



Lucene Kirkland Williams Birch

April 27, 1926 - January 9, 2017

Lucene Kirkland Williams Birch, 1926 - 2017, went to her Eternal Rest with the Lord on January 9, 2017. A memorial service will be held at Holy Comforter Episcopal Church, 2015 Fleischmann Road, Tallahassee, FL on Friday, January 13, 2017 at 10:30 am.

Lucene was a passionate follower of Christ. Devoted in her love for her family, making any sacrifice necessary for a family member, she also ministered to anyone in need, especially to children, sick, disabled, and homeless people throughout a lifetime of service to others.

At the age of 9, Lucene accepted Christ as her Savior and was baptized. At age 14, God called her into Christian ministry. After preaching her first sermon at age 15, the church administrative board gave her a "License to Preach", beginning her 70 years of ministry.

In 1946, Lucene married W. Calvin Williams, a returning WWII veteran who was blinded in the war. Attending college alongside Calvin, Lucene earned a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Florida State University and a Master of Christian Education degree from Emory University. While studying for her degrees she worked in many areas of ministry to children and students, as well as ministering through music as a beautiful singer and pianist/organist.

After graduation, as Calvin served as Pastor to Bethel United Methodist Church in Tallahassee, Lucene continued her children's and music ministries as well as serving as the Pastor's wife. When Calvin died in 1963, Lucene was ordained in the Methodist Church and asked to continue at Bethel as the Pastor.

Lucene served for several years as the Chaplain at the Sunland Center at Tallahassee, ministering to the mentally and physically challenged residents. She was also very active in recruiting volunteers to assist at Sunland from many faith communities.

In 1998, Lucene began her service as Deacon at Holy Comforter Episcopal Church in Tallahassee including ministering to local nursing homes, schools, hospitals and women's shelter. In 2010, Holy Comforter honored Lucene with the designation Deacon Emeritus at her retirement celebration.

After retirement, even as her health declined and she was restricted to a wheelchair, Lucene maintained an active prayer and encouragement ministry, faithfully praying for loved ones as well as people in need whom she never met.

Lucene's deep love for God and for people was evident throughout a life of humble service. Her devotion to her family and everyone she served will be eternally in their hearts, as she will be cherished forever.

Her husbands W. Calvin Williams, Douglas Sims and Donald T. Birch, and her son Ronald J. Williams preceded Lucene in death. Lucene is survived by her brother Elgin (Helen) Kirkland, daughters Caroline (Bill) Jones and Lucy (Appie) Wells, son Michael Williams, daughter-in-law Joan Williams, grandchildren Andy (Tara) Williams, Becky Williams, Calvin Jones, Matt (Jen)

Jones, Derek (Michelle) Jones, Kate Williams, Ken Williams, Appie (Laura) Wells, and Daniel Wells, and great grandchildren Anneliese, Alayna, and Emily Williams, Apollo, Atreyu and Aria Jones, and Evelyn, Luke and Henry Wells.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Holy Comforter Episcopal Church or to Big Bend Hospice. Susie Mozolic of Bevis Funeral Home is assisting the family with their arrangements. (www.bevisfh.com 850-385-2193)

Cemetery Details

Bethel United Methodist Church Cemetery

1470 Bethel Church Road
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JAN 13. 10:30 AM (ET)

Holy Comforter Episcopal Church
2015 Fleischmann Road
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Reception

JAN 13. 11:30 AM (ET)

Holy Comforter Episcopal Church
2015 Fleischmann Road
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Tribute Wall

RW

“ *Richard J. Williams lit a candle in memory of
Lucene Kirkland Williams Birch*



Richard J. Williams - January 13, 2017 at 06:02 AM