



*Gone
Home*

Lethia V. Jacobs Towns
1929-2013

In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you.
I go to prepare a place for you....that where I am, ye may be also.

Obituary



Lethia Vernetta Jacobs Towns was born July 3, 1929 in Burgaw North Carolina to Willie Henry Jacobs and Mamie Herring Jacobs. She was the first of eight siblings. Reared on the farm next to her maternal grandparents Arthur and Annie (Walker) Herring, Lethia retained a life-long affection for them, as they had cared for her during a childhood illness. Salutatorian of her graduating class at C.F. Pope High School, she went off to St. Augustine College. The love of her life was a handsome Montfort Point Marine from California — Henry Towns. Marrying Hank, she moved to Los Angeles, California and began her journey of excelling in multiple things at the same time. She was a loving mother to Rachel and Pierre, a supportive spouse to Hank, a career woman at the Los Angeles Police Department and a co-partner with Hank in the family business, Towns Auto-tronics. A modern woman and a Southern traditionalist at the same time,

in middle age she finished college as incentive for her daughter Rachel to start.

Southern tradition called, and Lethia — having spent her entire adult life in California — moved back to Burgaw in 1979 in preparation for her parent's aging. Placing herself as the only sibling in town, she became the bedrock for her parents, siblings, nieces and nephews. Lee/ Aunt Lee always knew the best food, local news, grand/parent status. She gave to us lovingly and freely. Unfamiliar with a retirement lifestyle, Hank and Lee busied themselves — buying a local business U Wash n' Dry and becoming active members of the Pender County business community. Lee joined many civic organization and served on non-profit and political boards statewide. She rejoined the family church—New Hope Missionary Baptist Church. Always with the same goal: giving to and helping others.



Her latter years were lived in grace. Although her health declined, she was not in pain. She maintained a smile and cheerful attitude. And God just slept her away. Her grateful mourners include adoring daughter Rachel Towns; loving son and daughter-in-law Pierre and Anisa Towns; granddaughter Rahsanna Allen (Ryan); great grandchildren Rodrick and Riley Allen. Hank preceded her by two years. Her inseparable siblings and in-laws are Daphine Jacobs Goodwyn, Willie Samuel Jacobs (Ann), Ida Gibson Jacobs, Hezekiah Jacobs, Ronald Jacobs (Maroline), Annie Jacobs Newell (Edward) and Shirley P. Jacobs. Oliver and Gloria wait for her on the other side. Teresa St. Mary and Delia Guzman cared for her like daughters. A host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends join to honor her memory.

Order of Service

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Musical Prelude | |
| Family Processional..... | Soft Music |
| Song of Comfort..... | Felicia Hankins Walters |
| Old Testament reading..... | Psalm 23 |
| New Testament reading | I Corinthians 13 |
| Prayer of Comfort | |
| Reflections: | |
| Mayor, Burgaw NC | Kenneth T. 'Pete' Cowan |
| Family | Tyrone Goodwyn |
| Others..... | |
| Acknowledgements | Queen Jacobs Faison |
| Obituary..... | Read Silently |
| Solo..... | Felicia Hankins Walters |
| Eulogy | Reverend Elbert Fowler |
| Mortician's Brief | Bob Dunn, Jr. |
| Recessional | |



Therefore shall ye lay up these My words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand,

¹⁹ *And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.*

²⁰ *And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates:*



“May the Works I’ve Done....”

American Business Women’s Association President
Burgaw Board of Adjustment
Cancer Association Fundraiser
C.F. Pope Alumni Steering Committee
Cousin
Daughter
First Citizen Advisory Board
Grandmother. Great-grandmother.
Heart Association Fundraiser
Mother
Minnie Evans Plaque & Birthplace Committee
NAACP Member
NC Advisory Health Committee Member
New Hope Pastor’s Aid Society Vice-President
Pender Adult Services Chair and Board Member
Pender County Christian Service Member
Pender County Historical Society Member
Region O Aging Advisory Council
Cape Fear Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging
Senior Tarheel Legislature Delegate
State of NC Dept of Human Resources Volunteer
Sister
Special Olympics Fundraiser
United Way Board Member
U Wash n’ Dry Business Owner
Wife

Bearers

| | |
|----------------|---------|
| Pall bearers | Nephews |
| Floral bearers | Nieces |

Appreciation

The town of Burgaw and our huge extended family have been a blessing to us during Lee’s illness and homegoing. The love and concern you have shown for her and for us has been warmly noted — in our own hearts and in the bosom of God, who rejoices at how well you do His will on Earth as it is in Heaven.



Interment

Herring Walker Cemetery,
Rhyne Crossroad, Burgaw, North Carolina

*^{2 S/}He shall enter into peace:
they shall rest in their beds,
each one walking in his uprightness.*

Isaiah 57

For we know that if this earthly tabernacle be dissolved, we have a building of God,
an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.



It was a lovely visit. Then it was time to go.