



## Lydia Wilson

July 9, 1955 - June 30, 2018

Lydia Ann Wilson, 62 “Liddy Bee” the only child of Fontaine R and Ellen Shaffer Wilson who preceded her in death, was her maternal grandparents Albert and (Gertrude Beard) Shaffer. Paternal grandparents Luther Wilson Sr (Harriett Brown) Wilson, Aunts Frances Evelyn Watson (Wilson) Mary Shaffer and Uncles Luther Wilson Jr, Leon Shaffer, and Joseph Shaffer, and cousin Roxy Shaffer. Left to cherish her memories are very close cousin Kathy Wilson and family of Knoxville TN, Mrs. Bernadine Scott and family, Mrs. Virginia Goines and family and Carolyn Wilson and Mickey Bridwell and her beloved cat Whisper, and many fellow artist in the community who will miss her.

Lydia attended St. Paul AME Zion, where she was on the Jr Usher board, Sunday school teacher, and was in charge of the Black History Program there. She was a 1973 graduate of SHHS where she was a member of the band, TOEC club, and Pro-To- Etts. Education was very important to her, Lydia was a 1978 graduate of TSU of Nashville, TN where she was a Biology major and a proud member of AKA Sorority. Ms. Wilson also attended ETSU majoring in Mass communication.

Lydia did her first of many shows in 1990 and was featured in local and area newspapers, craft books. She was mentioned in National publications.

Lydia taught classes at Girls INC,Coalation for kids, Kingsport and Johnson City, Virginia Art counsel. Her work was displayed at Nelson Fine Art center Virginia Highland art festival, Jonesborough visitor center and many other

galleries. She also attended craft shows in and around the area and at the William King museum and Artopia. Many crafters knew Lydia and her work and love her and the stories she told through her work.

She had also appeared on HGTV for her old world Santa Clauses. Ms. Wilson was a very exceptional talented artist and she credited her mother Ellen Wilson and her aunt Rachel Hawkins for her artist abilities. She was unique and one of a kind and will be missed dearly by all.

A Memorial service will be held at 1:00pm Saturday August 25, 2018 at the Reece Museum on the campus of East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, TN.

# Tribute Wall



“ Lydia Wilson

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January 29, 2023 at 10:28 PM



“ Janice Wells sent a virtual gift in memory of Lydia Wilson



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Janice wells - August 25, 2018 at 12:21 PM



“ Liz lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson



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Liz - August 23, 2018 at 01:22 PM

CS

“ We called her “Lyd” or “BeeBee” — me, my brother Don, and Roxann (“Roxy”), her cousins on her mother’s side (smile). Lyd was a sweet and gentle soul, and a shining light in so many lives through her art. I’ve come across a couple of photos that I share now: one of me, my mom, and Lyd in Jamaica, taken by my father Joseph Shaffer (name changed from J. R. Chavis). The second picture was taken at my wedding dinner in 1987 in Dayton, Ohio — from left to right — Mary and Roxann Shaffer, Lydia and Ellen Wilson. Lyd...you will be missed but not forgotten. Rest in heaven...love, Chetuan (“Toni”)

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**Chetuan Shaffer** - August 21, 2018 at 04:04 PM

CS

“ 2 files added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Chetuan Shaffer** - August 21, 2018 at 03:45 PM

MB

“ I am very sorry to learn of the passing of Lydia. She was a very talented and very sweet lady. My sympathies to her family and friends.

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**Mary Kay Bearden** - August 20, 2018 at 11:05 AM

MN

“ Lydia was a treasure. Her creativity mixed with her genuine faith was rare. I am so sorry she is gone from us for now. I send my condolence to all her family whom I'm sure miss her deeply.



Mary Nees - August 11, 2018 at 11:10 AM

RA

“ Rachel lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson



Rachel - July 27, 2018 at 12:42 PM

JD

“ So very sorry to hear of Lydia's passing. She was as very kind lady. May she rest in peace.  
Jim and Bernice Deakins  
Montgomery, WV

Jim Deakins - July 15, 2018 at 07:21 PM

MS

“ Lydia was an amazing person and artist and writer. I cherish the time privileged to spend with her. She was a beautiful person inside and out. May she rest in God's perfect peace.

Mary Buckley Sutton - July 15, 2018 at 09:01 AM

DS

“ Our prayers and thoughts to the family of Lydia. We have known Lydia for a lifetime and she was always sweet, kind and loving. We are so sorry for her loss to her circle of family and friends.



