



Edith Barnes

May 6, 1934 - January 22, 2025

Edith's Life Story

Edith Gadson Barnes, the fifth child of eleven brothers and sisters, was born on May 6, 1934, to the late Charlie and Albertha Gadson in Maysville, North Carolina. On Wednesday, January 22, 2025, at the age of 90, Edith slipped peacefully into eternal rest at her home.

Edith grew up and worked hard on the family farm. She was educated in the public schools of Jones County, North Carolina. She attended Winston-Salem State Teacher's College in Winston Salem, North Carolina where she received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education. Upon graduation from college, Edith became employed with the Worcester County School System in Maryland and relocated to Snow Hill, Maryland.

Edith's first teaching job was at Ross Street Elementary School in Snow Hill. She later became a fifth grade teacher at Snow Hill Middle School. Edith retired after 34 years of dedicated service. Edith loved being a teacher. She was known as a no nonsense teacher - if you were in her class, you were going to definitely LEARN!

After retiring from teaching, Edith volunteered at the Haven House After School Program. She was appointed to the Worcester County Library Board

and the Worcester County Board of Economic Development. Edith worked alongside her sister, Sudie, at the Sturgis One Room School Museum. Edith was also a member of the Maryland and Worcester County Retired Teachers Association where she served on the Hospitality and Scholarship Committees.

Edith became a member of Mt. Wesley United Methodist Church in Snow Hill, Maryland when she was invited to go to church with one of her student's, Luther Milbourne. Edith was very active with the Stewardship Committee, Church Council, United Methodist Women, Sunday School, and Vacation Bible School. Edith loved her church and sister churches, Coolspring UMC and St. Matthew's UMC.

Edith was preceded in death by: her parents, Charlie and Albertha Gadson; three brothers, Charles, Rudolph, and Douglas Gadson and two sisters, Mary Taylor and Sudie Gatling.

Edith leaves to cherish her memory: son, Kenneth; daughter, Martina (fiancé Thomas); two grandchildren, Kenneth Wharton, III and Kyle Wharton; great grandchildren, Amari Wharton and Keidyn Wharton; a bonus great grandchild, Amir Levi; siblings, Margaret, Joyce, Evelyn, Dasretta and James (Alinda) and goddaughters, Lauraetta Hurst and Torsha Cunningham. Included in those left to cherish her memory are nieces, nephews, other relatives, and dear friends.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 8. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Bennie Smith Life Celebration Center
901 West Isabella Street
Salisbury, MD 21801

Instead of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the WCRSPA (Worcester County Retired School Personnel Association) Scholarship Fund. Checks should be made payable to WCRSPA with "scholarship" in the memo field. Mail donations to Kathy Simon, 507 Douglas Rd., Salisbury, MD 21801. Each year, a deserving graduate/applicant from Stephen Decatur High School,

Funeral Service

FEB 8. 3:00 PM (ET)

Bennie Smith Life Celebration Center
901 West Isabella Street
Salisbury, MD 21801

Tribute Wall



“ *Bennie Smith Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Edith Barnes*



Bennie Smith Funeral Home - February 07, 2025 at 01:17 PM

LS

“ *MR.LORENZO&RENITA COLLICK SR. Sending Condolences , Prayers ,AND LOVE TO THE FAMILY*

Lorenzo & Renita Collick Sr. - February 09, 2025 at 10:08 AM

DA

“ *Dear Aunt Edith, we are going to miss you so much and the impact you had on the entire Gadson Family. Some of our most favorite memories were the summer vacations we spent with you, Martina, Kenny and the Gatling Family. Sherri and I absolutely LOVED the fried bologna and cheese sandwiches you used to fix us for breakfast every morning. Thank you for the love, the beautiful memories and your legacy. Daphne and Sherri Freeman (your nieces and daughters of your sister, Margaret).*

Daphne - February 08, 2025 at 05:29 AM

AL

Dear Grate granny. Thank you for me to be able to have a grate grandma. I am truly blessed, and i thank God for the time we had together. I will really miss you. But i will continue to pray to God for our family to stay strong and just remember the beautiful time we had together. You were not only a mom, grandma, grate grandma, sister, and aunt, but you were my greatest gift. I will never forget you!

