



Mrs. Gloria Ford Gilmer

June 28, 1928 - August 25, 2021

Gloria Ford Gilmer, 93, walked peacefully into eternity on Wednesday, August 25, 2021. She was the beloved mother of Jay Gilmer and Jill Gilmer. She is also survived by two grandchildren, Sarah Gilmer and James Gilmer; one niece, Cynthia Blackmon; one nephew, Alan Goens, and a host of loving cousins, colleagues and friends.

A native of Baltimore, Maryland, Gloria Gilmer moved to Madison, Wisconsin in 1957 where she met her future husband, the late Jay Gilmer of Milwaukee. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from Morgan State University, a Master of Arts in Mathematics from the University of Pennsylvania, and a PhD in Curriculum and Instruction from Marquette University.

Gloria Gilmer became the first African American to teach high school math in the Milwaukee Public Schools, the first African American on the math faculty at Milwaukee Area Technical College and the first African American lecturer in the math department at the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee. She also taught at six historically black colleges, including Morehouse College and Clark-Atlanta University. She is a pioneer in the field of Ethnomathematics.

Cemetery Details

Northwest Cremation Services

6630 W. Hampton Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53218

Previous Events

Visitation Only

SEP 4. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Northwest Funeral Chapel
6630 W. Hampton Ave
Milwaukee, WI

Tribute Wall

VP

“ *Jill and I have been friends since 1st grade. Certain people enter our life at the perfect time for the most beautiful reasons, and you know right away it was a gift from God. This definitely applied to Dr. Gilmer.*

Over the years, Dr. Gilmer became my second mother figure. She engaged me in conversation during childhood sleepovers and play dates. She allowed me to accompany Jill on a memorable trip to Greenlake, WI. Later, as a Howard University student I was invited to the Gilmer's Maryland house (and her Mother's Baltimore home) for Thanksgiving holidays. As an adult, Dr. Gilmer never hesitated to call me just to say hello and chat for an hour. Shortly after sharing I was getting married, Dr. Gilmer hosted an engagement party for me at her sister's Baltimore home. She mailed me the party pictures afterwards. So sweet! Years later she entrusted me with the care of her ailing sister and taking her to doctor appointments.

My most recent memory is Dr. Gilmer's surprise Maryland visit about ten years ago. Dr. Gilmer accompanied me to the office where she held court with my fellow co-workers discussing current event topics. She was a very popular office visitor! Over the many years, Dr. Gilmer dispensed wisdom, taught life lessons, showed kindness and humbled me by showing an interest in my life.

All the while I was blessed to be in the orbit of a phenomenal woman!

From Valerie Prince

Valerie Prince - August 28, 2021 at 04:05 AM

JS

My dad introduced me to jail when I was like 14 years old Jill and I and J hung out back when I was a little girl and as the years went on WE reconnected later on and I was in Milwaukee for a while and Joe help me out treated me very nice and I we went to dinner and went to a get-togethers I'm mrs. Gilmore I work for her little bit as a personal assistant she was very very demanding as well as did you get it together Jill Sanders and they way they're both lovely and love them both Jill Gilmore and her mom and so sorry Gloria Gilmore rest in peace God bless Jill Sanders

Jill sanders - September 03, 2021 at 03:27 PM