### It's Hard to Say Goodbye

It seems like yesterday when we saw your smile;
It seems like yesterday we sat and talked awhile,
But today we must say goodbye.

Hope to see you tomorrow wearing yesterday's smile.
We love you, sister, more than you will ever know.
It breaks our hearts to say goodbye,
But we have to let you go.
Your sisters,
Alma and Betty

#### I Want You to Know

A brief moment of darkness was all that I knew,
Before Heaven's Gate came into my view.
Loved ones and friends I had missed for many years
Welcomed me with open arms and many happy tears.
All the hurt, fear and pain that I have ever known
Is gone from my life; I am finally home.
I gazed upon the Lord's sweet smiling face,
And for the first time in my life
I knew and felt His grace.
I know that you miss me but please dry your eyes.
I will always be watching and loving you
From my home in the sky.

#### -Angela

## Acknowledgement

We, the family of Epsie Jenkins-Thomas, extend our appreciation to our friends and relatives for your comforting words, prayers, and good deeds. Please accept our sincere gratitude and thanks. May God Bless you all.

# Homegoing Celebration



Mother Epsie Lee Jenkins Thomas January 22, 1930 ~ December 8, 2020

**Saturday, December 19, 2020 – 2:00pm** 

The Family Chapel
Buggs-Bellamy Funeral Services
2936 Jerry Lane
Jacksonville, FL 32218
Rev. Wilbur Bellamy, Jr., LFDIC

## A Life Celebrated

Epsie Lee Jenkins Thomas was born January 22, 1930, to Mr. and Mrs. Dewey and Darsular Williams Jenkins, Sr., in Silco, GA. She grew up in a home of love with 11 siblings. Their parents taught them survival skills and a good work ethic, which prepared them for adulthood.

In 1949, Epsie was joined in Holy Matrimony to the love of her life, the late Napoleon Thomas, Sr. That same year she became an established resident of Jacksonville. She was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend. Epsie was employed with Duval Laundry for over 20 years of dedicated service. She was also a member of Grace Baptist Church of East Springfield, Pastor John J. Devoe..

On Tuesday, December 8, 2020, the Lord saw fit to call Epsie to her heavenly home. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband of 61 years; a son, James Thomas; brothers, Andrew Jenkins, Sr., Eugene Jenkins, Nathaniel Jenkins, Herbert Jenkins, Sr., and Dewey Jenkins, Jr.; and sisters, Suzanne Lukata, Katie Brown and Thelma Jenkins.

Left to cherish her memory: a devoted son, Napoleon Thomas, Jr.; grandchildren, David King, Erica Sheffield, Napoleon A. Thomas and Renata Cheatham; sisters, Alma Carter and Betty Sims; a brother, Lonnie Jenkins; a host of nephews and nieces, to include Roosevelt Cobbs, Sr., and Joan Mathis; multiple cousins, other relatives, close friends and her church family. Her presence will be truly missed.

## Order of Service

**Congregational Hymn** 

"Amazing Grace"

Invocation Minister Reginald B. Jones Greater Beulah Missionary Baptist Church

Scriptures

Minister

Old Testament ..... Psalm 23

New Testament ... 1 Corinthians 15:50-57

Reflections/Resolutions

(Please limit to two minutes each)

**Ministry in Music** 

Words of Comfort Pastor John J. Devoe Grace Baptist Church of East Springfield

**Committal Rites** 

**Benediction** 

