In Celebration of the Life of

George Lillian Batey Jenkins

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Saturday, April 8, 2000
11:00 A.M.
Tabernacle Baptist Church
1223 Laney-Walker Boulevard
Augusta, Georgia
Rev. Otis B. Moss, III
Minister/Officiating
"The Lord is the Strength of my life."

I leave you love.
I leave you hope.
I leave you the challenge of developing confidence in one another.
I leave you a thirst for education.
I leave you the respect for the use of power.
I leave you faith.
I leave you racial dignity.
I leave you a desire to live harmoniously with your fellow man.
I leave you, finally, a responsibility to young people.

Mary McLeod Bethune
Obituary

George Lillian Batey Jenkins was born in Augusta, Georgia, the youngest of eight children, to the late Bertha James and Issac Batey, who were both baptized by the late Reverend C.T. Walker. She later married the late Raymond J. Jenkins, also of Augusta, and they were blessed with three sons. In the Augusta community, she was an active member of various religious, social, civic and professional organizations.

At an early age, George Lillian joined the Tabernacle Baptist Church where she served as a member of the Deaconess Board, Superintendent of the Sunday school, Past President of the Red Rose Auxiliary, Chairperson of the Vacation Bible School, and Founder of the Welcome Ministry.

A graduate of Paine College, she earned a bachelor’s degree in social science and was voted Miss Paine College in her senior year. She later earned two master’s degrees in higher education, one from Atlanta University and the other from Syracuse University in Rochester, New York. Subsequently, the University of Georgia awarded her the six-year certificate in psychology.

Her greatest desire was to serve the children of Richmond County. A true pioneer in the field of Special Education, she taught the first class of that type in Richmond County at Ursula Collins Elementary School. There she earned the prestigious Teacher of the Year Award for 1965. While serving as lead teacher at Fleming Elementary School, she furthered her interest in the behavioral disorders of children, and was ultimately appointed to the Child Psychology Department of the Richmond County Board of Education. During her distinguished tenure, she was featured in the Augusta Chronicle-Herald’s annual ‘Women of Today’ issue, and she was also the recipient of numerous commendations throughout her forty years of service to the children and youth of Richmond County.

George Lillian extended herself through volunteering at the Hospice Center at the Medical College of Georgia and the Sickle Cell Center of Augusta. Throughout her life she consistently counseled and encouraged youth; she founded and implemented a Values Clarification Program at East Augusta Middle School for at risk boys. For this work she was recognized by a commendation for Outstanding Dedication and Service for keeping with her commitment to at risk youth. She also founded the Gifted Young Men (GYM) at Lucy Laney High School. She displayed a tireless commitment to youth throughout her life.

In keeping with her commitment to enriching the social fabric of the community, she was a fifty-year member of the Debonairs Bridge Club and the American Bridge Association, Inc. She co-chaired the Augusta Chapter of Jack & Jill of America, Inc., and also served as its president during her tenure. George Lillian was a Life Member and Past President of the Augusta Alumnae Chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. In fact, she held the position of current chaplain at the time of her death. Moreover, she was a founding member and original incorporator of the Lucy Craft Laney Museum of Black History (Delta House, Inc.) which she cherished.

George Lillian was a lifetime member of the NAACP. She held memberships in the Paine College President’s Club, the Retired Teachers of Georgia Association, the Advisory Council for the Richmond County Board of Education, the Les Mademoiselles Club, and the CSRA Human Resource Commission for the City of Augusta. In honor of a neighbor, Marie Mozee, she was the founding President of the Neighbors United Organization of the Turpin Hill community. In recognition of her community work she won numerous accolades, among them the 1993 Senior Citizen Inspiration Award from the Senior Citizens Council of Greater Augusta.

She accomplished many goals in her life. But her ability not only to know the will of God but to live the will of God was her greatest accomplishment. Always looking to find the God in every situation, her life will serve as a beacon drawing others to Him. By all accounts, George Lillian was an extraordinary woman who never missed an opportunity to give of herself, and in so doing touched the lives of children, young adults, and the elderly in this city and in the broader community.

....A courageous servant, who loved the Lord!

To cherish her beautiful memories, firm resolve, and undying faith she leaves her three sons, Michael Jenkins of Washington, D.C., G. Mark Jenkins, M.D. of Dallas, TX, Myron Jenkins of Atlanta; one brother, Bland Batey of Atlanta; two sisters, Odell Mayle of Augusta, and Mayme Durant of Silver Spring, MD; nieces and nephews, Deborah McMillon of South Orange, NJ, Edward Fletcher of Augusta, Sheila Williams of St. Louis, MO, Mignon Morman of Atlanta, Darrel Mayle of Augusta, Donna Atkinson, Ph.D. of Silver Spring, MD; one daughter-in-law, Janell Jenkins of Atlanta; two grandsons, Jalen Raymond and Jamal Isaiah; great nieces and nephews; a devoted friend, Leroy Johnson of Augusta; and a host of godchildren, relatives and friends.
Order of Service

"Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives, do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled. Neither let it be afraid."

