



Ella May Mickens

DEC 21, 1940 - SEP 25, 2025



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Ella May Mickens

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Ella May Mickens was born on December 21, 1940, to the late Berzelius and Hazel Peterson of Baltimore, Maryland. She peacefully departed this life on September 25, 2025. Ella received her education through Baltimore City Schools and continued her studies at Catonsville Community College, where she took courses in social sciences and real estate, always striving to better herself and provide for her family.

Ella was one of eight beloved siblings: Cathryn Spencer, Bernice Moore, Helen Peterson, Leonard Peterson, Geneva Dunn, Pauline Thomas, Shirley Harris, and Maxine Vanlandingham. She was the last surviving sibling of this close-knit and lively family. Each sibling held a special place in her heart, and the bond they shared was a cornerstone of her life.

Ella spent ten years working at the Misty Harbor Company in Baltimore, a manufacturer of high-end outerwear. When the company closed its Baltimore location in the early 1980s, she transitioned to Saft Battery Company, where she worked for five years. She later pursued a career in home health care, allowing her to combine her strong work ethic with her compassionate nature. Her determination and dedication led to her proud achievement of purchasing her own home in Anne Arundel County in 1996.

Ella was a woman of remarkable strength, grace, and character. She worked tirelessly to provide the best for her family. Known for her vibrant personality and sharp wit, she could light up any room with her laughter. She loved sharing stories, engaging in heart-felt conversations, and offering a listening ear to anyone in need. Over the years, Ella hosted countless family cookouts filled with joy, music, and togetherness — moments that became cherished family traditions.

An avid reader and enthusiastic traveler, Ella found joy in exploring new places and spending meaningful time with loved ones. She especially enjoyed trips with close friends to Fort Lauderdale, family vacations to Emerald Isle, North Carolina, and visits to Virginia to spend time with her grandson and his family.



Obituary

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After retirement, Ella embraced a peaceful and faith-filled life. In addition to watching old Westerns and shopping on QVC, she was deeply rooted in her Christian faith, reading her Bible daily along with her favorite devotional, “Jesus Calling.” She was also renowned for her cooking — particularly her sweet potato pies, pound cakes, and pineapple upside-down cakes. Her holiday dishes were a highlight of family gatherings, bringing loved ones together around the table in warmth and love.

Ella was passionate about dance and brought joy to those around her. Strong and determined, she also had a generous heart. Her greatest pride was her children: Terry Smothers, Calvin Wilson (Tanya), Leonard Wilson, and Richard Witherspoon (Maria Isabel). She cared deeply for her grandchildren—Jody Wilson, Millicent Smothers, Christin Wilson, Xavier and Tariq Witherspoon—and great-grandchildren—Samuel Wilson, Taylor Smothers, Nisan Wilson, Naomi Smothers, Jade Wilson, and Kaidyn Witherspoon—actively supporting and guiding them throughout their lives. Ella May is also survived by a loving extended family, including many nieces and nephews who will cherish her memory.

Ella’s life was a beautiful reflection of resilience, love, and devotion to family. Her legacy lives on through the many lives she touched, the laughter she shared, and the love she gave so freely.



Events


Ella May Mickens

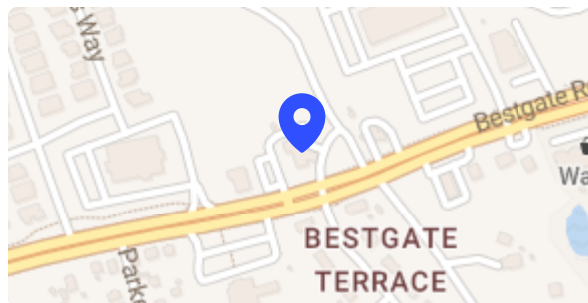
DEC 21, 1940 - SEP 25, 2025

Viewing

 **Wednesday**, October 15, 2025


 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET


 **Lasting Tributes Cremation & Funeral Care**
814 Bestgate Road, Annapolis MD 21401

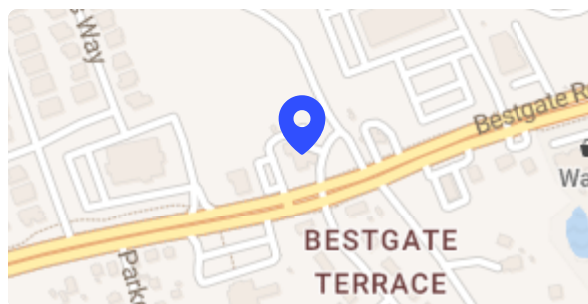


Homegoing Celebration Service

 **Wednesday**, October 15, 2025

 11:00 AM ET

 **Lasting Tributes Cremation & Funeral Care**
814 Bestgate Road, Annapolis MD 21401

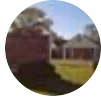




Tribute Wall

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Lasting Tributes shared a **Webcast Video**.



October 14 at 3:24 PM



Jody Wilson shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Hey grandma. I miss you with all my heart. Everyday I think about our time together. Thank you for being my best friend all my life. I hope I made you proud. LOVE YOU



January 25 at 3:48 PM



Merlene Ward posted:

Ella and I met in 1952 in the 7th grade at Harvey Johnson Junior High School in South Baltimore. We immediately became friends and continued the friendship until her passing. Although she had moved to another state, we talked on the phone at least twice a month. My fondest memory of her is the fun we had as teenagers, listening to music and dancing at the "Hole in the Wall" (a one room storefront where black teenagers could go to have fun in South Baltimore). I will truly miss her.

October 15 at 12:58 PM



Merlene Ward posted:

Ella and I met in 1952 in the 7th grade at Harvey Johnson Junior High School in South Baltimore. We immediately became friends and continued this friendship throughout the years. She was caring and funny. We had a lot of fun as teenagers listening to music and dancing at the "Hole in the Wall". Even though we didn't see each other often in later years, we talked on the phone at least twice a month until her passing. I will truly miss here.

October 15 at 12:42 PM



The Thomas Family sent a Treasured Lilies Spray to the Mickens family.



October 12 at 1:55 PM



Tribute Wall

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TF

The Thomas Family planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Ella.

October 12 at 1:55 PM



TF

The Harris Family sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Mickens family.

October 11 at 9:10 AM



T

Tamerill Faison posted:

My deepest condolences, to Calvin and the family. Ms. Ella was a delightful woman, with a gentle spirit. May God give you peace and may the sweet memories never fade. Ms. Faison (Neighbor and friend)

October 10 at 6:42 AM

T

Tamerill Faison posted:

My deepest condolences to Calvin and the family. Ms. Ella was a delightful person with a gentle spirit. May God give you all peace and may the sweet memories never fade! Prayerfully, Ms. Faison

October 10 at 6:40 AM

MR

Mike And Tonya Rogers sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the Mickens family.

October 9 at 8:02 PM



DH

Denise Hayes sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Mickens family.

October 9 at 2:45 PM

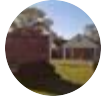




Media

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October 14 at 3:24 PM





Media

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Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Ella by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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