



## Gertrude Green

February 19, 1933 - March 5, 2022

Gertrude Tappin Green peacefully made her transition from this life to her heavenly home at the age of 89 on March 05, 2022. On February 19, 1933, Gertrude was born to the union of Beamon Tappin and Helen Hatfield in Collinston, Louisiana. Gertrude was the oldest of eleven children. She accepted Jesus Christ as her savior at an early age. She was baptized at the Galilee Missionary Baptist Church in Collinston, Louisiana, and remained a faithful servant for Christ until her passing.

Gertrude was educated in the Collinston Public School System. After graduating from High School in Collinston, she attended Grambling College, now Grambling State University. While in Grambling, Gertrude majored in Education and became a great teacher. Gertrude has a Master's in Education from the University of Toledo.

In 1956 when Gertrude graduated from Grambling, she went back to her hometown and taught in the Oak Ridge School in Oak Ridge, Louisiana. One summer, she and a friend came to Toledo, Ohio, on vacation; there, she met the love of her life, Willie Earl Green. They developed a friendship that led to a happy marriage for 50 plus years until his death in 2010. Gertrude taught at the Ella P. Stewart Elementary School for 25 years in Toledo. She was able to buy the five years she taught in Louisiana, making it possible for her to retire from Toledo Public Schools early with 30 years.

After moving to Toledo, Gertrude joined the St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, where she has been a faithful member since the early 60s. She was a Deaconess and served on the Board until her death. Gertrude loved her church and supported "all" the ministries in every way she could. She had a special love for the Sunday School, where she once served as Superintendent and was the teacher of the Adult #1 Class for many years. She was a member of the Christian Board of Education and the Matthew Circle.

Under the leadership of the late Reverend John H. McKissick, Gertrude was appointed chairperson of the Senior Citizens Project Committee. As committee chair, Gertrude led in the planning process to obtain funds to purchase the land and construct the building of the John H. McKissick Senior Complex. Deaconess Gertrude Green was elected the first President of the Board. After her term was over, she remained on the Board and was a faithful Board Member until her death. The Community Center in the John H. McKissick Senior Complex is named after her, in her honor.

Deaconess Gertrude Green was an exceptional woman that showed her love for the Lord through her active love for others. Her dedication to giving back to others touched many lives, locally and throughout the United States. She had an extraordinary passion for helping the youth to get an education by giving scholarships to children at various Churches, Fraternities, and Sororities (especially to members of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority).

Deaconess Gertrude Green wrote and published a book in 2002 titled "Stories, Testimonies, and Miracles from around the World" a collection celebrating "Faith," which includes stories from the many people she met while traveling. Gertrude enjoyed traveling; she traveled to all of the continents in the world except Antarctica.

Growing up in Collinston, Deaconess Gertrude Green could not go to the parish library because black people could not go to the library; it was for whites only. Now, by the Grace of God, not only was she able to go to the library in Collinston, but her book "Stories, Testimonies, and Miracles from around the world" is in it and is listed as the work of one of the prosperous citizens of Collinston.

Deaconess Gertrude Green was a dedicated member of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. She was a charter member of the Zeta XI Zeta Chapter, Toledo, Ohio. She has received numerous awards, such as The Zeta Phi Beta's Soror of the Year, President of the McKissick Senior Citizen Board, The Trail Blazer Certificate of Appreciation to Educator and Role Model, and she served as a Building Represented for the Toledo Federation of Teachers Union at Ella P. Stewart Elementary School.

Gertrude was preceded in death by her husband, Willie Earl Green, her parents, step-father Andrew Hillard, brothers, Nathanel and Breard Hillard. She leaves to cherish her memory brothers, Zachary Hillard of Collinston, Louisiana, George (Gloria) Hillard of Toledo, Ohio, Clyde Hillard, John (Dyan) Hillard, Eddie Hillard, all of Collinston, Louisiana; sisters, Hattie Hollins, Estella Hillard Brown, and Mary (Charles) Hillard Hobbs, all of Collinston, Louisiana; Goddaughter, Lorraine Shoto of Chicago, Illinois; special Soror, Celina Winfield; nieces, nephews, cousins, sorority sisters, and many friends.

Deaconess Gertrude Green was a Christian. She loved her church, Rev. Dr. James H. Willis, and her Church Family. She was a leader who at all times would let you know the Church Motto: "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths". Proverbs 3:5-6

# Cemetery Details

## Historic Woodlawn Cemetery

1502 West Central Avenue  
Toledo, OH

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 11. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church  
1502 N. Detroit Ave.  
Toledo, OH 43607  
(419) 246-2886

## Funeral Service

MAR 11. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church  
1502 N. Detroit Ave.  
Toledo, OH 43607  
(419) 246-2886

# Tribute Wall

DC

“ She was my 3rd grade teacher. I often asked other teachers over the years if she was still teaching. I happen to hear about her passing on the radio. Sweet spirit lady. My favorite elementary teacher. Ella P Stewart

Demetra Craig - June 11, 2022 at 11:18 AM

DB

“ Condolence to the family of Gertrude green she was my grade school teacher and she was very nice she treated everyone and the receipt upmost respect she would truly be missed

Darlene Boose - April 11, 2022 at 08:39 PM



“ Please accept our sincere condolences. Gertrude was a dear sweet lady who shared pearls of wisdom with her young relatives. She cared for the children and always wanted to know WHO belonged to WHOM. She always made her way to Galilee when she came home. She will be deeply missed. Rest Sweet lady. You were truly blessing.

Veronica Tappin - March 12, 2022 at 03:52 AM

BH

“ Gert was like an angel. She was always kind, positive and generous. You had to smile whenever you saw her because she was like heavenly sunshine. I know that she is now happy with the Lord.