Moments of Meditation

Eugenia Toole Glover, Organist
Congregation

Processional and Readings from the Holy Scripture

Welcome ........................................ Barbara Hamp, Welcome Ministry
Words of Comfort .................................................. Dr. Richard I. McKinney
Opening Prayer .................................................. Dr. McKinney
Hymn .................. How Great Thou Art .............. Carl Boberg

Led by: Annette Taylor, Aliciadine Starks and Julian Miller

Scriptures

Old Testament......................... Joshua 1:5-6 & Psalm 27................. Rev. Inez J. Smith


Prayer for God’s Guidance .................. Rev. Otis B. Moss

Solo ......................... We Shall Behold Him ................. D. Rambo

Annette Taylor, Soloist
Artemisia Thevaos, Pianist

Obituary ................. Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring ................. J.S. Bach
(read silently)

Resolutions

Church .................................................. Wilson Rice, Ed.D.
State ........................................... The Honorable Senator Charles W. Walker
City ................................................... Commissioner Lee Beard
Community .................................. The Honorable Judge John "Jack" Ruffin
Neighborhood ........................................ Queenie Lawton

Musical Selection ...................... My Tribute ...................... A. Crouch

Julian Miller, Soloist
Sanctuary Choir
Order of Service

Tributes
Board of Education ................................... .James Dunn
Delta Sigma Theta .................................... .Margaret Jones
Red Rose Auxiliary ................................... .Freddie P. Jackson
Deaconess Ministry ................................... .Dorcas A. Bess
Welcome Ministry ................................... .Monica Moss

Musical Selection .................................... .Roy Jerome Williams, III
(great nephew)

Reflections
Physicians ........................................... .Andrew Mac Bowman, M.D.
Ronald Brown, M.D.
Friend .............................................. .Shirleene Ball
Surrogate Children ................................... .Traci McIntyre
Tiffany Tate
Christopher J.W.B. Leggett, M.D.
Leonard Starks, Ph.D.
Family ............................................... .Mignon B. Morman (niece)
Sons .................................................. .G. Mark Jenkins, M.D.
Michael Jenkins
Myron Jenkins

Musical Tribute ..................................... .G. Mark Jenkins, M.D.

Acknowledgements ................................... .Thomasina Ketch

Solo .............................................. .The Wind Beneath My Wings . . . .L. Henley & J. Silbar

Aliciadine Starks, Soloist

Eulogy ............................................... .Rev. Otis Moss, III
Pastor, Tabernacle Baptist Church

Recessional ........................................ .Ode to Joy .................................. .L. Beethoven

Interment & Benediction
Mt. Olive Memorial Gardens

Repast
Immediately following the interment at the Lucy Craft Laney Black History Museum (Delta House, Inc.) 1116 Phillips Street, Augusta, Georgia
Tributes

Mom

Mom you are a virtuous woman whose price is far above rubies. Your very essence is expressed in what you have done for others, not the least of which is me, your loving and faithful son Michael.

Throughout your life you taught us that it is far better to give than to receive. And when I really learned to give, I truly put self into perspective. That is the greatest gift which you have given me. The virtuous woman’s clothing are her strength and honor. Without a doubt you wore that clothing well. You gave me strength and helped me learn to live my life with honor and dignity.

You constantly opened your mouth with wisdom, and on your tongue was always the law of kindness.

What you have done for others, the victories you have achieved, the way you lived your life, giving of yourself, encouraging others, and praising the Lord, all convey your virtues.

Mom, I will always treasure you for what you have taught me. I will never forget the patience and encouragement which you gave me. And the one thing of which you can be sure, is that you will never be forgotten.

In loving memory.

Michael

Dearest Mom,

I am writing use the word this as a formal expression of my unending love, utmost respect, an complete devotion to you. I say formal simply because you already know what is in my heart, mine soul, and body; because you live in me and I in you. Therefore, I shall not be able to open to you an exciting new vistas of thought.

When I was young, you dressed me up and sat me out on the front porch for the whole world to see, but when I grew older you stripped me of those clothes and put me on my knees so that God could search me and use me. Therefore, the God in me is present just and only because of the God in you. Your life is a living testimony of what God can do, if you but trust Him.

God blessed me with wonderful musical talents, but you put music in my heart. The melodies of your deeds and spirit still ring fresh and sweetly in my ears and are more melodious than those composed by Bach or Beethoven. I may be the pianist, but you are the composer of the greatest songs ever played, because they were “Songs in the Key of Life”.

