



Madelyn Hollis

March 30, 1927 - February 20, 2025

Madelyn Matthews Hollis was born on March 30, 1927, to the late Pa Will and Ma Lil Matthews of Accomack, Virginia. She accepted her heavenly wings on Thursday, February 20, 2025 at Compass Regional Hospice, in Centreville, Maryland accompanied by her son Joseph Hynson.

Her earlier years of employment begin at a very young age, as her parents were farmers. Madelyn worked on the farm and in local factories. Her parents encouraged the family greatly to excel in faith and education. She was very advanced in her studies and was accelerated a grade level. She graduated from high school in 1943.

In 1944, she continued her education at Delaware State College. Her early aspiration was to become a cadet nurse, and she majored in chemistry and minored in mathematics while attending college. After further consideration, she decided that she would continue to embark on the journey of becoming an educator. Upon completing 4 years of studies at Delaware College, she returned to Virginia where she accepted a position as an elementary school teacher. She later earned her Master's degree from the University of Maryland in Baltimore, Maryland.

She taught 54 students in a single room, with the grade levels ranging from first through seventh grade. In a building void of electricity and other

necessities to give the students an equal opportunity to thrive, Madelyn headed fundraisers to get electricity placed in the building. She believed that she and her students deserved better.

She came to Centreville, Maryland in 1951, where she married the late Randolph Hollis. Together they shared a daughter, Mary Anne Hollis, who preceded her in death. She was employed at Kennard High School, which was the only Black high school in Queen Anne's County at the time. At the end of segregation, Madelyn continued working for the Queen Anne's County Public School system, teaching mathematics and science. In 1957, she became the head of the driver's education program. She retired in 1981, dedicating 33 years of her life to education. She was the first Black woman to serve on the Queen Anne's County Board of Education, appointed in 1985 following her retirement. Madelyn, also known as "Matt" dedicated her time to caring for her grandson, and the continuation of her education as she enrolled in courses at Chesapeake College. In her spare time, Madelyn enjoyed spending time with her family, socializing, traveling and joining organizations. She loved to read and she loved to learn. She prided herself on always being well put together.

Having given her life to Christ at a young age, Madelyn was a faithful member of the then, Charles Wesley United Methodist Church, which is now called New Life Community United Methodist Church Centreville, Maryland, where she actively served on several committees, including the choir, lay speaker, and coordinator of the vacation Bible school. Always willing to lend a helping hand, she cherished attending church events, Bible study, hanging of the reef ceremonies and many others.

Madelyn, along with others, founded the Martin Luther King celebration committee, which took place every year. She eagerly planned for this special day months in advance, relishing the time spent with her friends and loved

ones. She founded the Homemaker's Club and was also a member of the Kennard Alumni Association, as well as many other associations.

She was preceded in death by: her parents, William and Lillie Matthews; her husband, Randolph Hollis; daughter, Mary Anne Hollis; seven siblings, Edith Shockley, William Matthews, Elizabeth Elias, Orlando Matthews, Windell Fletcher and Raphael Matthews.

Madelyn leaves to cherish her memories: her grandson, Lance Hollis and wife Kenya; great-grandsons, Micah, A'hijah, Messiah and Josiah; son, Joe Hynson and wife Rosalind and Mrs. Hollis is also survived by generations of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends

SUBMITTED WITH LOVE ~ THE FAMILY

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **23**. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Queen Anne's County High School (Centreville, MD)
125 Ruthsbury RD
Centreville, MD 21617

Funeral Service

MAR **23**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Queen Anne's County High School (Centreville, MD)
125 Ruthsbury RD
Centreville, MD 21617

Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

Bennie Smith Funeral Home - March 20, 2025 at 05:33 PM



“ *Centreville Methodist Women sent a virtual gift in memory of Madelyn Hollis*



Centreville Methodist Women - March 27, 2025 at 06:44 PM



“ *Bernice R, Marshall R.Marshall lit a candle in memory of Madelyn Hollis*



Bernice R, Marshall R.Marshall - March 24, 2025 at 02:13 PM



“ *David Johnson lit a candle in memory of Madelyn Hollis*



David Johnson - March 23, 2025 at 10:00 PM

PW

“ *Peggy Wilson lit a candle in memory of Madelyn Hollis*



peggy wilson - March 23, 2025 at 04:21 PM

GB

“ *Gloria Bordley lit a candle in memory of Madelyn Hollis*



gloria bordley - March 23, 2025 at 12:28 PM

JP

“ *I had the unique opportunity to know Mrs. Hollis both as a friend and a former student. She always had a smile on her face and was never too busy to chat with you. Centreville lost a very special person with her passing. Rest in Peace Mrs. Hollis*