Brenda Hill

Brenda Hill - March 11, 2022 at 08:58 AM

GJ

“ *May your heart find comfort knowing that your love one is at home with the Lord*

*Love Gwendolyn E.March Jones and Family*

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**Gwendolyn E.March Jones** - March 10, 2022 at 06:07 PM

SG

“ *My deepest condolences to the family of Soror Green. May God continue to keep and bless you.*



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**Soror Demetria Graham** - March 10, 2022 at 12:12 PM

SO

“ *Mrs Green was a wonderful, kind lady. She was loved by all of the students at Ella P. Stewart School as well as all of the staff. I loved her sweet smile and admired her gentle manner. She will be missed! ❤️*

*S Olson*

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**s olson** - March 10, 2022 at 11:46 AM

TF

“ *A phenomenal woman of God a legend And a true trailblazer ... We like to thank everyone one for the love support during this difficult time from The family of Gertrude Tappin-Green..*



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**Toledo Ohio , Bastrop Louisiana Family** - March 09, 2022 at 11:14 PM

MH

“ Gert was known a Big Sister to her siblings She will be truly miss never forgetting and always love 💕💕



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**MISSY HILLARD-BROWN** - March 09, 2022 at 09:47 PM

BL

“ We are deeply saddened at the loss of Gertrude Tappin Green. On behalf of Bobby L.Tappin and family, please know that we are sending thoughts of love, comfort and support. Be encouraged, because love leaves memories that no one can take away. God Bless You!

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**Bobby L.Tappin** - March 09, 2022 at 09:19 PM

GW

“ On behalf of Geneva Tappin Williams and family, we would like to express our sadness at the passing of Gertrude Tappin Green. When there are no words to soften the pain, may your spirit be touched by the love that surrounds you. We pray that God's Grace will see you through this difficult time.

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**Geneva Tappin Williams** - March 09, 2022 at 09:11 PM

BL

“ May you find comfort and strength in knowing she is in the presence of the Lord.

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**Brenda Loche** - March 09, 2022 at 06:25 PM

TM

“ Mrs. Green was a STAR teacher at sweet Ella P. She was so respectful and loving of the kids and families, will truly be missed.

T Mabrey - March 09, 2022 at 01:30 PM

NR

I shall always love and remember Aunt Gret (Big Sister) for her contagious smile and her warm and loving disposition. She was a God fearing woman who loved God and her family. She has certainly earned her 👑. I extend my love and prayers to her entire family and everyone who loved her. 🙏❤️

Nora Rogers - March 09, 2022 at 10:53 PM

MC

“ Aunt Gert wanted to see my first apartment. She said she like my couch and wanted me to take her picture.



Martha “Deda” Caldwell-Norris - March 09, 2022 at 12:10 PM

LO

“ Condolences to the family.



Linda Loche Odom - March 09, 2022 at 11:54 AM

PE

“ So sorry for the loss of your dear loved one. May you have peace and comfort from the God of all comfort during this very difficult time.

peggi - March 09, 2022 at 10:46 AM

LH

“ She loved her family this is her blowing bubbles with her great nieces and nephews on what's she called Cousin Day. ❤️



Lavista Hillard - March 09, 2022 at 10:16 AM

BD

“ My condolences to the family of Gertrude Green. She was truly a woman and God. And the best sister in law of all times. Betty Dallas- Saucer

Betty Dallas-Saucer - March 08, 2022 at 11:48 AM

LO

Gertrude Tappin-Green was a milestone legend to the Tappin family. A dear cousin who taught me always put God first. She loved God, church and family. Gert will be missed but now she is happy to be with the Lord. Linda Loche Odom

Linda Loche Odom - March 09, 2022 at 03:04 AM

JF

*So sorry to hear my sister-in-law Gertrude passed. She will truly be missed. She was a wonderful teacher to many. We will always keep dear memories in our hearts of our shared times together.*

*Clarenton & Janet M. Fitzpatrick  
Missouri City, TX*

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**Janet Fitzpatrick** - March 09, 2022 at 12:01 PM

JD

*I'm so sorry for the loss of my sister in-law. Gertrude was truly a great person and will be missed.*

*Jennie Dallas  
Summerville, SC*

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**Jennie D** - March 10, 2022 at 09:33 AM

ST

*Sis. Green was a sweet person. I met her when I joined St. Paul Baptist Church in 1986 and her and my late husband Deacon David Taylor worked very well with Deacon and Deaconess Board. R.I.P. Deaconess Shirley A. Taylor*

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**Shirley A. Taylor** - March 10, 2022 at 12:15 PM

DL

*Our deepest Sympathy for your loss. It is often hard to find the right words at a time like this. May you find peace, comfort, and all the love you need in the days to come. Cousin Gert was kindhearted and soft spoken.*

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**Dean, Brenda & Shanitra Loche** - March 10, 2022 at 03:33 PM

BB

*My deepest sympathy are with you for the loss of my best friend Gert. While there is nothing that can fill the hole created by the loss of your love one and my friend, I know that she would want you to think of all the joy, love, and laughter that remains in the world. I am sending you my heartfelt sympathies and condolences.*

*Bessie M. Brown and Family  
Milwaukee, WI*

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**Bessie Brown** - March 10, 2022 at 04:04 PM



*To the family of Ms. Gertrude Green. We were sorry to hear about her passing. We would like to extend to each family member our condolence in your hours of sorrow, and may God bless each of you.*

*Ed & Dot Willis*

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**Edward Willis** - March 11, 2022 at 10:13 AM