



Ms. Ethelreen Gilbert

June 16, 1949 - August 16, 2019

“Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me...Psalms 23:4

“The Life and Legacy of Ethelreen”

On August 16, 2019, Ethelreen Caudle Gilbert, lovingly known to her family as “Reen” or “Reny Girl”, returned to her heavenly home after surrendering to her long term illness. “Reen” was born on June 16, 1949, in Enfield, North Carolina to the late Ulysses and Ada Caudle.

“Reen” attended Newport News Public Schools. At an early age, she attended Park Place Baptist Church. Years later, she joined New Hope Baptist until her illness prevented her from attending.

Reen worked as a secretary at Mariner’s Museum until she became disabled. She enjoyed playing “BINGO” until she could no longer attend. At that point, EVERYBODY brought Bingo to her so she could continue to play.

Reen was loved by everybody she encountered, “I guess she got that from her mama (Ada)”. She loved life and she “cut-up” so much, her children couldn’t help but continue where she left off. For the last five years, she resided at Sentara Nursing Center, Norfolk, VA, and OMG the staff loved her

to pieces! "Ms. Gilbert" wanted for nothing, all that her family didn't provide the staff at SNC brought her. She took to Adult Coloring and became a famous artist in her own right. Her art plastered her room and she shared it with all of whom she loved. Yes, she was well-loved and spoiled rotten!

Reen is preceded in death by her husband, Alex M. Gilbert; brothers, Ulysses (Osaw) and Jimmy Caudle (DC); and baby sister, Celestine Holden (Bay).

She leaves to cherish her memory her sister, Ada Perry (Uncle Percy); two brothers, Bravlet "P-Nut" and Wendell Caudle, both of Newport News, VA; Her brothers and sister took pride in spending time with their big sister, especially Wendell. He became like her oldest child and he didn't miss a visit with his sister. He referred to her as "Nana" and he went to the ends of the earth for her; five children, Willis "Wee Wee" and Landers "Rome" Hawkins, Milton "Fifty Cent" Gilbert (Deborah), DeVitta "Vitta" and Jamie "Fat Duck" Gilbert, all of Newport News, VA; her only living uncle, Lamond Bryant of Whitakers, North Carolina; nine grandchildren, Damarr, Kia, Damien, Rico, Simor, Sheena, Synethia, Jalen and Johanna; nine great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins to include Phyllis and Nancy, her first cousins and BF. Reen was Nancy's "baby" and she cared for her as such, and her friends.

Cemetery Details

Greenlawn Memorial Park

2700 Parish Ave
Newport News, VA 23607

Previous Events

Public Viewing

AUG **23**. 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

M.E. Fisher Funeral Home
2117 Madison Ave
Newport News, VA 23607

Funeral Service

AUG **24**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Ivy Baptist Church
50 Maple Avenue
Newport News, VA 23607

Burial

AUG **24**. 12:30 PM (ET)

Greenlawn Cemetery
530 Shell Road
Hampton, VA 23661
(757) 247-5181

Tribute Wall

BD

“ I did not know Ethelreen, but went to school with Ada, the late Celestine and Percy at Huntington. Reading her obituary, I can see that she loved life and family. She has truly left a legacy of love and family fellowship.

I pray for each of you as you mourn the loss of such a beautiful woman. May those loving and sweet memories of Ethelreen keep you uplifted.

Beulah M Davis - November 14, 2019 at 02:33 PM

ER

“ EDNA (BRYANT) RUFFIN lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ethelreen Gilbert



EDNA (BRYANT) RUFFIN - August 24, 2019 at 10:39 PM

MS

“ Devitta and Family, our hearts are with you all praying for strength and comfort at this time. She was a wonderful person and fun. We will cherish the memories .Love you all ❤️🙏

Mr.& Mrs. Ronald, Sharon Speight - August 24, 2019 at 09:08 AM

MS

“ Mr.& Mrs. Ronald, Sharon Speight lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ethelreen Gilbert



