



Mrs. Betty Burns

October 19, 1962 - September 18, 2024

Mrs. Betty Jean Burns crossed from one side of eternity to the next on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, in her home in Alpharetta, Georgia. She is remembered as a loving wife and mother and an educator with a passion for instilling a love of learning into others.

Betty was born on October 19, 1962 inside of a house in a residential block of Zachary, Louisiana. Her father, Thomas Raymond Wallace, Jr., was a pastor in the Methodist Church, and her mother, Maude Wallace, was a cafeteria worker in the nearby school.

The youngest of four children, Betty was brought into the world during an era rife with chaos and political upset, as the Civil Rights Movement pressed on throughout the United States. Six months preceding her birth was a bombing by the Ku Klux Klan at Lake Bistineau in Louisiana, just 4 hours away from the place she would take her first breath. These tumultuous periods in time would shape Betty's childhood, as she began attending elementary school classes at a desegregated school a few short years after Ruby Bridges was escorted into a New Orleans elementary school by U.S. Marshals.

Betty graduated from Leesville High School in Louisiana. She later attended Northwestern State University in Louisiana and Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma, where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Sociology with a minor in Criminal Justice. She then received her Master's degree in Special Education and Early Childhood Education from Valdosta State University in Georgia.

Betty met and married the love of her life, Freddie Burns. They loved and uplifted each other while creating wonderful memories with their children and living in Leesville, Louisiana, Lawton, Oklahoma, and Atlanta, Georgia.

While supporting the military community, Betty led the Family Support Group during Freddie's command of Alpha Battery, Second Battalion, Second Field Artillery. Her efforts earned her a Commander's Coin from the Fort Sill post commander. Betty also supported the community spiritually. She worked as a gospel disc jockey at the local radio station spreading God's word through music under her radio name "Sister Angelica".

Betty served as a social services tech for the Dekalb Community Service Board. Here she led the crisis treatment team in providing intervention and psychological services for children in Department of Family and Children Services custody.

In Henry County Georgia, Betty discovered her love and passion for teaching. Starting with a stint as a Counseling Secretary/Registrar at Austin Road Middle School, Betty saw the impact her presence could have on students in need of another gentle hand guiding them through their formative years. Betty sought her certification and began teaching independently in classrooms in 2004.

From there, Betty touched lives along multiple grade-levels, moving from Henry to Fulton County, from middle school to elementary school, and finally into Special Education Pre-school. She worked with teachers and parents to support students experiencing a myriad of setbacks preventing them from learning, and developed curriculum to give specialized instruction to students with a variety of exceptionalities. In 2016, she was selected as Teacher of the Year for New Prospect Elementary School in Fulton County, and in 2018 she served as an Exceptional Children's Week chairperson while in Forsyth County.

In 2020, when the novel coronavirus swept the nation, Betty walked away

from teaching. She then gathered the zeal she once put into developing curriculum and decorating bulletin boards into helping her grandchildren navigate the confusing and complex educational landscape caused by COVID-19. Though now in a spare bedroom converted into a classroom, Betty created the Grandma Academy and continued to inspire young minds with a love of learning.

Betty was an attentive and steadfast wife, a warm but fierce mother, a consummate professional and a beautiful spirit. She vigorously encouraged, educated, defended, pushed, pulled, promoted, and uplifted her own children over their years both before and throughout their adulthood. Her children were her passion.

Betty was an avid activist and talented writer. She confronted all situations that failed to support the common good for people. She influenced fairness and that influence will forever remain in the lives of all who knew her.

Betty is survived by her loving husband, Ferdinand (Freddie) Burns, III, her loving children: daughters Gelisha Taylor-Barksdale, LaToya Pope (JaEll), Teri Holt, Asia Blankenship (Seth), her sons, Ferdinand Alexander Burns IV, Aaron Holt, Brian Holt, and Gordie Holt; her grandchildren, Aiyanna Taylor, Briannon Holt, JaQuentin Madison, Jocelyn Holt, Zoe Willis, Zander Willis, Christian Holt, Kaiden Barksdale, Caleb Brantley Pope. Betty is also survived by three sisters, Raymonda Waller, of New Orleans, Louisiana, Ruby Marie Pitts of Atlanta, Georgia, and Barbara Johnson of Deridder, Louisiana and a host of nieces and nephews.

