

***Pall Bearers***

***Flower Bearers***

*Eastern Star, Ushers, and Friends*

***Interment***

*New Canaan Cemetery, Camp Hill, AL*

***Acknowledgements***

The family of the late Mrs. Mary Ann Burks would like to express gratitude for all acts of kindness extended to us during this time of bereavement. A very special thank you is extended to Magnolia Place and Oak Park for the care and love given to her.

*“Give her of the fruit of her hands and let her own works praise her in the gates.” - Proverbs 31:31*

*“Well done thy good and faithful servant” -Matthew 25:21*



**Final Arrangements For Loved One Entrusted:**

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*National Register of Historic Places, est 1952*

*A Memorial Homegoing Service*

**Celebrating the Life of**



Earthly Entrance  
April 1, 1925

Earthly Exit  
December 28, 2016

**MRS. MARY ANN**  
*Burks*

Saturday, December 31, 2016

11:00 a.m. (CST)

New Canaan Baptist Church  
Camp Hill, AL

Rev. Justin Freeman, Officiating Pastor  
Rev. W.F. Smith, Eulogist

## Obituary

*“To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die...” Ecclesiastes 3:1-2*

Mrs. Mary Ann Burks was born in Camp Hill, AL on April 1, 1925 to Mr. Alford and Mrs. Levonia Chisholm Burton. She was preceded in death by her parents, siblings and several other family members. She attended school in Tallapoosa County and was later married to Mr. Vacher Burks who also preceded her in death (February 1, 2004).

She confessed Christ at an early age and was united with the New Canaan Baptist Church where she was a dedicated and faithful member serving in many capacities to include Sunday School, Missionary Ministry, Usher Ministry and Supervisor of the Sunbeam Band. She also served in the Ebenezer District as Congress of Christian Education Youth Director, supervising the Sunbeam Band, organizing the Youth Conference, and instructing an Association Class. Her work extended as well to the roles of Recording Secretary, Matron Counselor, and Vice President. She was instrumental in helping to build the Ebenezer District Center and in organizing the observance of annual prayer night. She served faithfully until her health declined.

She was a member of the Southeast State Convention, the Alabama Baptist State Convention and the National Baptist Convention, Inc. Her Christian mentors were Sis. Mariah Heard and Sis Lougenia Davis Ware.

Under the supervision of District Deputy, Mrs. Daisy Wilson, she organized the Wilson Pride Chapter 861 Order of Eastern Star and served as Worthy Patron for many years. She loved this organization.

She was also a member of Home Benevolence Society Lodge #17 and was an active member of the NAACP.

For many years, she was employed by Playtex Corporation and the Opelika Housing Authority. She loved to cook and was well known for her beautiful flower and vegetable garden. Her love and compassion for others guided her to the role of foster mother to Michael Eason, whom she loved dearly. Later

## Order of Service

*Processional*

*Selection ..... Choir*

*Old Testament Scripture ..... Rev. W.F. Smith Jr. (Psalms 90:1-10)*

*New Testament Scripture ..... Dr. Patrick Smith (2 Corinthians 5:1-8)*

*Prayer ..... Moderator G.H. Pulliam*

*Acknowledgements ..... Dr. Monique S. Gadson*

*Selection ..... Choir*

*Eulogy ..... Rev. W.F. Smith Sr.*

*Beulah No. 1 Baptist Church, Notasulga, AL*

*Recessional*

*“When my feeble life is o’er; Time for me won’t be no more  
Guide me gently, safely o’er, to thy Kingdom shore to thy shore.”*

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*Obituary Continues...*

in life, she became the caregiver for her Aunt Pearl and her spouse.

On December 28, 2016, Sister Mary Ann Burton-Burks, 91, made her earthly departure from this life at Oak Park Nursing Home. Surviving relatives include: one daughter, Mrs. Carolyn (Rev. W.F.) Smith of Opelika, AL; 3 grandchildren, Rev. Willie F. Smith, Jr. of Opelika, AL, Dr. Monique (Jerome) Gadson of McDonough, GA, Dr. Patrick (Dr. Johnelle) Smith of Boston, MA; 4 great grandchildren, Imani and Nia Gadson, Gabrielle and Caleb Smith, one foster son, Michael Eason of Camp Hill, AL ; a special friend, Ms. Sara Goodman of Camp Hill, AL; extended grand children, Christopher, Jeana, Chris, and Miles Thomas; nieces, nephews, and others.