Mr.& Mrs. Ronald, Sharon Speight - August 24, 2019 at 09:00 AM

HM

“ Henry Mitchell sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Ethelreen Gilbert



Henry Mitchell - August 23, 2019 at 03:42 PM



“ 3 files added to the album Life Tributes



M.E. Fisher Funeral Home, Inc. - August 23, 2019 at 01:52 PM

SG

“ Sheena Granddaughter lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ethelreen Gilbert



sheena granddaughter - August 22, 2019 at 11:51 PM

CB

“ Carl Bryant lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ethelreen Gilbert



Carl Bryant - August 22, 2019 at 08:01 PM

ET

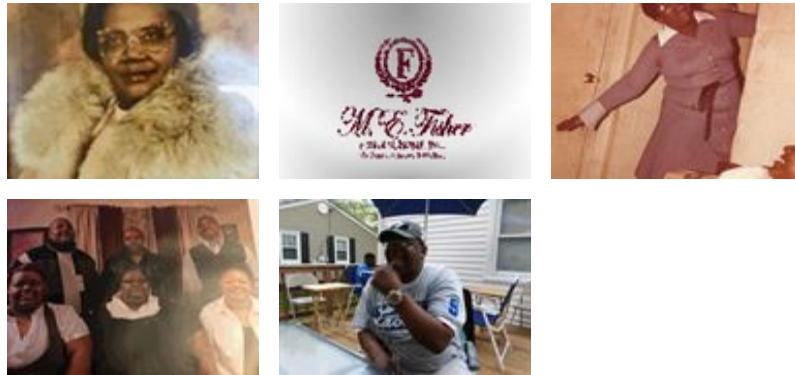
“ Ethel And Thomas lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ethelreen Gilbert



Ethel and Thomas - August 22, 2019 at 05:34 PM



“ 34 files added to the album Life Tributes



M.E. Fisher Funeral Home, Inc. - August 22, 2019 at 04:13 PM

KL

“ Kimberly Lambert lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ethelreen Gilbert



Kimberly Lambert - August 22, 2019 at 03:35 PM



“ *Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Ms. Ethelreen Gilbert.*



August 22, 2019 at 03:31 PM



“ *Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Lavender and White was purchased for the family of Ms. Ethelreen Gilbert.*



August 22, 2019 at 10:27 AM



“ *Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Ms. Ethelreen Gilbert.*



August 21, 2019 at 10:16 PM



“ *Milton Son lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ethelreen Gilbert*



Milton son - August 21, 2019 at 07:47 PM

WE

“ Wendell lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ethelreen Gilbert



Wendell - August 21, 2019 at 07:46 PM

WS

“ Willis Son lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ethelreen Gilbert



Willis son - August 21, 2019 at 07:45 PM

WB

“ Wendell Brother lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ethelreen Gilbert



Wendell brother - August 21, 2019 at 07:44 PM

WS

“ Willis Hawkins Son lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ethelreen Gilbert



Willis Hawkins son - August 21, 2019 at 07:43 PM

LS

“ *Landers Hawkins Son lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ethelreen Gilbert*



Landers Hawkins son - August 21, 2019 at 07:43 PM

DD

“ *Deborah Gilbert Daughter-in-law lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ethelreen Gilbert*



Deborah Gilbert daughter-in-law - August 21, 2019 at 07:40 PM

JG

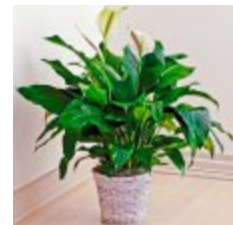
“ *Jaime Gilbert lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ethelreen Gilbert*



Jaime Gilbert - August 21, 2019 at 07:38 PM



“ *Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Ms. Ethelreen Gilbert.*



August 19, 2019 at 09:26 PM

KW

“ *Sending my condolences to Uncle Milton and his family! Our thoughts and prayers are with you all!! Love you and may God strengthen you and keep you.*

*Charles and Kya Wright
Waycross, Ga.*

Kya Wright - August 19, 2019 at 08:44 PM