

*Earlene Gilleylen* departed this life into eternal life June 29, 2016 peacefully in the loving comfort of her home.

Earlene was born September 29, 1926 in Tupelo, Mississippi to the union of Nelson and Etta Brownlee. In pursuant of a better life her father moved the family to Mount Clemens, Michigan in 1944 where she was a lifelong resident. She continued her education in the Mount Clemens School District and was also employed by the same district until her retirement in 1981.

Earlene was a woman of God and a faithful member of Tried Stone Missionary Baptist Church where she sang in the choir. She continued her worship there until her passing. Although sickness took over her body; it never took away her praise and love for Jesus. She sang "I know it was the blood" until she could no longer speak the words. When she could not speak it, she hummed it. Hallelujah!

Earlene loved to cook dinner every Sunday before church and all knew to meet at 262 N. Walnut for family togetherness. A tradition that carried on for 30 years until her health declined. She was a woman of great strength and wisdom and always delivered her outlook on life in a very special way. There was no reading between the lines about what she had to say. She was a woman of kindness and generosity and her home was your home.

Earlene leaves to cherish her memory five children; Edna Brownlee, Wanda Brownlee (Johnathan), JoEmma Justice (Keith), Bobby Gilleylen, David Gilleylen Sr. Extended children; Cheryl Bolden (Steve), Teresa Wilson (Kurt), Carla Brownlee and LaWanda Wilson (Terrance). Two sister's Emma Tenner and Betty Miley, sister-in-law Loretta Brownlee and one brother, Clyde Brownlee. Thirteen grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren, 5 great-great grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and special friends.

Earlene is preceded in death by her parents Nelson and Etta Brownlee, children, Dorothy Gilleylen and James Gilleylen, 8 siblings Amos Brownlee, Jesse Brownlee, Adell and Odell Brownlee, Allen Brownlee, Ruth Baker, Ora and Flora Brownlee.