Friends can attend a viewing and visit with the family on Saturday, October 19, 2024 from 1:00pm until 3:00pm at the Northside Chapel at 12050 Crabapple Rd. Roswell, Georgia.

Please visit www.northsidechapel.com to share memories and leave

condolences to the family.

Cemetery Details

Cremation - Northside Chapel Crematory

12050 Crabapple Road
Roswell, GA

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **19**. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Northside Chapel Funeral Directors & Crematory
12050 Crabapple Road
Roswell, GA

Tribute Wall



“ *Northside Chapel Funeral Directors and Crematory created a Webcast in memory of Mrs. Betty Burns*



Northside Chapel - September 21, 2024 at 03:20 PM

VW

To the family, my deepest sympathy for the lost of a Queen. She resonated the true meaning of living life to build the kingdom. Her purpose for being an a positive advocate for those that don't have voices and the Love she had for her family is the heart of God. My God comfort and keep you and continue to shine his light on you..

Valerie White - September 24, 2024 at 07:11 AM

EM

Freddie, my deepest sympathy to you and your family. Betty's legacy will live on through the love and wisdom she passed on to all those lives she touched. May you find strength in her memories.

Essie Myers - October 10, 2024 at 09:55 PM

CS

“ *Corey S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Betty Burns.*

Corey S. - November 16, 2024 at 12:08 PM

AS

“ *My sincere condolences to Freddie Burns and Family for the loss of their beloved Betty Burns. May she continue to live in your hearts. Praying that GOD give you strength, comfort, and healing.*

Andres Saavedra - November 01, 2024 at 05:20 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memorial Slideshow*



Northside Chapel - October 22, 2024 at 11:50 AM

TH

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Teri Holt - October 21, 2024 at 12:42 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Betty Burns.*



October 18, 2024 at 06:16 PM

LH

“ Linda H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Betty Burns.

Linda H. - October 18, 2024 at 06:16 PM



“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Mrs. Betty Burns.



October 18, 2024 at 10:05 AM

TF

“ The Ruffin and Thomas Families purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mrs. Betty Burns.



The Ruffin and Thomas Families - October 18, 2024 at 10:00 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Betty Burns.



October 15, 2024 at 09:09 AM

EM

“ *Essie M. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Betty Burns.*

Essie M. - October 10, 2024 at 10:06 PM

FB

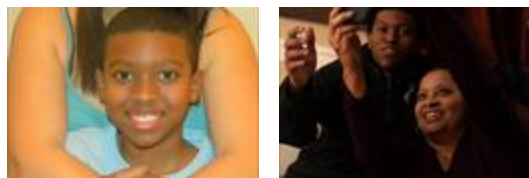
“ *1 file added to the album Just a Beautiful Lady*



Ferdinand Burns - October 04, 2024 at 07:03 AM

TE

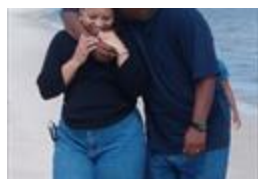
“ *2 files added to the album That's My Baby!*



Teri - October 01, 2024 at 06:10 PM

TE

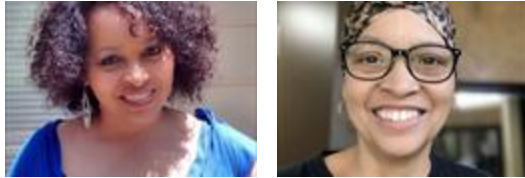
“ *1 file added to the album Betty & Freddie*



Teri - October 01, 2024 at 05:52 PM

TE

“ 2 files added to the album *Just a Beautiful Lady*



Teri - October 01, 2024 at 05:43 PM

DP

“ *Dear Freddie,
There are no words to ease your pain. I hope that loving memories
of your beautiful wife would help you go through this difficult time.
My deepest condolences to you and family.*

Danka Pancich - September 30, 2024 at 08:55 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for
the family of Mrs. Betty Burns.*



September 29, 2024 at 01:00 PM

DO

“ *David & Lori Olvey planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Betty Burns.*

