



## Ms. Ethel Mae Carpenter

February 16, 1937 - February 12, 2026

Ethel Mae Hughes was born on January 16, 1937, to the union of Eva Rogers-Hughes and Jeff Hughes in Benevola, Pickens County, Alabama. Ethel received her formal education at Summerville Industrial High School in Aliceville, AL graduating May 19, 1955. She furthered her education at Milwaukee Area Technical College, earning her licensed practical nursing degree. She also earned her bachelor's in education from Carthage College on May 15, 1972.

Ethel accepted Christ as her Savior at an early age and united with Mt. Moriah CME Church in Benevola, AL. After relocating to Milwaukee, WI, she united with St. Matthew CME Church where she served as a member of the Ida Mae Black Missionary Society and Ora Taylor Circle.

On September 19, 1956, Ethel Mae Hughes united in holy matrimony with Joseph Carpenter in Billings, Montana. Their union was blessed with three children.

Ethel was employed by Milwaukee Public Schools as an elementary education teacher for 40 years until her retirement in June 2012. In her free time, she enjoyed traveling with her brother, Louis Hughes, to Masonic conventions and vacationing with her children at various timeshare destinations. She also cherished visiting family and friends for reunions and

special gatherings. Ethel Mae especially loved taking casino trips with Carrie, Corey, Adele, and Ken-she really enjoyed gambling.

Ethel Mae Carpenter departed this life on February 12, 2026.

She was preceded in death by her: parents, Eva and Jeff Hughes; husband, Joseph Carpenter Jr.; son, Martin D. Carpenter; brothers, Irving, Ovet, JC, Louis, Joe, and Ira Hughes; sisters, Minnie Hughes and Susie Bonner; and nieces, Adele Kamau and Carrie Odom.

She leaves to cherish her memory: daughter, Brenda Carpenter- Mathews of Lorton, VA; son, Richard Carpenter of Milwaukee, WI; stepdaughter Corolvn V. Coleman of Hartford, CT; sister, Dorothy M.

Parham of Bellwood, IL; sisters-in-law, Elizabeth Hughes of Milwaukee, WI and Thelma Williams (Nathan) of Montgomery, AL; grandchildren, Briana Carpenter, Toussaint Carpenter (Jasmina), Malik Carpenter, Iriana Matthews, Joseph G. Carpenter, Prominence Sangster (David), Crystal Coleman, and Ashley Coleman; great-grandchildren. Kenya Marigny, Koko Blackhawk, Ava Coleman, and Bryce Coleman; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends.

# Cemetery Details

## Wisconsin Memorial Park

13235 W. Capitol Dr.  
Brookfield, WI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **26**. 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM (CT)

Wisconsin Memorial Park "Chapel of Chimes"  
13235 W. Capitol Dr.  
Brookfield, WI

## Funeral Service

FEB **26**. 1:30 PM (CT)

Wisconsin Memorial Park "Chapel of Chimes"  
13235 W. Capitol Dr.  
Brookfield, WI

# Tribute Wall



“ *My deepest condolences to the Carpenter family. Mrs. Carpenter was a phenomenal God fearing woman, and she was also the grandmother to my eldest child. I pray the Lord binds up the brokenhearted. Knowing to be absent in the body is to be present with the Lord. May the God we serve that gives us a peace that surpasses all understanding will continue to cover this family as they move forward with the homecoming of Mrs. Ethel carpenter. God bless ❤️ Tasha K.*



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**Natasha Kimble** - February 25 at 06:48 PM

HB

*To the Carpenter Family, My deepest sympathy to the entire family. Aunt Ethel was a jewel and her sweet smile will always be remembered. Rest on In peace.*

*Jean Bonner  
Centre. Al*

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**Henri Jean Bonner** - February 25 at 08:41 PM