Deborah Simmons-Grey - July 13, 2018 at 11:24 AM



“ Sondra Bradley sent a virtual gift in memory of Lydia Wilson



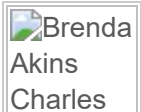
Sondra Bradley - July 12, 2018 at 01:49 AM

MJ

“ Mary Ann James lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson



Mary Ann James - July 11, 2018 at 10:24 PM



“ Brenda Akins Charles sent a virtual gift in memory of Lydia Wilson



Brenda Akins Charles - July 11, 2018 at 08:42 PM

Brenda  
Akins  
Charles

“ *Brenda Akins Charles lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



Brenda Akins Charles - July 11, 2018 at 08:34 PM

JM

“ *Libby Bee was a beautiful, smart and resourceful woman. Her creativity was unsurpassed and inspiring. She and her contributions will be missed.*  
*Joy Fields Miller*

joy miller - July 08, 2018 at 07:33 PM

DD

“ *Donna L Drakeford lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



Donna L Drakeford - July 08, 2018 at 01:51 PM

CA

“ *Crystal Anderson lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



crystal anderson - July 08, 2018 at 12:50 PM

LJ

“ Lydia was my mentor learned a lot from her she always came up with the most unusual ways to use just everyday things and I'm going to miss her a lot

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**Lisa Jackson** - July 08, 2018 at 08:21 AM

CR

“ Clinton&Pamela Rollins lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson



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**Clinton&Pamela Rollins** - July 07, 2018 at 03:56 PM

SD

“ Condolences to the Wilson family.



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**Stanley and Donna Daniels** - July 07, 2018 at 07:16 AM



“ William H. Hill Jr. lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson



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**William H. Hill Jr.** - July 07, 2018 at 02:37 AM

NG

“ *Nancy Greenlee lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



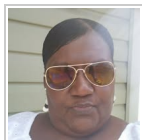
Nancy Greenlee - July 06, 2018 at 10:36 PM

RO

“ *Raymond & Carol Oxendine lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



Raymond & Carol Oxendine - July 06, 2018 at 09:41 PM



“ *Sondra Bradley lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



Sondra Bradley - July 06, 2018 at 07:55 PM

VM

“ *Velma Murphy*



Velms Murphy - July 06, 2018 at 07:05 PM

PF

“ *Peppie Font lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



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**Peppie Font** - July 06, 2018 at 06:48 PM

VS

“ *Varcella Johnson Stokesvee542004@yahoo lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



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**varcella johnson stokesvee542004@yahoo** - July 06, 2018 at 06:31 PM

MM

“ *Always very sweet lady*

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**Myra Miller** - July 06, 2018 at 05:38 PM

VP

“ *Viola Patton lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



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**Viola Patton** - July 06, 2018 at 04:48 PM

TF

“ *The Moton Family lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



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**The Moton Family** - July 06, 2018 at 03:51 PM

TR

“ *Tiffany Ryans lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



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**Tiffany Ryans** - July 06, 2018 at 06:57 AM

MW

“ *To a very special friend you are gone but never forgotten God Bless and Much Love*

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**Mildred Williams** - July 05, 2018 at 07:29 PM

MF

“ *Moricina Fain lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



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**Moricina Fain** - July 05, 2018 at 07:28 PM

Brenda  
Akins  
Charles

“ *Brenda Akins Charles sent a virtual gift in memory of Lydia Wilson*



Brenda Akins Charles - July 05, 2018 at 04:56 PM

Brenda  
Akins  
Charles

“ *Brenda Akins Charles lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



Brenda Akins Charles - July 05, 2018 at 04:55 PM

SB

“ *Sarah Bell-Young lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



Sarah Bell-Young - July 05, 2018 at 03:50 PM

JJ

“ *Jennifer A. JJ Jones lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



Jennifer A. JJ Jones - July 05, 2018 at 02:06 PM

AN

“ Angelo Newman lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson



Angelo Newman - July 05, 2018 at 10:56 AM

SY

“ Sylvia Brown Young lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson



Sylvia Brown Young - July 05, 2018 at 10:46 AM

HK

“ Howie & Billie Kemper sent a virtual gift in memory of Lydia Wilson



Howie & Billie Kemper - July 04, 2018 at 11:45 PM

HK

“ Howie & Billie Kemper lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson



Howie & Billie Kemper - July 04, 2018 at 11:45 PM

DD

“ *Delores Delaney lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



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**Delores Delaney** - July 04, 2018 at 10:20 PM

DD

*RiP cuz you will be missed*

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**Delores Delaney** - July 04, 2018 at 10:22 PM

JL

“ *Julia Anderson / Letcher lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



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**Julia Anderson / Letcher** - July 04, 2018 at 08:06 PM

SW

“ *Susan Rhea Wagner lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



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**Susan Rhea Wagner** - July 04, 2018 at 03:46 PM

JM

“ Jackie Greenlee Machen lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson



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**Jackie Greenlee Machen** - July 04, 2018 at 03:40 PM

BS

“ Buddy Stuart lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson



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**Buddy Stuart** - July 04, 2018 at 11:04 AM

CI

“ I will miss Lydia coming to visit my bead shop. She was such a joy and so talented. I so admired her talent and loved her spirit. She was a friend for years and will be sorely missed. Her pieces were incredible and I hope they will be displayed somewhere for people to appreciate. I remember when we talked about her being on TV. She was so dismissive of her talent yet so amazingly creative. I loved her style and her personality.

