



“The Broken Chain”

*We little knew that morning that God
was going to call your name,
In life we loved you dearly; in death we
do the same
It broke our hearts to lose you, you did
not go alone.
For part of us went with you, the day
God called you home
You left us peaceful memories, your
love is still our guide,
And though we cannot see you, you are
always at our side
Our family chain is broken, and noth-
ing seems the same,
But as God call us one by one, the
chain will link again.*

Special Thanks

A heartfelt thank you to **The Citadel Class of 1990**, my cherished brothers and surrogate sons, for your unwavering love and support during this time. Your presence and the beautiful floral design you gifted in honor of my mother touched our hearts deeply.

A special acknowledgment to **Lilies on Main** in Fountain Inn, SC, for bringing the floral vision I designed to life with such elegance and care. Your artistry captured her spirit beautifully, and your kindness will never be forgotten.

With deepest gratitude,
Dr. Charles A. Wallace II & Family

With Gratitude

The family of **Joyce Irene Abrams Wallace** extends our deepest and most sincere appreciation for the countless acts of love, kindness, and support shown to us during this tender time. Your prayers, calls, visits, meals, and words of comfort have reminded us that we are not walking this journey alone.

To every friend, neighbor, church member, colleague, and extended family member who touched our lives and stood with us — thank you. Whether you knew her as Momma, Meme, Sister Joyce, Auntie, or simply as a friend, your love for her has lifted us in ways words cannot fully express.

To **Bethlehem Baptist Church**, thank you for opening your doors and hearts. To the caregivers, health workers, and loved ones who supported Mom throughout the years — you are appreciated beyond measure. Though our hearts grieve, we rejoice in knowing her legacy lives on in each of us. May God bless you richly for every kind gesture.

With love and gratitude,
The Family of Joyce Irene Abrams Wallace



Arrangements Entrusted to:

The W. J. Gist Mortuary

519 Workman Avenue – Woodruff, South Carolina
Telephone 476-3411

Alexander, Casey & Gist Funeral Service

1223 Old Anderson Mill Road – Spartanburg, South Carolina
Telephone 574-5464

WJGIST.COM



*Celebrating the Life of
Joyce Irene Abrams Wallace*

Sunrise: June 11, 1949 – Sunset: May 27, 2025

Friday, June 6, 2025

11am

*Bethlehem Baptist Church
Simpsonville, SC
Dr. Philip Baldwin, Pastor*

Life Profile



With hearts full of love and deep sorrow, we honor the extraordinary life of **Joyce Irene Abrams Wallace**, a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, friend, and faithful servant of God. Born on June 11, 1949, Joyce was the youngest of nine children born to the late Augustus and Irene Byrd Abrams. On May 27, 2025, just days before her 76th birthday, she peacefully transitioned from labor to reward, surrounded by love.

Joyce was preceded in death by her beloved husband of over 50 years, **Charles Wallace, Sr.** Together, they built a legacy of love, faith, and family. She leaves behind two devoted sons: **Dr. Charles A. Wallace II** (wife, Dr. Paryn Moss Wallace), and **Chadwick A. Wallace** (wife, Dr. Dedra Wallace). Her legacy continues in her cherished grandchildren: **Dr. Charles A. Wallace III, Carson Abrams Moss Wallace, Caedan A. Wallace, Anson Wallace, Erin Wallace,** and **Brandon Wallace.**

Joyce was blessed with goddaughters **Kesha Boyce Williams** and **Aprial Leggette** (Ronald), surrogate children **Kevin and Tonya Byrd**, and their daughter **Kiana**, along with dear family friend **Pam Carnes.**

She was predeceased by her siblings **James (Minnie), Aroy (Jessie Lee), Arthur Earl (Mamie B), Ogratcher Bryson (Adell),** and **Gussie Abrams (Ruby).** She is survived by brothers **Charles Abrams (Pearl), Albert Abrams, Sr. (Betty),** and **Rossie Abrams, Sr. (Sadie).** Brother in love, Adell Bryson and sister in love, Ruby Abrams.

Among her in-laws, she was preceded in death by **Jim Wallace (Patricia), Lizzie Mae Wallace Chappelle, Bessie Wallace McGown, Louisa Wallace Irby (Bobby),** and **Curtis Wallace;** she is survived by **James Wallace (Shane)** and **Mildred Wallace.**

Joyce's extended family was immense and deeply loved. Her nieces, nephews, great- and great-great-nieces and nephews—

numbering well over 224—held a very special place in her heart. Each relationship was unique, and each soul treasured. **Denise, Ritzie, Ann, Gwen, Benita, LaPaige, Yoneko, Atonya, Krystal, Carla, Coco, and Stacey.** Great- Great niece **Katlin,** and great- great nephew **Yannis,** among many others, brought her tremendous joy. Special cousins **Madge, Glo, Ann, Chris, Mamie,** and **Carol** were lifelong companions.

She was known by many names—**Momma, Meme, Momma J, Momma Joyce, Lil Irene**—and served as a sister and confidant to so many: **Viola, Joyace, Ethel, Deda, Louise, Simone, Emma Jean, Gigi,** and **Jackie.** Joyce also lovingly cared for others including **Ms. Daisy** and **Ms. Shirley Beachum,** exemplifying her lifelong commitment to serving others.

A 1967 graduate of Sanders High School and crowned **Miss Sanders High of 1966.** She graduated from The Cortez Peters Business College in Washington, DC - the first black business college vocational school. Joyce exuded grace and quiet strength throughout her life. She retired from General Electric after years of dedicated service. Her faith anchored her life as a faithful and active member of **Bethlehem Baptist Church,** where she served on the Missionary Board and countless ministries.

She was a proud **Past Worthy Matron of April Showers #184, Order of the Eastern Star,** a passionate **BFS Bible Study leader,** and a long-standing board member of the **Piedmont Rural Telecommunication Cooperative (PRTC),** where she served as **Secretary/Treasurer** until her transition. Joyce also served on the **Laurens County Election Commission,** was a proud **Mary Kay top performer,** and an **Elite Grand Champion with the South Carolina Alzheimer's Association** in Greenville County.

Her life was a testament to quiet strength, unwavering faith, and boundless love. To know Joyce was to be loved by her. She gave freely, laughed fully, and walked humbly with her God.

We celebrate her life, we honor her legacy, and we are better because she loved us.



Order of Service

Elder Joseph Washington, Presiding

Processional

Prayer

Song.....Sanctuary Choir – *‘Jesus Promise’*

Scripture

Old Testament.....Minister Patricia Jones

New Testament.....Reverend Patricia Pitts

Words from the Pastor.....Dr. Philip Baldwin, Senior Pastor
Bethlehem Baptist Church

Words of Reflections

Sanders High School Class of 1967—Mr. Willie Johnson

General Electric — Mr. Walt Morange

April Showers #184 Eastern Star — Ms. Tasha Boyd

Family — Albert Abrams, Jr. & Debra Abrams Lee

Family gratitude & Recognition.....Dr. Charles A Wallace II

A Tribute.....Vernita Byrd & Malashia Cain

Words of Comfort & Invitation.....Reverend Mona Cunningham
St. Mary's Baptist Church

Closing PrayerDr. Philip Baldwin

Committal, Benediction and Recessional