John Payne - March 22, 2025 at 11:38 PM

CS

“ *Carol Shockley lit a candle in memory of Madelyn Hollis*



Carol Shockley - March 22, 2025 at 09:31 PM

BW

“ *God Bless! Tony, Betty Whyte and Family!*



Betty Whyte - March 22, 2025 at 04:28 PM

GM

“ *Our deepest condolences to the family from your cousin Gloria Marshall Mathis the daughter of Rachel Matthew Marshall. Rest In Peace!* 🙏❤️🙏

Gloria Marshall Mathis - March 22, 2025 at 03:42 PM

LJ

“ *"PRECIOUS IN THE SIGHT OF THE LORD IS THE DEATH OF HIS SAINTS!" (PSALM 116:15) ❤️*
Blessings and Prayers To The Family! Ms. Raine (Philippians 4:13)



Lorraine Jenkins - March 22, 2025 at 01:10 PM

AH

“ *Alfreda Henry lit a candle in memory of Madelyn Hollis*



Alfreda Henry - March 21, 2025 at 06:12 PM

LD

“ *Lawrence Dunn lit a candle in memory of Madelyn Hollis*



Lawrence Dunn - March 21, 2025 at 11:50 AM

SS

“ *Sharon Smith-Lunn lit a candle in memory of Madelyn Hollis*



Sharon Smith-Lunn - March 21, 2025 at 08:00 AM

RR

“ *Ruth. Lee Ryans lit a candle in memory of Madelyn Hollis*



Ruth. Lee Ryans - March 20, 2025 at 08:57 PM

HF

“ *Helen Fisher lit a candle in memory of Madelyn Hollis*



Helen Fisher - March 20, 2025 at 08:56 PM

OM

“ Aunt Matt. What a life she has lived. The contributions she has made to our family and her community is immeasurable. We will miss our last Aunt. Orlando Matthews



Orlando Matthews - March 20, 2025 at 03:25 PM

JR

“ Janet Rochester sent a virtual gift in memory of Madelyn Hollis



Janet Rochester - March 19, 2025 at 10:23 PM

JA

“ What a legacy- great teacher and mentor to many!



Jane Anthony - March 19, 2025 at 06:35 PM

SC

“ Sally Massey Coursey lit a candle in memory of Madelyn Hollis



Sally Massey Coursey - March 19, 2025 at 04:56 PM

BC

“ Always had great respect for Mrs Hollis. She was a blessing to many.



Billie Carroll - March 19, 2025 at 02:47 PM

GC

“ Gene And Lynda Palmatary, Centreville sent a virtual gift in memory of Madelyn Hollis



Gene and Lynda Palmatary, Centreville - March 19, 2025 at 12:57 PM

RB

“ Robin Brown lit a candle in memory of Madelyn Hollis



Robin Brown - March 19, 2025 at 12:25 AM

SJ

“ Suzanne Jackson lit a candle in memory of Madelyn Hollis



Suzanne Jackson - March 18, 2025 at 08:16 PM

AR

“ *My siblings and I spent many summers with our dear Aunt Matt at our grandparent's home in Virginia, and we enjoyed many visits with my Uncle Randolph and Aunt Matt at their home in Centreville. We always loved getting together and enjoying their family gatherings and crab feasts.*

Aunt Matt, I will miss you dearly but will embrace the wonderful times we shared together. May you rest in God's arms in eternal peace.

*Love,
Audrey*

Audrey Reshard - March 18, 2025 at 06:37 PM

SO

“ *Scott Ousley lit a candle in memory of Madelyn Hollis*



Scott Ousley - March 18, 2025 at 06:06 PM

AR

“ *Audrey Reshard sent a virtual gift in memory of Madelyn Hollis*



Audrey Reshard - March 18, 2025 at 06:04 PM

JP

“ Janet Pauls lit a candle in memory of Madelyn Hollis



Janet Pauls - March 18, 2025 at 05:49 PM

IC

“ Iris Carter lit a candle in memory of Madelyn Hollis



Iris Carter - March 18, 2025 at 04:48 PM

WP

“ William "Rusty" & Geraldine Pauls lit a candle in memory of Madelyn Hollis



William "Rusty" & Geraldine Pauls - March 18, 2025 at 12:57 PM

JB

“ Jackie Brown lit a candle in memory of Madelyn Hollis



Jackie Brown - March 18, 2025 at 09:12 AM

TW

“ *Sorry For Your Loss* ”



Thomas Widgeon - March 18, 2025 at 07:40 AM