



## Mary 'Eileen' Burford

May 22, 1918 - January 20, 2017

Mrs. Mary 'Eileen' Burford, age 98 of Conyers, formerly of Decatur, died Friday, January 20, 2017. Eileen was the sixth born of seven children to Florence Green Upchurch and Mary Matilda (Mamie) McGarity Upchurch on May 22, 1918 in McDonough, GA. Throughout her life her church was her home away from home, as first taught by her parents when carried by horse and buggy to Bethany Baptist Church in McDonough. As an adult, she taught Sunday School to both women and children, participating in both youth and women's organizations at White Oak Hills Baptist Church (Decatur, GA.) and the Assembly of God Tabernacle (Atlanta & Decatur). She also visited and ministered to the sick and elderly in their homes carrying her young daughters along. Following her retirement from Sears & Roebuck, Atlanta, GA. She became more active at the Tabernacle by assisting in the Food Pantry, serving as the missions secretary and becoming an intercessor with the Intercessory Prayer Group. Her hobbies were gardening, baking and crocheting. She always had flowers for the sick, passed along plants from her garden, cakes for birthdays and crocheted blankets for the new born. She also supported Christian television and was an avid Braves fan. She was dearly loved and will be missed by many. She was predeceased by her husband of 49 plus years, Harper Rex Burford and her son-in-law, Gary DuPree; sisters, Betty Lou Durden, Annie Lee Bonner and Agnes Rawlins; brothers, J.W. Unchurch, Chester Upchurch and Homer Upchurch; nieces, Betty Tebo and Sarah Bonner; nephews, Billy Durden, Olin Bonner, Randall Upchurch and Doug

Upchurch. She is survived by her daughters and son-in-law, Rachel and Thomas Wilson, Bonnie DuPree, all of Conyers; grandchildren, Mark and Lorena Kellerman, Kennesaw, Darren and Lisa DuPree, Denver, CO, Susanne and Joel Edwards, Canton, Jennifer and Josh Duncan, Hoschton; great-grandchildren, Brian, Mason and Ben Edwards, Ethan and Allyson DuPree, J. R. Sisneros, Owen and Harper Duncan; and several nieces and nephews. Funeral Services will be held Monday, January 23, 2017 at 1:30 P M at Scot Ward's Funeral Services Chapel, with Rev. Kenneth Corley and Rev. Emanuel Williams officiating; interment will follow at Bethany Baptist Church Cemetery in McDonough. The family will receive friends Sunday, January 22, 2017 from 2 until 6 p.m. at the funeral home. Condolences may be submitted on-line at [www.scotward.com](http://www.scotward.com). Scot Ward Funeral Services, 699 American Legion Rd., Conyers, GA, 770-483-7216.

The family of 'Miss Eileen' would like to convey our love, thanks and appreciation to the many workers and staff at Magnolias and Morningside that cared for our mother with great love, patience and respect during the years she resided in assisted living. Your love and kindness will always be remembered.

The family of Sister Burford would like to extend our gratitude to her church family and friends at the Tabernacle along with other fellowships for ministering to Mom at Magnolias and Morningside for the last five years of her life.

# Cemetery Details

## Bethany Baptist Church Cemetery

4 N. Bethany Rd.  
McDonough, GA 30253

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN **22**. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Scot Ward Funeral Services at Green Meadow Memorial Gardens  
699 American Legion Road  
Conyers, GA 30012

## Service

JAN **23**. 1:30 PM (ET)

Scot Ward's Green Meadow Chapel  
699 American Legion Road  
Conyers, GA 30012

# Tribute Wall

SJ

“ Thank you for the opportunity to have cared for Eileen. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers.

Sacred Journey - February 01, 2017 at 11:51 AM

DD

“ We knew Ms. Eileen only a short time at Morningside but we will miss her. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers. From Catherine Williams and family.

Deborah Duello - January 26, 2017 at 07:53 AM

MP

“ Mary Tebo and Barbie Pressly purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mary 'Eileen' Burford.



