



Beulah Dancy Drake-Butler

April 1, 1928 - February 15, 2025

Beulah D. Drake-Butler, cherished daughter of the late Leila Drake and King Dancy, was born on April 1, 1928, in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. As the eldest of two sisters, Beulah embodied a spirit of leadership, compassion, and resilience throughout her life.

At a young age, she and her family moved to Washington, D.C., where Beulah excelled academically, graduating from Cardozo High School in 1948. Her pursuit of knowledge led her to Bowie State University, where she earned both her Bachelor of Science and Master's Degree in Education. A proud member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) Sorority, Inc., Beulah pledged to the graduate chapter and actively engaged with the local chapter, Iota Gamma Omega, fostering a sense of sisterhood and community.

Early in her career, Beulah joined the Marine Corps Reserve, serving in the Woman Marine Disbursing Platoon Unit in Washington, D.C. While honoring her service, she also attended the Prince George's General Hospital School of Practical Nursing, graduating in 1957 as a Licensed Practical Nurse. After her time with the Marine Corps Reserves, she continued her nursing career, always driven by her desire to care for others.

Beulah's spiritual journey was profound; she joined the Catholic Church and even explored the possibility of becoming a nun but ultimately chose a

different path. Despite this decision, her faith remained a cornerstone of her life. It was during her time in the convent that she discovered her deep passion for education, particularly in Special Education, where she developed an unwavering love for teaching children and youth.

In 1970, Beulah began her teaching career in Prince George's County Public Schools, dedicating 23 years to nurturing and educating elementary and Special Education students, particularly in 3rd and 4th grades. Her impact on her students was profound, as she inspired countless young minds with her patience, creativity, and genuine care.

During the summer months, Beulah's commitment to children extended beyond the classroom as she served as the Camp Nurse at "Camp Dawanda" in Croom, Maryland, providing care and support to campers and ensuring their well-being.

In 1993, Beulah established "Unique Expressions Travel Agency," where she sponsored many trips from the D.C. metro area to exciting destinations in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, including plays, shopping outlets, and amusement parks. She also found joy in becoming a wedding coordinator, helping couples celebrate their special days.

In her free time, Beulah enjoyed a variety of hobbies, including arts and crafts, crocheting, knitting, and watching her favorite shows, such as Channel 42 westerns, "Wheel of Fortune," and the "Steve Harvey Show." She loved people-watching and indulging in her favorite treat—ice cream.

Beulah is preceded in death by her husband, James E. Butler; her sister, Lossie B. Gilbert; and her nephew, Terry W. Gilbert. Affectionately known as Aunt Bea, she is survived by Herbert W. J. Gilbert, Jr. (Patricia), Gregory J. Gilbert, Sr. (Sandra), Dr. Marcia F. Gilbert-Gregory (Billy), Valerie James-

Gilbert, and a host of great nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Beulah's legacy is one of love, dedication, and unwavering service to her community. She leaves behind a rich tapestry of memories and inspirations that will be cherished by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Cemetery Details

Crownsville Veterans Cemetery

1080 Sunrise Beach Road
Crownsville, MD 21032

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 28. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Family Church
12010 Woodmore St.
Mitchellville, MD 20721

Funeral Service

FEB 28. 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Family Church
12010 Woodmore St.
Mitchellville, MD 20721

Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

Marshall-March Funeral Homes - March 01, 2025 at 03:52 PM



“ *Drs. Bernard and Lutz & Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Beulah Dancy Drake-Butler.*



Drs. Bernard and Lutz & Family - February 26, 2025 at 11:04 PM



“ *Jethro and Betty Lee purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Beulah Dancy Drake-Butler.*



Jethro and Betty Lee - February 25, 2025 at 08:42 PM



“ *Jethro and Betty Lee planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Beulah Dancy Drake-Butler.*

Jethro and Betty Lee - February 25, 2025 at 08:42 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Beulah Dancy Drake-Butler.*



February 24, 2025 at 12:21 PM



“ *We the March Family and Marshall-March Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.*

Marshall-March Funeral Homes - February 18, 2025 at 04:14 PM