

Hiawatha (My Nell)

You entered my life unexpectedly. I think the loss of Mom hit both of us in a way that was hard to explain. Our bond occurred quickly because our foundation was already laid for us. Mom made sure I knew how special you had become to her.

Nell, you laughed with me, you screamed at me, you told me you loved me, you hung up on me, you gave me value, and you made me cry! We had a special relationship over the past 5 years. I really thought we had many more years together. Nell, you loved your family with a big heart. You were looking forward to Thanksgiving and seeing all our generations together again. We will carry on with your laughter, your spirit and your "This little light of mine leading the way in our hearts". Nell, you brought much joy to my life after I lost Mom. I know you thought you were getting things from me, but little did you know how much you were giving to me. Nell, it was great joy carry on Mom's work to the end.

The end that came too soon!!

I will continue to love
you to the end of time!!

Your Cousin, Renee

Acknowledgements

The family of the late Hiawatha Briggs wishes to express their most humble and sincere appreciation to the many family members and dear friends for their acts of love and kindness shown to them during her passing. Your telephone calls, prayers, cards, food, and other acts of kindness will never be forgotten, and you will always be in our prayers.

The Briggs Family

Active Pallbearers

Cousins

Honorary Pallbearers

Uncles

Flower Attendants

Friends of the Community & Cousins

Repast

C. S. Bennett Building
315 Hallspur Road
Hazlehurst, Georgia

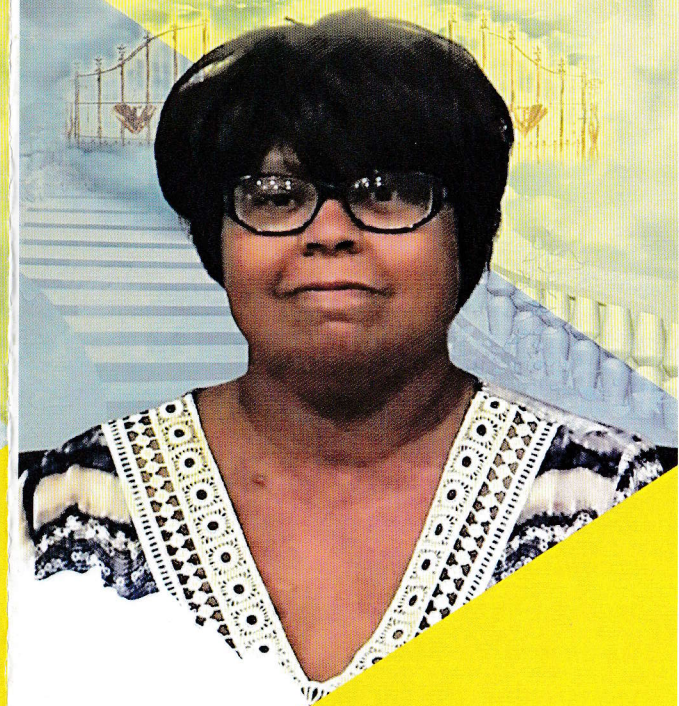
Professional Service Entrusted to:
THORNTON FUNERAL HOME
26 North Miller Street
Hazlehurst, Georgia 31539
912.375.2654
James Melton, Licensed Mortician

Program Design & Print by
K^RB Printing & Design
Kristy Ryals-Bennett, Owner - 912.367.9464

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Hiawatha
Chanell
BRIGGS

September 23, 1977 | March 25, 2022



April 2, 2022 - 11:00AM
FRANCES CHAPEL CEMETERY
MCRAE, GEORGIA

Nell's Life Reflections

*To everything there is a season,
And a time for every purpose under the heaven:
Ecclesiastes 3:1*

A Time to Be Born...

Hiawatha Chanell Briggs was born on September 23, 1977 in Jeff Davis County, Georgia to Sharon Briggs and Melvin Knox. She was raised by her maternal great-grandparents, the late Charlie and Mattie Bennett.

A Time to Plant...

Hiawatha (Nell) was educated in the Jeff Davis County School System and graduated from Jeff Davis High School. After graduation, Hiawatha continued her training and education at the Pineland Behavior Health and Development Center in Baxley, Georgia. After many years of living in Hazlehurst, Georgia, over 14 years ago, Hiawatha moved to Metter, Georgia. She started living in the home of a loving, caring, and Christian woman, Diane McNeely. Over the 14 years until her death, Hiawatha called Ms. Diane's home her home. Hiawatha often spoke of Ms. Diane as much more than a caregiver. Hiawatha treated Ms. Diane as her extended family. Hiawatha was a faithful member of Big Bethel Missionary Baptist Church in Hazlehurst, Georgia until she moved to Metter, Georgia. She would always visit Big Bethel, her home church, whenever she came to Hazlehurst to visit family and friends. She, loved her extended family, she loved being with the family for Thanksgiving, and all family gatherings.

She knew each family member by name and "nicknames". Hiawatha loved to laugh, dance, sing, and to tell her family members how she felt.

A Time to Mourn...

Hiawatha was preceded in death by her great-grandparents, Aunt Doris Jackson, and Uncle Keith Briggs.

A Time to Transition...

Hiawatha (Nell) departed this life to rest from all her labor on March 25, 2022 at her home in Metter.

A Time of Peace...

Hiawatha leaves loving memories with her mother, Sharon Briggs; father, Melvin Knox, Sr.; uncles: Jerrell Briggs, Marion Alston, Marvin Turner, and Vernon Turner; aunts: Flora Roby and Brenda Turner; special first cousins: Shatorra Holman and Angela Moore; a very special caregiver, Diane McNeely; special cousin, Sonja R. Thornton Hall. She also leaves to cherish her memory with a host of loving great-aunts, great-uncles, cousins, and sorrowing friends.



Order of Service

Processional
Soft Music

Prayer
Mr. Ray Bennett

Old Testament Scripture Reading
Pastor Henry Josey

New Testament Scripture Reading
Pastor C. D. Johnson

Reflections

Per the family's request please limit to 2 minutes

Reading of the Obituary
Soft Music

Words of Comfort
Pastor Reuben Bennett, Jr.

Acknowledgements
Thornton Funeral Home Staff

Recessional
Family and Friends

