



Lottie Mae Wright

October 10, 1920 - December 28, 2022

Lottie Mae Thomas Wright

Lottie Mae Thomas Wright was born in Jonesboro, Arkansas on October 10, 1920, to Rev. Willie James Thomas and Linnie Elias Thomas. She was called to her Heavenly home on December 28, 2022, passing peacefully in her sleep at the home of her son Jeff in Montgomery, Alabama. One of eleven children born to the Thomas family, Lottie married her Jonesboro childhood friend and neighbor Alvin Wright, and they moved to Washington, DC in 1948 with their 6-year old son, Alvin Wright, Jr.

In Washington, Lottie had six more sons: Rick, Jonathan, Peter, Jeffrey, James, and Charles. At the same time she and her devoted husband Al were managing their large household, Lottie continued the education she began at Arkansas State University by completing her Bachelor of Science degree at American University. She then attended Catholic University's graduate school and earned her master's degree in Library Science.

Lottie went on to have an exemplary career in the Washington, DC public library system. She was librarian at Fort Davis Branch Library (now Frances Gregory Library), Northeast Branch Library, Mount Pleasant Library, and headed the Sociology Division at Central Library (now the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Central Library). Lottie subsequently became Director and

Archivist at the Carnegie Library, which held the archives for Federal City College, now the University of the District of Columbia (UDC). She also was professor of library science at UDC and an active member of the American Library Association and Black Caucus American Library Association. Lottie's twenty plus year career in public and university libraries was complemented by her commitment and passion for children's literacy. For many years she served as Vice President of DC Reading is Fundamental, an organization dedicated to inspiring in all children the same passion for reading she inspired in her own seven sons.

Lottie's dedication to community service and her spirituality extended beyond her devotion to her family and her career as a librarian. She was exceptionally active and deeply involved in her church communities, first at Lane Memorial CME church on Capital Hill and later at Albright Memorial United Methodist Church in Northwest Washington. She filled numerous leadership roles in both congregations and supported the national ministry activities of both churches. Her commitment of service to her church, her career, and her community as a leader, organizer, volunteer, counselor, and friend to countless families and individuals during her life of service is an inspirational legacy to be thankful for and to emulate.

But for the infinite wisdom and grace of God, Lottie's well-lived life could have been short-lived. In 1928 when she was an 8-year old little girl, she was run over by a train while playing near the tracks in Jonesboro. Amazingly, she survived this unimaginable accident in which she lost her left hand much of her left arm, and her left foot and much of her left leg as well. She completely overcame these incredible injuries, grew up with her siblings and peers successfully into adulthood in an astonishingly normal way, and never thought of herself as "handicapped" or "disabled." And neither did her family or her friends view her that way because she was as fulsome and vibrant and whole in function and spirit as any of them.

She refused to interrupt her desire and goal to achieve a full and satisfying life despite that horrible event or any other of life's big or small challenges. Her life should remind us all that "disability" need not mean "inability." She embraced love, marriage, motherhood, academic achievement, leadership, success, outreach, and friendship as natural consequences of her Christian faith and her God-given abilities. The doors to her heart and life were always open to others and, along with her husband of 52 years, she supported the lives and efforts of her sisters, brothers, nieces, nephews, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and great, great grandchildren, as well as the families of friends and others. All ate at the table of Lottie and Al and shared their home. All received the wisdom of her advice and counsel and, she kept them all in her unceasing prayers.

Lottie is survived by her sister Eva Mae Thomas, her seven sons named above, and their wives Aretha (Alvin), Janet (Jon), Lakita (Jeff), Gwen (James), and Benetta A. Chisholm-Wright (Charles). She was loved and will be missed by her 11 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren, and two great, great grandchildren. Lottie also was matriarch of an extended family of nieces, and nephews, and was loved dearly and will be missed by numerous friends, neighbors, and former coworkers.

The family requests that instead of flowers donations be made in Lottie's honor to Reading is Fundamental at the following link: <https://secure.rif.org/page/19541/donate/1>

To donate by mail please send a check made payable to Reading Is Fundamental to 750 First Street NE, Ste. 920, Washington, DC 20002 Attn: Development Department

Cemetery Details

Fort Lincoln Cemetery

3401 Bladensburg Road
Brentwood, MD 20722

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 9. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Marshall-March Funeral Homes - Prince George's County
4308 Suitland Road
Suitland, MD 20746
(301) 736-1616
info@marchfh.com
<https://www.marshallmarchfh.com>

Service

JAN 9. 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM (ET)

MARSHALL-MARCH FUNERAL HOME OF MD
4308 SUITLAND ROAD SUITLAND MARYLAND 20746
SUITLAND, MD 20746

Tribute Wall



“ *Marshall-March Funeral Homes created a Webcast in memory of Lottie Mae Wright*



Marshall-March Funeral Homes - January 04, 2023 at 07:12 PM



“ *Lottie Mae Wright*

October 23, 2023 at 08:15 AM



“ *To Jeff Wright and family, I'm truly sorry for your loss and I hope and pray that you and your family find comfort in your many fond memories of your mother, and peace in knowing that you did all you could to give her the best life possible. 🙏❤️*

Olivia M. Cloud - January 12, 2023 at 12:30 PM

BW

“ In loving memory of Mother Lottie, we offer our sincerest condolences to the Wright Family in your time of sorrow. Mother Lottie was like a second mother to us all and we will miss her dearly. May GOD surround you in comfort and peace, and may you hold and cherish the many memories of Mother Lottie as you navigate the days ahead. God Bless You.