David & Lori Olvey - September 29, 2024 at 01:00 PM

FB

“ 3 files added to the album *Just a Beautiful Lady*



Ferdinand Burns - September 29, 2024 at 10:10 AM

FB

“ 1 file added to the album *Betty & Freddie*



Ferdinand Burns - September 29, 2024 at 10:09 AM

FB

“ 1 file added to the album *Loving Grandmother*



Ferdinand Burns - September 29, 2024 at 10:08 AM

FB

“ 1 file added to the album *Teacher of the Year*



Ferdinand Burns - September 28, 2024 at 11:57 AM

TH

“ *I worked on this video with my Mom, sometime last year. Just a glimpse into how faithful and obedient she was to being a vessel for Him, even in her most difficult moments.*

<https://youtu.be/uHeUhkD3bZc?si=v9I-k8xbDjUcclid->

Teri Holt - September 26, 2024 at 05:48 PM

DJ

I've never met your mom but worked with your dad. This video shifted my religion in a BIG way and gave me so much strength and reassurance. God has gained a miracle Angel and her reach will be for ever.

Del Joubert - October 10, 2024 at 05:58 PM

TE

Thank you!

Teri - October 10, 2024 at 06:16 PM

FB

“ 1 file added to the album *Just a Beautiful Lady*



Ferdinand Burns - September 26, 2024 at 07:24 AM

TH

“ *I'm so thankful to have been able to spend so much time with you in my adult years. We surpassed mother-daughter and evolved into best friends. It's an honor to be an extension of you and to have inherited all of the best (and most stubborn) parts of you. Loving and missing you forever. ❤️*



Teri Holt - September 25, 2024 at 11:28 AM

JS

“ *I am sorry for your loss but I will keep your family in my prayers from Janice Scott*

Janice Scott - September 24, 2024 at 08:39 PM

FB

“ 1 file added to the album *That's My Baby!*



Ferdinand Burns - September 24, 2024 at 05:04 PM

FB

“ 2 files added to the album *She Loves Her Girls!*



Ferdinand Burns - September 24, 2024 at 05:04 PM

MP

“ *Many blessings of strength, comfort, courage, love & our condolences to your family. 🙏🧠❤️ from Marie Pooe & family ❤️👍*

🙏 RIP 🙏🌹

Marie Pooe - September 24, 2024 at 03:44 PM

ST

“ *What a beautifully written tribute to Betty. I hope all the love and happy times you shared with her comforts each of you during this difficult time. Prayers to all of you.*

Sally Thompson - September 24, 2024 at 06:04 AM

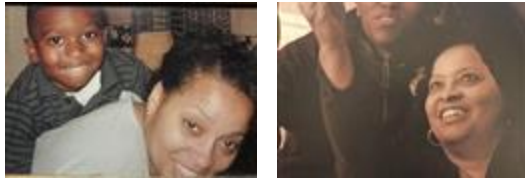
RD

Rev Joshua Dupree, Sorry to hear of your wife passing we are praying for you and the family. Weeping may endure for a night but joy comes in the morning!

Rev Joshua Dupree - September 25, 2024 at 07:25 PM

FB

“ 2 files added to the album *That's My Baby!*



Ferdinand Burns - September 24, 2024 at 05:28 AM

FB

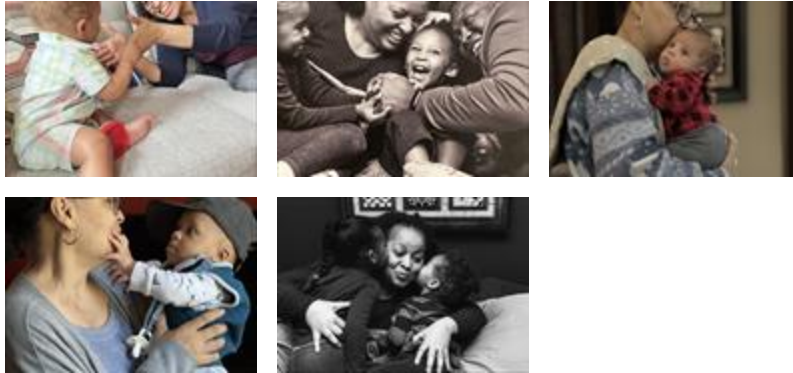
“ 6 files added to the album *Family Gatherings*



