



## Ms. Milzella "Madea" Bennett

July 8, 1934 - July 19, 2020

Milzella "Madea" Bennett, 86, formerly of Peoria, IL, departed this life Sunday, July 19, 2020, at Heritage Health Care Nursing Home in Springfield, IL.

She was born on July 08, 1934, in Tchula, MS to the late Ollie and LouAgnes (Hemphill) Blakes.

Milzella confessed Christ at an early age. She was an active member of Star of Hope Full Gospel Church. In the church she served on the United Usher Board, and was a dedicated usher for over 20 years until she became ill which prevented her from attending church.

She worked at Methodist Medical Center for 17 years as a Environmental Service Tech, where she also received her G.E.D. and retired in 2004.

Milzella was a devoted, loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, great-great grand mother, sister, aunt, and cousin. She was a resourceful Christian who loved cooking, baking, and family gatherings.

Milzella leaves to cherish her precious memory: (2) sons: Claude Bennett Jr. and Kelvin Bennett both of Springfield, IL; (8) daughters: Mary Bennett, Alzenna "Susie" (Michael P) Bennett- Bolden, Velma (Floyd) Pitts, Brenda Bennett; all of Springfield, IL; Ora "Peaches" (Alan) Bennett-Waithe, Margaret

Bennett, Barbara (Sam) Bennett-Risby, and Gwendolyn (Melvin) Purnell all of Peoria, IL. (2) sisters: Minnie Hill of Racine, WI and Viola Hinton of Omaha, NE; (2) brothers: Levi Blakes of Omaha, NE and AJ Blakes of Chicago, IL; 43 grandchildren, 108 great-grandchildren, and a host of great-great grand children, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends who loved and will miss her dearly.

She was preceded in death by her parents; Ollie and LouAgnes Blake, husband; Claude Bennett Sr., (1) daughter; Rosezella (Shortee) Gibson; (1) step-son: Charles Bennett; (4) brothers; Ollie Blake Jr, Booker T. Blake, Elijah Blake, and Johnny Blake; (3) sisters; Littie Ann Mize, AmieBlake, and Louella Clark (4) grandchildren and (2) great- grandchildren.

A "Celebration of Life" service will be held Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at T.W. Parks Colonial Chapel at 11:00 a.m., privately. A public visitation will be held two hours prior at 9:00 a.m. Bishop Joseph Johnson of Star of Hope Full Gospel Church will officiate and Pastor Spencer Gibson will give words of encouragement. Due to COVID-19 mandates social distancing and masks are required. For those who are not able to attend the service online viewing is available via Zoom App ID# 635 986 7225 password: 8fvQHy.

Milzella will be laid to rest at The Historic Springdale Cemetery.

# Cemetery Details

Springdale

## Previous Events

### Visitation

JUL **28**. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

T W Parks Colonial Chapel  
201 N. Macarthur Hwy.  
Peoria, IL 61605  
(309) 674-6323  
<http://www.twparkscolonialchapel.com>

# Tribute Wall

MH

“ Continue 2 rest Mrs Bennett remembering u while I was Mrs Bertha L Williams.

Mendy Hughes - August 08, 2020 at 12:18 AM

CW

“ To the family of Ms. Milzella, sending deepest sympathies to you, asking God to give you strength to endure. Your Mother, grandmother & loved one was so sweet, she shared 3 grandchildren from our family, Shoron, Anthony & Ebony, & they're all so sweet natured & loveable like her. We the Randle family are praying for you & love you!



