



## Mary Ann Jackson (Willis)

September 11, 1953 - September 9, 2020

Mary Ann Willis-Jackson, known to her family and friends affectionately as “Ann”, was called home on Wednesday, September 9, 2020, after a sudden illness caused her to go to Peninsula Regional Medical Center in Salisbury, Maryland. She was surrounded by her loving son, “Shon” and daughter-in-law, “Christina”. Ann was born Friday, September 11, 1953, to Fred Purnell and Anna Willis-Maddox, in Suffolk, Virginia.

Ann grew up in Bridgeville, Delaware, in a small community called Toddsville. Her memorable childhood experiences from Toddsville were revived when she attended the first Toddsville Reunion in 2019. As family and friends gathered around, her eyes lit up in delight, her head nodded in recognition of them and her magnetic smile revealed the excitement she felt. Ann often recanted her joy about the reunion, days and months later. This is a fond memory of Ann that we will always cherish in our hearts.

Ann attended Phyllis Wheatley Elementary School and was a graduate of Woodbridge High School, Class of 1972. After graduation, Ann worked as an Environmental Services Technician, at Nanticoke Memorial Hospital, and later in 1978, became a Machine Operator at the DuPont Nylon Capital Plant in Seaford, Delaware, until 1990, when she was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. Forced to retire, Ann battled this illness for 30 years, never complaining, or wavering in her faith, trust or belief in God. Even during her

illness Ann was a strong witness for the Lord.

Ann was preceded in death by father, Fred Purnell and mother, Anna Willis-Maddox.

Mary Ann leaves loving memories to be cherished by her son, Damoyne "Shon" Willis and daughter-in-law, "Christina" of Owings Mills, MD; one sister, Lavern Griffin of Seaford, DE; five grandchildren, Damoyne Willis of Seaford, DE, A'Keyra Harmon and Malique Willis, both of Ellendale, DE, Carmallo Santana of New York, NY and Dominic Murray of Owings Mills, MD; one great-grandson, Legend Lewis of Ellendale, DE; aunt, Mary Jane Purnell of Berlin, MD; two nephews, Damien & Courtney Griffin, both of Seaford, DE; brother-in-law, Kennard Griffin of Seaford, DE; goddaughter, Kendra Renee Anderson-Massey; godson, Jordan-Maddox of Baltimore, MD; god-sister, Whitney Pruitt; and a host of cousins, other relatives and friends.

# Tribute Wall

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“ To Mary Ann Jackson's Family,I am sorry to hear of her passing. Alice Williams and myself have developed a friendship with Ms. Mary Ann ever since she was admitted to the nursing home. Alice was my volunteer and she visited Ms. Mary Ann every Tuesday. We both Loved Ms. Mary. We are both very saddened that neither of us knew of her passing. We both wanted to attend her funeral. She meant so much to us. We will truly miss her but she is with her Heavenly Father and very happy. She never complained about anything and was always smiling. She had challenges most of us would not handle well let alone with contagious smile Mary had for all who entered her life. Alice and I will miss her dearly. Sympathy to the family With a Saddened HeartKaren Lazar

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**Karen Lazar** - September 29, 2020 at 03:31 PM