Cindy  
Cindy's Crafts



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**Cindy** - July 04, 2018 at 05:59 AM

KM

“ *Kathy Mills lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



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**Kathy Mills** - July 03, 2018 at 07:08 PM



“ *Susie Inman lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



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**Susie Inman** - July 03, 2018 at 04:50 PM

CL

“ *Liddy Bee...we grew up together on Roan Hill. During the beginning of integration of schools, we were given the option of going to the old "South Side" or ride on a bus to a Black school...I think it was Douglas or Dunbar. Our parents sent us to South Side. Then in a few years...The city decided they wanted to buy the property on Roan Hill and rebuild the area. Of course, no one could afford to stay with what they offered to pay so we all relocated which put us in different schools. Thank goodness, Lydia moved to a house across from Dunbar and we moved to a house on 8th Ave which was down the street-around the corner so we stayed together. She used to suck her 2 middle fingers. No matter how kids teased her, she continued through elementary school.*

*She was a great kid, kind but very quiet. She was a good friend. I will miss her!*

*Darlene Goodlett*

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**Chrystal D Lampkin** - July 03, 2018 at 04:11 PM

MS

*Thank you for sharing your childhood experience with Lydia. She was a beautiful person.*

**Mary Buckley Sutton** - July 17, 2018 at 08:37 PM

LW

“ *So sorry to hear of Lydia Wilson's passing she was a class mate of mine God bless the family*



**Louise Williams** - July 03, 2018 at 04:01 PM

MM

“ *Marie McCullough lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



**Marie McCullough** - July 03, 2018 at 03:38 PM

DF

“ *DEBRA FIELDS-WILLIAMS lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



**DEBRA FIELDS-WILLIAMS** - July 03, 2018 at 02:52 PM

MA

“ *Mary(Cissy)Rollins lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



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**Mary(Cissy)Rollins** - July 03, 2018 at 02:43 PM

TB

“ *Trish Bristol lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



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**Trish Bristol** - July 03, 2018 at 01:46 PM

DM

“ *Debra McCrary lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



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**Debra McCrary** - July 03, 2018 at 11:01 AM

SH

“ *I always remember Lydia as my defender when I was being bullied years and years ago. Love you Lydia, sleep in peace.*



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**Sherry** - July 03, 2018 at 09:03 AM

MD

“ *Melvin Drumgoole sent a virtual gift in memory of Lydia Wilson*



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**Melvin Drumgoole** - July 03, 2018 at 08:58 AM

PT

“ *Pauletta Thomas lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



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**Pauletta Thomas** - July 03, 2018 at 08:11 AM

LB

“ *Lee & Lydia Bridwell lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



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**Lee & Lydia Bridwell** - July 03, 2018 at 07:03 AM

FF

“ *Fred And Jackie Fields lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



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**Fred and Jackie Fields** - July 03, 2018 at 06:38 AM

SS

“ *Sandra Stevens lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



Sandra Stevens - July 03, 2018 at 06:24 AM

PR

“ *Pate Rhea lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson*



Pate Rhea - July 02, 2018 at 05:57 PM

NP

“ *Nancy Posey sent a virtual gift in memory of Lydia Wilson*



Nancy Posey - July 02, 2018 at 05:52 PM

NP

“ *I WILL MISS LYDIA, WE GREW UP IN SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHURCH TOGETHER, SHE WAS A BEAUTIFUL PERSON, VERY POLITE AND FRIENDLY. MAY GOD BLESS AND COMFORT THE FAMILY @ THIS TIME. REST IN PEACE LYDIA. NANCY AKINS POSEY*

Nancy Posey - July 02, 2018 at 05:51 PM

RT

“ Robert Taaaylor lit a candle in memory of Lydia Wilson



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**Robert Taaaylor** - July 02, 2018 at 04:54 PM

JW

*Lydia will be missed she aND her mother was very faithful members at st. Paul ame zion church.for many years she was a good person and loved the lord she still stayed in contact with us until we couldn't get hold of her on the phone but she will be missed. She had and was blessed with alot of talent. She will be missed. Sister: janice wells.*

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**Janice wells** - July 04, 2018 at 09:35 AM

RS

*Lydia was a gifted, humble artist. Those of us who knew her work appreciated her estimable talent. The staff of the Reece Museum at ETSU send our condolences to her family.*

*Regards,  
Randy Sanders  
Director, Reece Museum*

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**Randall K. Sanders** - July 16, 2018 at 10:27 AM