AM

SG

“ *Sue DiLeo Graving lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin*



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**Sue DiLeo Graving** - May 12, 2013 at 04:01 PM

SG

“ I first met Nettie when we were students at Woodward Elementary. She broke records there as the fastest 50 yard dash runner and was modest of her accomplishments. Nettie's smile was the centerpiece of her personality and that coupled with her infectious laugh, made her such fun to be around. She was a positive force in our KCHS graduating class of 1968 and later worked with some of us on the reunion committee. Miss Nettie gave presentations at the elementary school where I taught and shared her treasure of stories with many of our students. They were as enthralled with her tales and facial expressions, as was I. Nettie leaves a legacy of joy and friendship in all who knew her!

With sympathy,  
Sue (DiLeo) Graving



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**Sue Graving** - May 12, 2013 at 03:53 PM

CM

“ Chris Miller lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin



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**Chris Miller** - May 12, 2013 at 03:48 PM

CM

Nettie will be missed so much by so many. My deepest sympathy to her family.

Chris Miller

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**Chris Miller** - May 12, 2013 at 03:52 PM

FH

*Nettie was a long time dear friend. We met at KCHS in 1968. I was a new student coming from Loa Angeles. She embraced me as a friend, and we have nourished that friendship for over 45 years. The last time We were together sheer expressed she wanted to tell stories again...having said that, I prayed for her to realize that dream. Ms. Nettie is telling a story even today as we all share our memories. Jesus loved you to Himself my dear friend, and you will be missed by those who loved you here. Flora Harrell*

Flora E. Harrell - May 14, 2013 at 11:56 AM

MA

“ Ms Ann lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin



Ms Ann - May 12, 2013 at 03:40 PM

MP

“ To my cousin Nettie B. Martin, you were affectionately referred to as the 'storyteller'. Thanks for your positive attitude and willingness to give of yourself unconditionally. You will be missed!

Mark Phillips - May 12, 2013 at 01:25 PM

CM

“ Our lives were richer for having known Nettie. She will be missed by so many.

Chris Miller  
KCHS classmate

Chris Miller - May 12, 2013 at 09:48 AM

BC

“ *B J Curry lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin*



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**B J Curry** - May 11, 2013 at 06:51 PM

PA

“ *Pamela Ampey-Lyles lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin*



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**Pamela Ampey-Lyles** - May 11, 2013 at 05:09 PM

PA

*We were always close and friends, you will be missed by everyone, as you were a great person. We will be connected again one day soon.*

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**Pamela Ampey-Lyles** - May 11, 2013 at 05:16 PM

GF

“ *SO SORRY FOR THE PASSING OF NETTIE....R.I.P.... GEORGIA WILLIAMS AND THE WILLIAMS FAMILY...*



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**GEORGIA WILLIAMS AND THE WILLIAMS FAMILY** - May 11, 2013 at 04:57 PM

AT

“ Alice Taylor lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin



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Alice Taylor - May 11, 2013 at 02:50 PM

AS

“ Alma M. Snell lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin



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Alma M. Snell - May 11, 2013 at 01:52 PM

BF

“ Betty Ford lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin



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Betty Ford - May 11, 2013 at 12:11 PM

MW

“ Merita Wilson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin



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Merita Wilson - May 11, 2013 at 12:05 PM

RS

“ Rhonda Singer-Hurd lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie B. Martin



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**Rhonda Singer-Hurd** - May 11, 2013 at 08:46 AM

RS

*Rest in peace my dear friend. You will truly be missed by many.*

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**Rhonda Singer-Hurd** - May 11, 2013 at 08:47 AM