You provided me with the best education that faith could buy - from the best public high school in Richmond County to the private Ivy League school in New England, and finally to the best medical school in this land. Yet, you were still my best and favorite teacher, and the master physician. You taught me more about the heart than any cardiologist could ever teach me, by asking, “Is your heart right with God?”

Mama, in dying you have taught me more about living, for I have learned that if you can help somebody as you pass along, your living shall not be in vain. Everytime I wake up, morning by morning new mercies I see. Yes, I feel a little empty but I’m not hungry, because all I have needed thy heart hath provided. Great is your faithfulness.

So thanks for giving me life, but more importantly showing me how to live; thanks for giving me a heart, but more importantly for teaching me how to love; thanks for giving me a brain, but more importantly showing me how to reason; thanks for these arms, but more importantly teaching me to embrace righteousness; thanks for these legs, but more importantly directing and ordering my step humbly before God; thanks for these feet, but more importantly for showing me how to step out in faith. Thanks then, finally, for my entire body, but more importantly, filling it with the Holy Spirit as your breath of compassion, humility and dignity. And for these things, I give you all praise, glory and honor.

As I write this last sentence, with tears rolling from my eyes, my hand trembling, and my heart racing, I want you to know that in the midst of this pain, sorrow, and deep (so deep) sense of loss, that I can say what you have taught me to say, with dry eyes, a steady hand and a slower, stronger beat of heart: “It is well with my soul!”

Love, 

[Handwritten signature]
All Things Bright and Beautiful

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful:
The Lord God made them all.
Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors,
And made their tiny wings.
The purple headed mountains,
The river running by,
The sunset and the morning
That brightens up the sky.
The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden:
God made them every one.
God gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty,
Who doeth all things well.

Cecil Francis Alexander, 1848
WHEREAS, George Lillian Batey Jenkins was born March 5, 1926 in Augusta, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, George Lillian earned her two Masters from Atlanta University and Syracuse University; and

WHEREAS, George Lillian served as a member of the Child Psychology Department of the Richmond County Board of Education. During her distinguished tenure, she was featured in the Augusta Chronicle-Herald's annual "Women of Today" issue and she was also the recipient of numerous commendations throughout her lifetime; and

WHEREAS, George Lillian was active in a number of professional and civic organizations, including the Aiken-Augusta Alumnae Chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, the Neighbors United Organization of the Turpin Hill Community, NAACP, the Paine College President's Club, the Retired Teachers of Georgia Association, and the CRSA Human Resource committee for the City of Augusta; and

WHEREAS, God, in His great wisdom, chose to call George Lillian home for rest on April 2, 2000; and

WHEREAS, the family and friends of George Lillian may always remember and never, ever forget her love for each of them, her gentle touch, her kind words and her smile as she shall forever live in their hearts.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that it is with our sincere care and concern that we, the Augusta Commission, Richmond County, Georgia, send these humble words expressing our heartfelt sympathy. May you find comfort in knowing that others care and share your loss. And that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the family and friends of Ms. George Lillian Batey Jenkins this 7th Day of April, in the year of our Lord, 2000.

Bob Young, Mayor
Active Pallbearers

Michael Jenkins
Mark Jenkins
Myron Jenkins
Darrel Mayle
Leroy Johnson
Leonard Starks
Edward Fletcher

Honorary Pallbearers

Red Rose Auxiliary
Sunday School Department
Deaconess Ministry
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.
Debonairs
Les Mademoiselles
Neighbors United

Flower Bearers

Welcome Ministry

Musicians

Eugenia Toole Glover, Organist
Artemisia Thevaos, Pianist
Annette Taylor, Soloist
Aliciadine Starks, Soloist
David Yeh, Violinist
Dicky Fallin, Trumpeteer
Julian Miller, Soloist
Miss Me But Let Me Go

When I've come to the end of the road, and the sun has set for me,
I want no rites in a gloom filled room; why cry for a soul set free?
Miss me a little, but not too long and not with your head bowed low.
Remember the love that we once shared; miss me, but let me go.
For this is a journey we all must take, and we each must go alone.
It's all a part of the Master's plan, a step on the road to home.
When you are lonely and sick at heart, go to the friends we know
And bury your sorrow in doing good deeds, miss me but let me go.
God saw the road was getting rough, the hills were hard to climb;
He gently closed my eyes and whispered, "Peace be Thine."
The weary hours, the days of pain, the sleepless nights are passed,
The ever-patient worn out frame has found sweet rest at last.
Miss me, but let me go.

Acknowledgements

In Appreciation

The family wishes to express its sincere appreciation to all of you who have helped to ease the pain caused by the loss of our loved one. Your kind expressions of compassion and sympathy are blessings of relief and inspiration.

Arrangements Entrusted to:
The Historic Dent's Undertaking Establishment
Serving the CSRA Since the 1800's
When Only Memories Remain
Let Them Be Beautiful