Love Amir Levi

Amir Levi - March 06, 2025 at 10:36 AM

MW

“ *My condolences to Kenny and Marti and the rest of the family. I remember my mom and Mrs. Barnes laughing and talking in their classrooms or on the phone about teaching, family down south, and life in general. I don't think women like them get enough credit for the determination it took to be Black and educated when they were young. Thank you for all your hard work and all the children you educated. From Blanche's son, Mel Waters*

Melvin Waters - February 06, 2025 at 03:33 PM

LF

“ *Love, Your God Daughter Tasha and Family purchased the Rose Garden Heart for the family of Edith Barnes.*



Love, Your God Daughter Tasha and Family - February 06, 2025 at 03:31 PM

LT

“ *Mrs Barnes was my fifth grade teacher and a frequent visitor in Boxiron when my dad had his annual bedding plants for sale. She was my favorite teacher and a beautiful person. ❤️*

Linda S. Taylor - February 01, 2025 at 07:00 PM

RB

“ My sincere condolences to Kenneth, Martina and the members of the Gadson family for the loss of their mother and sister. I will cherish the memories of the time we spent together during our marriage. As Christians in Faith, Edith and I pledged to always continue a friendly relationship for the love of the family. She will be missed but not forgotten. Peace to the family.

Randolph Barnes

Randolph J Barnes - January 31, 2025 at 10:33 AM

MJ

My condolences to Kenneth and Martina in the loss of Ms. Edith. I had her as a teacher and looked forward to seeing her at church on Sundays. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Mary Johnson - February 01, 2025 at 06:49 PM

MB

My condolence to the Mr Barnes, Kenny and Martina. I will continue to keep you in my prayers

Michael Brown - February 06, 2025 at 06:21 AM

DS

“ *Beloved mother and sister, we love you. Will always keep you close in our hearts. Will never forget your sage advice and lively conversations. Rest well and be at peace . Sisterly yours, Das ❤️*

Dasretta Sapp - January 30, 2025 at 06:33 PM

BE

“ *Barbara Elbert lit a candle in memory of Edith Barnes*



Barbara Elbert - January 30, 2025 at 02:09 PM

LS

“ *I met Mommom Edith when I had her grandsons at my daycare. She soon became Mommom Edith to all the daycare kids. They looked forward to her coming to read to them. Im so glad to have got the chance to call her my friend. Your earthly work is done but Im sure you will continue in eternity. Martina and family cherish your memories and that will keep her close in your hearts. Love & prayers to all.*

*Love,
Lisa Shockley*

Lisa Shockley - January 29, 2025 at 12:13 PM

PJ

“ *Mrs. Barnes was my fifth grade teacher way back when. She was a beautiful soul and I have many fond memories of her. Sending hugs and prayers to her family.*

Patti Jackson - January 29, 2025 at 10:18 AM

TW

“ Tammy Waters lit a candle in memory of Edith Barnes



Tammy Waters - January 28, 2025 at 01:33 PM

TW

To the family I'm sorry for your loss prayers for your strength and comfort during this difficult time 🙏

Tammy Waters - January 28, 2025 at 01:34 PM

TW

“ Sorry For Your Loss



Thomas Widgeon - January 28, 2025 at 07:21 AM

BA

Marty and Kenny sending my Condolences

Brenda Ayers - January 28, 2025 at 11:19 AM

AC

“ Amanda Collins lit a candle in memory of Edith Barnes



Amanda Collins - January 27, 2025 at 08:30 PM

AC

“ *Marty and Kenny,*

I am so sorry for your lost. I will definitely keep you guys in my prayers. I've been in your shoes not long ago, and you will have your moments and you take as long as you need. I know you're gonna miss her dearly, just continue to keep her memories alive. Just remember that, "to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord, and I know you will see her again, she raised you right. She is now peacefully resting in the precious arms of the Lord. Lots and lots of love coming your way, and I'm only a phone call away, (day or night).

Amanda Collins - January 27, 2025 at 08:25 PM