

*Sylvine Bush Carter*, affectionally known as “Madea”, returned to her heavenly home at Southern Pines in Warner Robins, Georgia. Evangelist Carter lived a blessed life that was filled with joy, love, peace, giving, and laughter. Her witty and funny personality was loved by many. She was known for her great cooking, especially her collard greens, homemade buttermilk cornbread and sweet potato pie.

Madea was dedicated to helping others find Christ and it echoed across Sumter County and Macon County. You would often find her in Belk, Walmart, and Harvey’s singing and praying with people. Her devotion to her family and her firm belief in Jesus Christ stayed in the forefront of everything she did and ultimately gave her peace.

Sylvine first brought light into this world on June 4, 1932, in Americus, Georgia. She was the second child of the late Ira and the late Arzada Dempsey Bush. From that union, three beautiful, vibrant girls were born: Vera, Sylvine, and Eloise. Evangelist Carter married the late James Henry Carter and to their union, four children were born: Larry, Paula, Ira, and Phillip.

She retired from Southern Frozen Foods and worked in her early years as a CNA for Broward County Hospital in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

She was a member of New Life Holiness Church and returned to Campbell Chapel A. M. E. Church. Her greatest accomplishments besides being a mother of wonderful children was when she was licensed as an Evangelist at New Life Holiness under the leadership of Elder Johnny Lundy.

Madea lived life to the fullest— traveling, cooking, giving, singing, and even dancing. She loved the Lord and people. She reminded people every day that “God loves you and so do I”. She was big on family and always taught the importance of “Respect, Communication, and Teamwork”. Our hearts will cherish every prayer and lesson.

She is preceded in death by two sons, Larry Carter and Ira Carter.

Left to cherish her memories: one daughter, Paula Carter Wells; one son, Phillip (Areerat) Carter; two daughters-in-law, Ann Carter and Diana Carter; her grandchildren: Antonio (Laura) Carter, Paulette (Oscar) Hugley, William (Chloe) Joiner, Garrette Carter, Gabriel Carter, Sandriea Carter, Nichols Carter, Eric Carter, Michael Carter and Traci Carter; her great grandchildren: Rev. C. James Carter, Mariah Williams, Adria Williams, Krystal Carter, Sasha Joiner, Adashia Hale, Christopher Hale, Rammera Carter, Landan Halle, Elijah Carter and Ethan Carter; her great-great grandchildren: Selah Reign Upshaw, Austyn Carter, Makenlee Hale and Malaree Hale; devoted nieces: Barbara Jean (Richard) Mack and Princess Willis; and a host of other relatives and friends.