



Phyllis Wilson-Bigham

November 3, 1931 - December 19, 2022

IN MEMORY OF:

Phyllis Wilson-Bigham

Serving Location:

CRAIN FUNERAL HOME – TAMMS

420 Front Street, Tamms, Illinois

Phyllis Wilson Bigham, Olive Branch, Illinois, has passed away at the age of 91.

Phyllis was born to the Rev. James Amos Lowe and Sylvia (Miller) Lowe on November 3, 1931. At the age of 6 months, Phyllis lost her father in a tragic house fire.

She graduated from Thebes Illinois High School in 1949. In that same year she married Charles Wilson. In 1952, their only child, Lana, was born. They were married for 66 years.

In 1950, Phyllis began her career with the United States Department of

Agriculture's, Farm Service Agency, located in Alexander County, Illinois. She retired after 40 years of service, gaining state and national recognition for her work and many accomplishments.

Phyllis' life was dedicated to her faith and her church. At age 15, she became the church pianist at the Trinity Assembly of God Church in Olive Branch. She served in this position for the next 73 years. She played piano for other churches as needed including church revivals, weddings, funerals as well as for several local gospel quartets. Phyllis served as a Sunday School teacher, youth leader, choir director, and as a member of the Women's Ministries.

She will be remembered for her music, smile, kindness, and willingness to help others.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother James (who died at the age of 10), and her husband Charles Wilson.

She is also survived by her daughter Lana (Larry); grandsons James and Brad (Nicole); great grandchildren Ashley (Adam), Alec, Anthony, Willa, Lars; and great-great grandson Merric; and sister Lou Dean, and her second husband Joe.

The funeral and burial are private.

A Celebration of Life will be held for family and friends at a later date. Crain Funeral Home in Tamms in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ *Phyllis Wilson-Bigham*

October 23, 2023 at 06:26 AM



“ *Lana I love you and sorry for your loss, you have been special to me just like your momma was. She was so patient with me trying to teach me to chord the right way on the piano. Thank you for always being sweet to me even though I was younger. My momma and yours were best friends and I appreciate you both being there. My love, prayers and condolences are there for you and your family. I love you. Love Deb* ❤️



Debbie Julian - January 15, 2023 at 05:56 PM



“ *Debbie Julian lit a candle in memory of Phyllis Wilson-Bigham*



Debbie Julian - January 15, 2023 at 05:50 PM

WC

“ I met Phyllis way back in 1967 just a few weeks after I was married. When I went to church with my husband for the first time, the music started playing and I had never heard such beautiful piano music in my life. I had learned to play a few songs. But THIS? I remember my prayer asking God to teach me to play like this lady did. I brag on Phyllis as being my mentor - I felt like she really was. I learned a lot from her - not only with music, but she was a wonderful witness of how a true child of God should portray himself or herself. She was a presence for the entire community for many years. If there was a funeral, chances are, Phyllis Wilson would be the pianist for the service. I am praying for strength and comfort for Lana, her family and all those who feel the impact of such a great loss of a great lady. Your Mom is in good hands, Lana. And you will see her again. Thank you for sharing her with me and so many others. I wish I were able to travel to support the family, but you are in my prayers. A poem, "If You Could See Me Now" says "you wouldn't shed a tear... " This beautifully written work has brought comfort to me many times over the last few years. You can find it on Google. Congratulations on your graduation, Phyllis. You are in the presence of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Thank you for blessing so many people!

Wendy Coleson - December 29, 2022 at 12:21 AM

IB

“ Phyllis played piano at Olive Branch Assembly of God when i was a child. Even then you could see the glow of the holy spirit on her life. I loved her talent and smile and faith. She came and took me and my brothers and sisters to Bible school one summer. It was wonderful and only time i had to attend. I called her about 10 years ago and thanked her. She was a wonder and blessing to me. You had a great mom Lana. God bless you and yours in this time of sorrow.

Ida Masterson Britt - December 28, 2022 at 02:12 PM

DM

“ Lana, so sorry to hear of your mother's passing. Prayers for the Lord's comfort and strength at this time of saddeness.

Douglas Miller - December 28, 2022 at 09:33 AM

GH

“ I loved hearing Phyllis play the piano. Donna and I were going to try taking lessons from her but I was so bad we decided to give it up. She was so sweet and understanding. She's now with her Lord and Savior!

Glenda Warren Harp - December 27, 2022 at 05:29 PM

JD

“ Julia Duff lit a candle in memory of Phyllis Wilson-Bigham



Julia Duff - December 27, 2022 at 04:24 PM

JD

“ She was my counselor, my encourager, my prayer warrior and my friend. I will miss our frequent conversations. She is part of the reason I became a music teacher. Many have said my piano style is similar to hers which is probably true because we played together often at church functions. often. She played piano at my wedding. I will miss her smile and kind spirit.

Julia Duff - December 27, 2022 at 04:23 PM

JP

Phyllis will be greatly missed. She was definitely a soul warrior for God.

Janice Parker - December 28, 2022 at 09:21 AM

BH

She was the Sweetest, kindness person you would ever know! Hugs to all the family Joe @Phyllis! Prayers 🙏

Barbara Hurt - December 28, 2022 at 08:32 PM

RN

“ Ron and I were saddened to hear your dear mother passed, love and prayers to you and your family. Lana you are precious to us.

Ron & JoAnn Nance - December 27, 2022 at 03:31 PM