

## Footprints In The Sand

One night I had a dream.  
I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord,  
and across the sky flashed scenes from my life.  
For each scene I noticed two sets of footprints,  
one belonged to me and the other to the Lord.  
When the last scene of my life flashed before me,  
I looked back at the footprints in the sand.

I noticed that many times along the path of my life,  
there was only one set of footprints.

I also noticed that it happened at the very lowest  
and saddest time in my life. This really bothered me  
and I questioned the LORD about it.

"LORD, you said that once I decided to follow you,  
you would walk with me all the way,  
but I have noticed that during the most troublesome times  
in my life there is only one set of footprints on the sand.  
I don't understand why in times  
when I needed you most you would leave.

The LORD replied,  
"My precious, precious child,  
I love you and I would never leave you during  
your times of trial and suffering.  
"When you saw only one set of footprints on the sand,  
it was then I carried you."

## Acknowledgements

The family would like to thank everyone for their kind expressions of love shown throughout this difficult time. Your expression of sympathy and kindness touched our hearts.

Special thanks to Henry Johnson, Jr. and Virginia Pisor

*The Family of Dr. Lillian Margretta Lowery*



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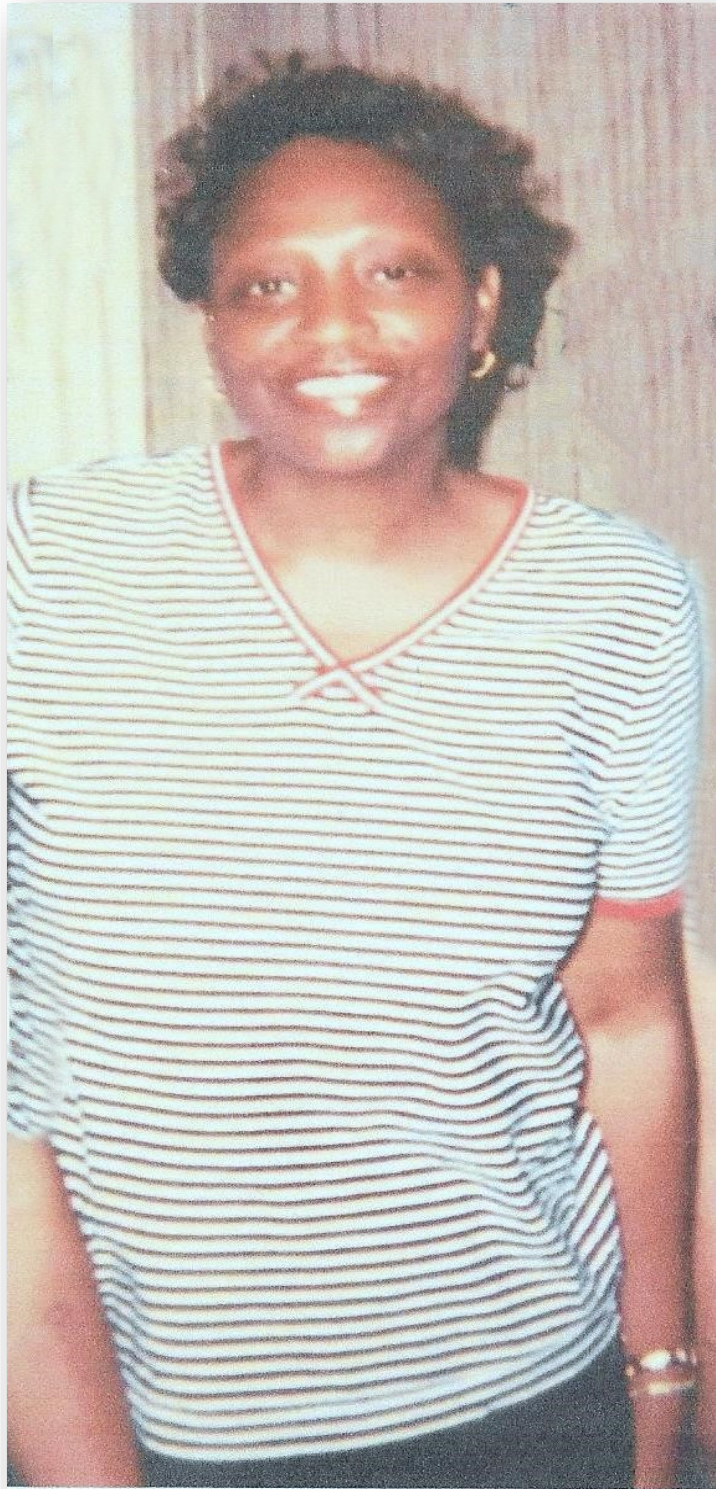
## A Beautiful Life Remembered