Ferdinand Burns - September 24, 2024 at 05:25 AM

FB

“ 5 files added to the album *Loving Grandmother*



Ferdinand Burns - September 24, 2024 at 05:18 AM

LH

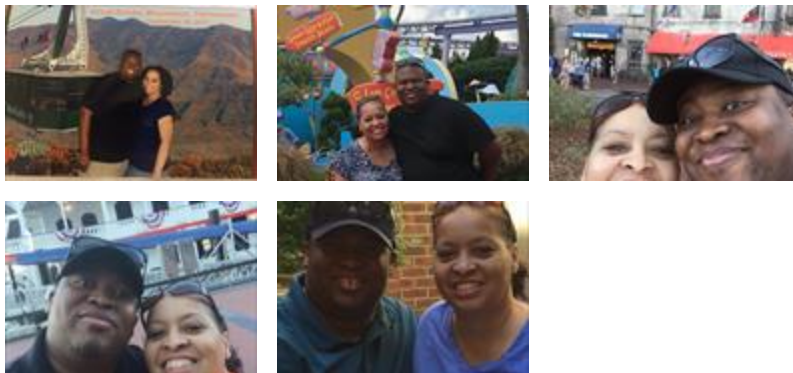
“ My heartfelt condolence's to the Burns family. May Betty's Loving and Kind spirit forever be imbedded in the Hearts she touched. Let God's Loving Grace cover her entire family, now and always. 🙏

*Linda House
Houston, Tx.*

Linda House - September 23, 2024 at 11:29 PM

FB

“ 11 files added to the album *Betty & Freddie*



Ferdinand Burns - September 23, 2024 at 08:42 PM

FB

“ 5 files added to the album *Loving Grandmother*



Ferdinand Burns - September 23, 2024 at 08:39 PM

FB

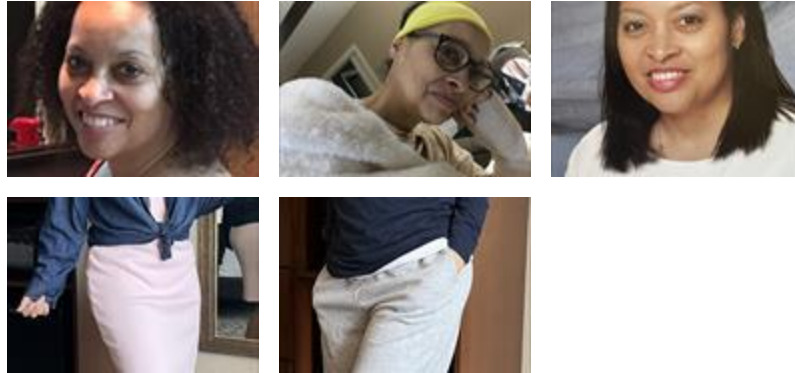
“ 6 files added to the album *She Loves Her Girls!*



Ferdinand Burns - September 23, 2024 at 08:37 PM

FB

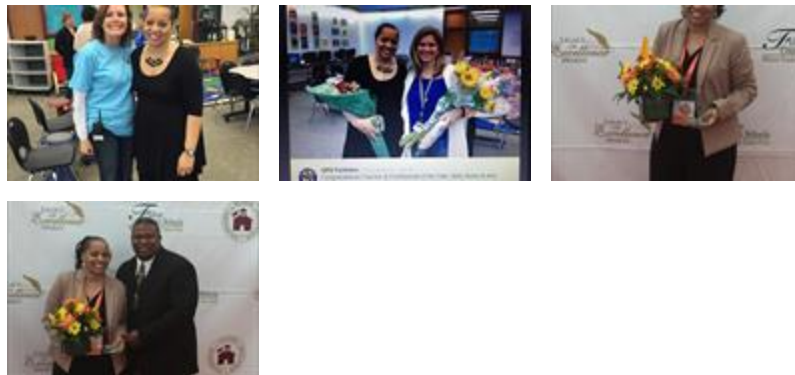
“ 14 files added to the album *Just a Beautiful Lady*



Ferdinand Burns - September 23, 2024 at 08:34 PM

FB

“ 4 files added to the album *Teacher of the Year*



Ferdinand Burns - September 23, 2024 at 08:24 PM

WH

“ *Betty showed courage and Love for others! She stood up for her "neighbors" against hateful racism and anti-semitic rhetoric. A lovely woman of substance! May her light shine through her family and friends and her memory be a blessing!*

William & Cheryl Hardison - September 23, 2024 at 08:48 AM