Catherine Randle Watson - August 06, 2020 at 06:25 AM

RM

“ Madea Was one of the Sweetest Woman I ever met. She loved Everyone & her smile would brighten any one day. Im truly hurt I wasn't informed of her passing. I will always carry a Space in my heart for u Madea. I remember her encouragement she always given too me during my difficult times in life. Before she left too go stay with her daughter Mary in Springfield she made me an Lemon cake from scratch its was the best Lemon cakes I ever had. My heart is heavy right Now cause I really loved Madea. My heartfelt condolences & deepest sympathy goes out too the family. Madea has her crown on now walking on the streets of Gold in the pearly gates of Heaven! I know she made it over & Got her wings.. I Love u Madea, One of your former usher from Star of Hope  
Roxanne McGhee



Roxanne McGhee - August 02, 2020 at 02:00 AM

TH

“ *My Sincere Sympathy To The Family of Aunt Jimmie. May God Blessed All* 🍷🍷🍷🍷🍷



---

**Trudy Blake - Hampton** - July 30, 2020 at 12:14 AM

RP

“ *To the Bennett Family sorry for your loss and May God's Angel's Wings spread around you all and bring you all comfort during this time of sorrow!! R.I.P. Ms. Bennett!!*



---

**Renee Linwood Peoria,IL.** - July 29, 2020 at 10:42 AM

VK

“ *To the Bennett Family - So sorry for your loss. I pray God will comfort & keep you during your time of sorrow.*



---

**Vickie Kingcade-King** - July 29, 2020 at 07:44 AM

TC

“ *The most sweetest, loving and compassionate God fearing woman that I had the pleasure of knowing. You will forever be missed Madea*

---

**Tracy Charleston-Blakes** - July 28, 2020 at 10:47 AM

SS

“ Heaven is getting a beautiful 😇. Just remembering when My Bigtee, (Late Mary Bridewell) & Mother Bennett being close friends, both ladies had Gorgeous smiles! Then later in life, working with Ms. Bennett who always always had kind words of encouragement. Truly gonna be missed, & will always remember that beautiful warm smile.



---

**Sandra Shettleworth** - July 27, 2020 at 08:30 PM

TR

Sorry to hear about the lost of my long time friend!  
We worked together at Palace Cafeteria for years.  
Worked at Methodist hospital also.  
She was so nice, Everyone loved Mrs. Bennette!She also loved them.  
I will never forget about her sweet Potato Pies.  
Love you Family.  
Look to the Lord he will comfort you.  
Much love !

---

**Tonnie Rutherford** - July 28, 2020 at 06:47 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ms. Milzella "Madea" Bennett.



---

July 27, 2020 at 06:30 PM

AL

“ Annette Lucy sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Milzella "Madea" Bennett



---

**Annette Lucy** - July 27, 2020 at 06:10 PM

MP

“ Nancy Pittman sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Milzella "Madea" Bennett



---

**Nancy Pittman** - July 27, 2020 at 01:45 AM

JB

“ Joanie Brown sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Milzella "Madea" Bennett



---

**Joanie Brown** - July 26, 2020 at 08:45 PM

L(

“ “Condolences” to the Bennett family from the “Porch’s Mellissa, Loretta Simpson, and Gloria Jean Smith.



---

**Loretta Simpson (Porch)** - July 26, 2020 at 03:50 PM

MR

“ *Mattie Risby sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Milzella "Madea" Bennett*



-----  
**Mattie Risby** - July 26, 2020 at 03:50 PM

SJ

“ *Such a sweet lady, Rest In Peace.*

-----  
**Shirley Johnson** - July 26, 2020 at 09:25 AM



“ *Someone so special can never be forgotten. Miazella were friends belonging to a social group & she was always fun to be around. May God grant you peace during this difficult time. Hugs & prayers*

-----  
**Evelyn Tate-Clayton** - July 25, 2020 at 07:11 PM

GB

“ *Aunt Jimmy,  
You will be greatly missed! We all love you so much.  
Rest well angel 🙏*



-----  
**Gale Blakes** - July 25, 2020 at 03:41 PM

BA

“ *So sorry for the loss of your mother. My deepest condolences to the Bennett family.*

-----  
**Brenda Albert** - July 25, 2020 at 01:16 PM

KC

“ *Kathy Collins lit a candle in memory of Ms. Milzella "Madea" Bennett*



---

**Kathy Collins** - July 25, 2020 at 09:46 AM