Mary Tebo and Barbie Pressly - January 23, 2017 at 10:29 AM

MD

“ A Christian has gone home to the waiting arms of God. We met "Sister Burford" at the Assembly of God Tabernacle in mid-1970's and were privileged to attend church with her about ten years. She was a beautiful lady, inside and outside, who truly loved God, her family and her church. Don't think of her as gone away but as "living" in the hearts of those who were touched by her kindness and sweetness. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family during this time of loss. Marlon and Greta Durden

Marlon and Greta Durden - January 23, 2017 at 10:25 AM

LT

“ Sorry for your loss. The Lord let you share her for almost a century. She still have first cousins living. Jamie Upchurch McGarity & J W Upchurch of McDonough and Lamar Upchurch of Macon. All 3 are in their upper 90's. (Lamar will be 100 in Dec 2017)  
Who am I? Green Upchurch (Eileen's father) had 2 brothers, Arthur & Jesse. Jamie & J W are daughter & son of Arthur. Lamar is son of Jesse. My mother was Lucy Upchurch Jinks the daughter of Jesse. I went to school with Howell Upchurch, (son of Chester) the nephew of Eileen. Yes, I am an Upchurch.  
May the Lord keep His loving arms around all you and give you peace and comfort.

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**Lucile Tomberlin** - January 22, 2017 at 05:06 PM

LT

*I made a error .. Jamie's brother name is A J Upchurch not JW. Sorry.*

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**Lucile Tomberlin** - January 23, 2017 at 09:42 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary 'Eileen' Burford.



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January 22, 2017 at 02:04 PM

CK

“ I didn't know Mrs. Burford well, but as a friend of her daughter, Rachel, I learned of her love of God and family, and her dedication to the church. When my granddaughter was born 13 years ago, Mrs. Burford crocheted her a pretty lavender blanket. Ryley loved the blanket so much she would not go to sleep without it. We still smile at the memory of how Ryley would drape the blanket over her face and rub the soft yarn between her tiny fingers until she fell asleep. Eventually there was only a small piece of blanket left. My daughter still has it. Rachel told me this was one of the last of many baby blankets her mother had given as gifts throughout the years. We will never forget her thoughtfulness and the memories we have because of it. Our love and prayers go out to Mrs. Burford's family. They were blessed to have her.

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**Cindy Kitchens** - January 22, 2017 at 01:36 PM

BT

“ We were fortunate to be able visit with Aunt Eileen at the Assisted Living facility. What a joy she was.

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**Bernie Tebo** - January 22, 2017 at 01:14 PM

CK

“ I did not know Mrs

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**Cindy Kitchens** - January 22, 2017 at 12:55 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mary 'Eileen' Burford.



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January 22, 2017 at 09:09 AM



“ 48 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Scot Ward Funeral Services** - January 22, 2017 at 08:40 AM



“ *I loved Eileen! She was like a lion whenever she roared her convictions! But somehow, at the same time, she never failed to help me feel safe and loved. My great-Aunt Eileen: BELOVED.*

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**Mary Tebo** - January 21, 2017 at 08:13 PM

AC

“ I first met Mrs. Burford (we affectionately called her "Sister Burford" at our church) at our bridal shower she helped to give Ken and I over 47 years ago. She did not know this young lady from Alabama but loved Mildred Corley, my mother-in-law and we were blessed with many gifts to help us start our life together. Over the years I was blessed to know of her heart for missions and in these last few years she was an encourager to Ken and I and our mission to dig water wells in Africa. There is clean water flowing in several villages in Africa today because she and her family gave to Wells of Hope International, Inc. We enjoyed visits with her and her love for music. One of the last times we were with her she wanted to sing "There's a New Name Written Down in Glory...and its mine...oh yes, it's mine." while we were together that day she asked to sing this song three times...so we did. "With my sins forgiven...I am bound for Heaven...never more to roam."  
Amanda Corley

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**Amanda Corley** - January 21, 2017 at 04:56 PM

LW

Although I haven't seen Aunt Eilene in quite a long time, I always thought the world of both Aunt Eilene and Uncle Rex and always loved it when they would come visit Mama and Daddy . She always loved to talk to me about singing and my playing the piano. Rest in Peace Aunt Eilene . You was a very special woman .  
I'm so sorry for the family's loss and I pray that God will give you all comfort and Peace during this time. Just so the family is aware I'm Audrey and Emerson's youngest child Lindy .

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**Lindy Waites** - January 21, 2017 at 07:33 PM