



Gladys B. Hill

March 17, 1927 - June 2, 2025

Mrs. Gladys Bernice Brown Hill was born on March 17, 1927, to Mr. John Brown and Mrs. Lucy Brown in Surry, Virginia. On March 17, 1946, she married the love of her life, Rev. Dr. Milton Lee Hill, at Mt. Nebo Baptist Church in Surry, Virginia. That special day was shared in a double wedding ceremony with her beloved sister, Elsie Brown Evans.

After the passing of her husband and her official retirement, Mrs. Hill became affectionately known as the "Mother of the Church" at First Baptist Church South Portsmouth. A faithful servant of God, Mother Hill loved people deeply, especially children. Her nurturing spirit, wisdom, and grace made a lasting impact on generations.

A true entrepreneur and businesswoman, she established the Hill's Childcare Center (HCCC) at 309 Woodstock Street. The center expanded to Portsmouth Boulevard and ultimately found a home on Elliot Avenue. For more than 50 years, Mother Hill provided care and guidance for thousands of infants, youth, and their families. Her legacy of love and commitment lives on through every life she touched.

Mother Hill also served faithfully in various church roles, including as a deaconess and missionary, and stood by her husband's side as the First Lady of New Mt. Olivet Baptist Church during his tenure as pastor.

She leaves behind a legacy of love and faith through her three children:
Barbara Hill Lee, Milton Earl Hill, and Benita K.E. Hill (Rev. Dr. Eddie Ellis, Jr.)

She was affectionately known as “Nanny” to her cherished grandchildren:
Monica Hill, Minister Mattea Hunter (Minister Bryan E. Hunter), Kevin Hill, and
TSGT Kendra Hill-Daughton.

And lovingly remembered by her great-grandchildren: Mychal Hinton, Zayah
Hunter, and Zachary Hunter

One of Mother Hill’s favorite sayings was: “If you have the faith, God has the
power.”

We thank God for a life well-lived—one marked by unwavering faith, strength,
and service. We also thank all who called, cared, visited, and loved her
throughout her life.

Cemetery Details

Greenlawn Memorial Gardens

3920 Airline Blvd
Chesapeake, VA

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 11. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

J.T. Fisher Funeral Services
1248 N. George Washington Hwy.
Chesapeake, VA 23323
(757) 487-3700
info@jtfisherfuneralservices.com
<https://www.jtfisherfuneralservices.com>

Service

JUN 12. 12:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church
1445 Centre Ave
Portsmouth, VA 23704

Tribute Wall



“ J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Gladys B. Hill



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - August 05, 2025 at 12:06 PM

VE

“ Earl, Barbara, Kathy~ Condolences to the Family during the passing of your Mother. I met Mother Gladys when Pastor Hill was hospitalized at Sentara Norfolk General. We chatted briefly about the Lord and the power of prayer. Mother Gladys was very kind and welcoming. The Lord will Heal..



Vanessa Edwards - June 23, 2025 at 12:45 AM

MM

“ I so much enjoyed seeing this precious godly patient of mine in her home. She always said, "Thank God for Jesus!" How sweet to think she is with Him now. My sincere condolences to her family.

Miriam Matson - June 18, 2025 at 01:36 PM

VD

“ Valarie Dozier lit a candle in memory of Gladys B. Hill



Valarie Dozier - June 12, 2025 at 09:45 AM



“ 47 files added to the album Life Tributes



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - June 10, 2025 at 11:07 PM

PW

My condolences to the Hill family. Mrs. Hill was a wonderful woman. A joy to be around. I will never forget her sweet smile.

Pamela Wood - June 11, 2025 at 09:08 PM

W.

“ W.A.Ratcliffe/Family lit a candle in memory of Gladys B. Hill



W.A.Ratcliffe/Family - June 09, 2025 at 09:22 AM

CG

“💜💜💜💜💜💜 It's so crazy because I just came to visit you on the 31st and you died 2 days later. Idk why I road past your house omw to dukes house, and something was just telling me to stop by.. you still remember me, lol.. u, mrs. Amlet and mrs. logan use to take me out for my bday .. stopped by a couple of Thanksgiving ago to tell you happy Thanksgiving and u offered me a plate.. you always made me sum chicken & dumplings..b I had a Pic of us when I was about 19 but I got locked out my old fb so I don't have it anymore lol but u was good ppls Mrs. Hill..out of all those ppl at south Portsmouth u & mrs. Connie was my favorite. Yall never treated me no differed no matter what ppl said .. 💜💜💜💜💜💜 R.I.P 💜💜💜💜💜💜

Chelsea Grant - June 08, 2025 at 02:50 PM

CC

“ Sending love and prayers to the Hill family. Mother Gladys Hill was considered a member of our family. She earned that status when she became best friend and travel partner with Aunt Bea (Watson) many years ago. The shared experiences are too numerous to mention but she was loved by us all. Her beautiful smile and warm, caring demeanor will always be treasured. We truly regret that we are unable to be there for her homegoing service.

Clementine Cone - June 08, 2025 at 10:22 AM

CC

“ As one of Mother Hill's "Day Care Girls", I was deeply saddened to hear of her transitioning. She was such a blessing to us as she cared for our children over the years and yes even us moms. Her love and care went beyond their daycare years, even into adulthood. To have someone so precious, so very special taking care of our babies meant the world. She was a true grandmother and her love showed in everything she did. There are not enough words to express our gratitude for the love and support she so freely gave. Mother Hill will be missed by many but the memories of the love she shared will go on forever.

To the Family, our prayers are with you all and may you find comfort in knowing Mother's love lives on.

Catherine and Gregory Jordan

Catherine Cherry-Jordan - June 06, 2025 at 05:21 PM

RF

“ Mother Gladys Hill was admired for the Christ-like way she lived. I have so many lessons taught by Mother Hill. I am praying for the family and the many individuals who are impacted by the transition of Mother Gladys Hill.



Rev Joyce Foster - June 05, 2025 at 09:25 PM

AB

“ I was deeply saddened to hear of the demise of Mrs. Gladys Hill. She was a stalwart soldier, and GOD gifted her long life on these mundane shores. How I will miss her holiday cooking. She was such a pleasure to be around, and her spirit was so comforting. Family, her soul had to move. She is done with the troubles of this world but has transitioned to a higher existence of a more peaceful life. Let not your hearts be troubled but believe in GOD. She will be missed in the physical form, but she is where peace surpasses all understanding. I pray GOD will hasten to give you solace during this challenging time. God is our refuge and strength. May GOD bear you all on eagles' wings and restore to you the joy of thy salvation.

Anita E Brabson - June 04, 2025 at 09:09 PM

MB

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Ms. Anita E. Brabson - June 04, 2025 at 09:04 PM

JT

“ *Condolences and prayers to the Hill Family. Mother Hill was a blessing to me. I will always remember the times when we would visit. She would always cook our favorite food--there was nothing like her Smithfield Ham. She not only fed us, but she would feed the neighborhood animals too. Love you a bunch. Joann Hill Talley.*

Joann Talley - June 04, 2025 at 11:51 AM