From: Boshell P. White & Family

Boshell White - January 09, 2023 at 04:14 PM

SW

“ Sherri White-Black lit a candle in memory of Lottie Wright



Sherri White-Black - January 09, 2023 at 03:53 PM

AN

“ Mrs.Lottie Caring for you was truly an honor I thank God for grating us the time that was given. I'm happy that you are finally reunited with your true love Mr.Alvin Sr. & at peace. Heaven has gained a Beautiful Angel that we had the pleasure of having & knowing here in earth. We love you Mrs.Lottie

From: Andrea your Caregiver & Family

Andrea Nicholson - January 09, 2023 at 09:23 AM



“ *Beautiful woman inside and out with a smile that lit up the world. Thanks for all you did and gave .*



Eileen Littlejohn - January 08, 2023 at 10:26 PM



“ *To The Wright Family.
We share your sadness in the loss of your beautiful mother. Always remember the loving journey you took with her and her most contagious smile. We are thankful to have had the opportunity to know her.
Love and Peace to all of you.
Betty and Jay Johnson, Albright Memorial UMC*

Betty Johnson - January 08, 2023 at 08:36 PM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Lottie Mae Wright.*



January 08, 2023 at 08:24 PM

GF

“ Gracie M. Frazier purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Lottie Mae Wright.



Gracie M. Frazier - January 08, 2023 at 06:12 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Lottie Mae Wright.



January 08, 2023 at 03:24 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Lottie Mae Wright.



January 08, 2023 at 11:16 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Lottie Mae Wright.



January 07, 2023 at 03:02 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Lottie Mae Wright.*



January 06, 2023 at 08:17 PM



“ *From loving friends at Wheaton College purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Lottie Mae Wright.*



From loving friends at Wheaton College - January 06, 2023 at 02:17 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Lottie Mae Wright.*



January 05, 2023 at 08:17 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Lottie Mae Wright.*



January 05, 2023 at 07:16 PM

JM

“ Our heart is broken for the family at this most difficult time. We are so sorry for your loss. Please accept our deepest sympathies on your profound loss. It was always a pleasure for us to stop and chat with Mrs. Wright when she was enjoying her front porch. As you grieve, please know that we are remembering and honoring the wonderful memories she left behind.
Pam & Jake Major.

Jacob Major - January 02, 2023 at 02:49 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Lottie Mae Wright.*



January 02, 2023 at 02:21 PM

VF

“ *I never had the pleasure of meeting Mrs Wright .But I know her 2 sons Alvin and Charlie . You can tell the measure of a person by the people that she influences. And you could not ask for 2 more well rounded loving and caring people. So knowing her sons as I do she was one hell of awesome woman.*

Victor Ford - January 01, 2023 at 01:03 PM

GW

“ *To the Family of Lottie M. Wright:*

A limb has fallen from the family tree. I hear her voice saying "Grieve not for me. Remember the best times, the laughter, the song. The good life I lived while I was strong. Continue her heritage, she's counting on you. Keep smiling and surely the sun will shine through. Her mind is at ease her soul is at rest.

Albright Memorial UM Church will sorely miss this pillar of our church who held important positions in latter years.

Keep your hands in God's hands and He will see you through.

*Gertrude White, Certified Lay Servant
Rev. Dr. R. David Hall, Pastor.*

Gertrude White - December 31, 2022 at 07:18 PM

PS

To the family of Mrs. Lottie Wright,

One songwriter wrote, "Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal." My sincere thoughts and prayers are with you for the death of your mom, and a beloved member of Albright Memorial United Church. During my tenure as the pastor of Albright, Mrs. Wright was an active member, and a staunch supporter of the various ministries of the church.

Mrs. Wright was a living testimony of the goodness of God, and of His healing power. Mrs. Wright, along with her husband, the late Alvin Wright embodied the scripture, "Train up a child..."

In addition, may you find comfort in knowing that your mom knew that when "the earthly tent she lived in was dissolved, she had a building from God not made with hands, but eternal in the heavens,"

May God continue to keep you in His care.

*Sincerely,
Dorothea Belt Stroman, Pastor
Clinton United Methodist Church
10700 Brandywine Road
Clinton, MD. 20735*

Pastor Dorothea Belt Stroman - January 07, 2023 at 10:27 PM



“Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Lottie Mae Wright.



December 31, 2022 at 12:14 PM

RJ

“ To the Wright Family, Losing a Mother is losing a "best friend". We know that your grief is immeasurable and want you to know how much we care and are thinking of you. Remember the good times and all of the lives your Mom touched. Know that we keep you in our prayers. We love you. Rosa & Morris James, Neighbors

Rosa & Morris James - December 30, 2022 at 05:48 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 - December 29, 2022 at 01:58 PM

PG

To the Wright Family

The family of Edward and Priscilla Gay extend our prayers to the Wright family at the loss of your precious jewel. She was a special God sent blessing to our neighborhood and to the DC educational community. We shall always remember her labor of love for the children as she participated in the Reading Is Fundamental Program. Your mother has recieved her crown. Rest well Mrs. Wright.

Priscilla Gay - January 09, 2023 at 06:32 AM