*Dr. Lillian Margretta Lowery*

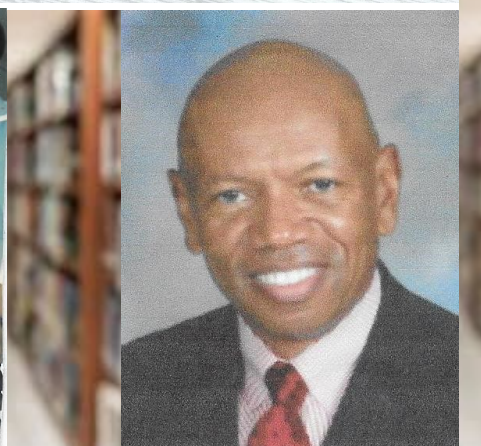
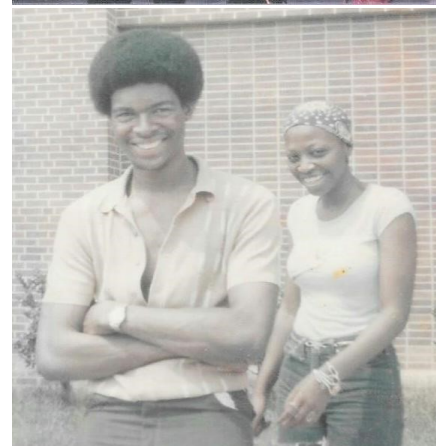
December 17, 1954 — April 13, 2022





*God saw you were getting tired  
When a cure was not to be  
He wrapped his arm around you, and  
Whisperer "Come to Me"  
You didn't deserved what you went  
through so  
He gave you needed rest,  
God's Garden must be beautiful  
He only takes the best*

*Juanita & Lisa*







*Order of Service*  
Memorial Service for  
**Dr. Lillian Margretta Lowery**

Saturday, April 30, 2022  
Costner Funeral Home Chapel  
2425 West Franklin Boulevard  
Gastonia, North Carolina  
Pastor Ethel Knox, Officiating



- Prelude**  
**Musical Selection**  
**Prayer** . . . . . Juontonio Pinkney, Jr.  
**Scripture Reading:**  
**Old Testament** . . . . . Psalm 23  
Lisa V. Lowery  
**New Testament** . . . . . John 14:1-7  
Tyrone H. Bagley  
**Prayer of Comfort** . . . . . Pastor Ethel Knox  
**Obituary Reading** . . . . . Henry Johnson, Jr.  
**Reflections**  
Joyce A. Hoyle  
Ola M. Hill, Soror  
**Hymn** . . . . . Gastonia #2 Prayer  
**Eulogy** . . . . . Pastor Ethel Knox  
**Benediction** . . . . . “Alright my love, onward, and upward”  
**Recessional**

**Reception**  
Legacy Event Center  
207 South Chestnut Street  
Gastonia, North Carolina 28054  
Phone: 704 . 915 . 6777

LOVED



# Sharing Her Story

Dr. Lillian Margretta Lowery was born in York, South Carolina on December 17, 1954, to the late Macie L. Bagley (James) and Fred Robinson, Jr. She transitioned from this earthly life on April 13, 2022 at her home in Yardley, Pennsylvania.

Lillian's early education in the Gaston County School System made her appreciate learning and the passion to continue "onward and upward". She earned a Bachelor's Degree in English and Secondary Education from North Carolina Central University, a Master's Degree in Education Curriculum and Instruction from the University of North Carolina and a Doctorate in Education Leadership/Policy from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Lillian's educational background, passion for learning and her desire to educate students propelled her to excel throughout her professional career. During her 40 years of service in roles across the local, state, and federal governmental agencies and for national non-for-profit organizations her focus was always on advancing the quality of education for all students. She served as an English Teacher, high school Principal, school district Superintendent, Secretary of Education, for the state of Delaware and the State Superintendent for the Maryland State Department of Education. In her private sector, she served as President and CEO for Futureready Columbus and most recently as Vice President of Student and Teacher Assessments at Educational Testing Services. She helped to shape policies that improved access to quality learning in public education for all students. In addition to that, she continued to look at ways to improve teachers education certification and licensure. She served on numerous boards and in a variety of roles around the country and was an appointee to one of the educational committees during the Obama Administration.

Lillian accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior at an early age. She was baptized at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, Gastonia, North Carolina and lived her life accordingly. She was a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and Links, Inc. (Baltimore Chapter).

She was preceded in death by her maternal grandparents, Sam and Mozell Lowery and paternal grandparents, Fred and Massey Robinson.

Lillian fondly known as "Gwet" is survived by her sisters, Juanita Lowery-Gingles and Lisa V. Lowery of Belmont, North Carolina. She is also survived by her Uncle Nathaniel Lowery (Lena), of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Aunts, Carrie E. Lowery of New York City, Annie M. Knox of Kingston, New York, Bertha L. Lowery and Zenobia E. Campbell of Gastonia, North Carolina and other relatives.

She leaves to cherish memories, Reginald E. Lowery, James Barnette (Brinda), Tyrone Bagley, Denise Barnette, Ray A. Bagley, Winston Bagley (Rachel), Demetrius Garvin, Martina Ithers, Lisa Wigfall, Joyce A. Hoyle and Henry R. Johnson, Jr.



*With much appreciation for your constant support of the students and staff of the Caesar Rodney School District*

