



## Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright

October 18, 1958 - October 31, 2024

Marilyn Regina Wright affectionately known as “Merl” or “Merl Jean” was born on October 18, 1958, in Chestertown, MD to Janet Rochester and the late John Rochester Sr. Marilyn passed away peacefully surrounded by family on October 31, 2024, at her family home in Church Hill, MD. Marilyn was educated in the Queen Anne’s County Public School System and a graduate of the class of 1976. Merl Also attended Chesapeake College in Wye Mills, MD. While sharing time together during her high school years. She fell in love with the love of her life, Elmer E. Wright, better known as “Buck.” As the two began to fill their lives with joy and laughter, on November 9, 1985, they were united in Holy Matrimony. Marilyn gave birth to two children whom she loved and depended upon, for each one’s specialty. It was Tisha for her homemade meals and Aaron for his hilarious jokes and remarkable sense of humor. After high school and throughout her career, she was employed by several employers, including Ames Department Store, Black and Decker and Campbell Soup Company. However, it was her employment for 23 years at Kent Center Inc. in Chestertown, MD where she found her true calling. She worked in several positions including Direct Support Professional, Day Program Supervisor and Receptionist. She was known there for displaying her passion for clients, their families, and coworkers. This made her heart complete. After retirement, Marilyn enjoyed spending time with her family and friends. She loved her favorite homemade meals whether they came from a loved one’s kitchen or one of her favorite eateries. Marilyn had a gracious and

tolerant way of dealing with life and life's situations. Most of the time she spoke what she thought but could often phrase it without hurting your feelings; however, she wanted to make sure you got the point. Merl loved being at the Rochester Family Reunion on the first Saturday in August. Merl was a member of The Rochester's Cousins Club. (Blue Shirts) When it came to keeping herself hydrated, water would come as a second choice because Pepsi was her favorite go-to of all time. When family would say "You drink too much Pepsi." She would respond politely and calmly "I didn't have that many today!" Marilyn grew up loving the lord. Knowing prayer was instilled in her from childhood. She was a lifetime member of Bethel A.M.E. Church in Church Hill, MD. As a young child, Merl was awesome at reciting her Easter peace poems with no mistakes or hesitation. She also sang with the Bethel Stars and loved foot stomping, old time gospel singing quartets such as Willie Neal Johnson and the Gospel Keynotes. As the years progressed, she helped with numerous duties in the church as needed.

Marilyn is preceded in death by her father, John Rochester Sr.; husband of 36 years, Elmer E. Wright; older brothers, Richard Patterson, Conrad Rochester Sr., and John Rochester Jr.

Marilyn is survived by her mother, Janet Rochester; children, Letitcia Bailey (Travis) and Aaron Rochester (Desiree); grandchildren, Aaron, Arianna, John, Jaiden and Mila Rochester, Zion Bailey, Ai'yaunah Wright and Asia Bailey; siblings, Iris Carter and Destry Rochester Sr. (Melissa); god daughters, Alicia Gibbs and Tatiana Rochester; adopted daughter, Tika Sisco; god sisters Myra Wilson and Reba Reese; sisters-in-law, Betty Whyte (Anthony), Cheryl Rochester and Denise Patterson along with a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

# Previous Events

## Viewing

NOV 7. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Fellows Helfenbien & Newnam  
130 Speer Rd  
Chestertown , MD 21620

## Viewing

NOV 8. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Church Hill United Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 6  
Church Hill, MD

## Funeral Service

NOV 8. 11:00 AM (ET)

Church Hill United Methodist Church  
P.O. Box 6  
Church Hill, MD

## Burial

NOV 8 (ET)

Rochester Memorial Garden  
Church Hill, MD 21623

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright*



**Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home** - November 07, 2024 at 08:17 AM

VD

“ *My deepest sympathy to Cousin Janet and family.*  
*Valerie Davis*



**Valerie Davis** - November 16, 2024 at 08:21 PM

SC

“ *Sandra Crawford lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright*



**Sandra Crawford** - November 11, 2024 at 10:20 PM

BY

“ Iris, I'm so very sorry for the passing of your sister. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this very sad time 🙏

Jane Young

Bill Jane Young - November 08, 2024 at 03:53 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright.

November 08, 2024 at 10:56 AM

SW

“ Shanell Wilson lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



Shanell Wilson - November 08, 2024 at 08:38 AM

CE

“ Aunt Merl smile, laugh, and joy of life was contagious. "The boys" and I will miss her.



Celeste - November 07, 2024 at 09:07 PM

SQ

“ Sara & David Quinn lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



Sara & David Quinn - November 07, 2024 at 06:03 PM

DL

“ Deb Lauser lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



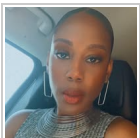
Deb Lauser - November 07, 2024 at 11:29 AM

SR

“ Sherri Rochester lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



Sherri Rochester - November 07, 2024 at 05:10 AM



“ Cammay Gray lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



Cammay Gray - November 07, 2024 at 03:26 AM

PW

“ *Patti Williams lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright*



**Patti Williams** - November 06, 2024 at 08:41 PM

ZB

“ *Zion Bailey lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright*



**Zion Bailey** - November 06, 2024 at 07:53 PM

ZB

*I miss you so much mom-mom.*

**Zion Bailey** - November 06, 2024 at 07:54 PM

LJ

“ *Lucero M. Cabotaje, Jr. purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright.*



**Lucero M. Cabotaje, Jr.** - November 06, 2024 at 06:05 PM

PW

“ *Phyliss Wilson lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright*



**Phyliss Wilson** - November 06, 2024 at 05:19 PM

MR

“ *Maryann Ruehrmund lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright*



**Maryann Ruehrmund** - November 06, 2024 at 05:11 PM

BN

“ *Barbara K Nelson lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright*



**Barbara k Nelson** - November 06, 2024 at 02:49 PM

BN

*You were a great role model for your kids. A loving wife and mother that worked hard to accomplish what she did. You will be reunited with Buck now and I am sure that will be a joyous reunion. Prayers for your family ,your mom ,and your sister I.*

**Barbara k Nelson** - November 06, 2024 at 03:14 PM

TW

“ *TAMA WILMER lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright*



**TAMA WILMER** - November 06, 2024 at 11:59 AM

JB

“ *Jackie Brown lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright*



**Jackie Brown** - November 06, 2024 at 10:20 AM

IJ

“ *You truly be missed! All the years I have known you, I never saw you being angry. You always had a smile, a calm response and a laugh! You have always been a kind and loving cousin! To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord!*

**Ida and Kevin Jeffers** - November 06, 2024 at 08:57 AM



“ *Kennita Matthews lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright*



**Kennita Matthews** - November 05, 2024 at 11:27 PM

GP

“ Gene And Lynda Palmatary sent a virtual gift in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



Gene and Lynda Palmatary - November 05, 2024 at 10:31 PM

NO

“ Will miss your smile.

Norene - November 05, 2024 at 09:32 PM

BR

“ Brittney lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



Brittney - November 05, 2024 at 08:23 PM

DB

“ Please accept the heartfelt condolences from the Benton family.

David Benton - November 05, 2024 at 08:04 PM

BC

“ Condolences to Mrs. Janet and Merl's family.



Butch and Sally Coursey - November 05, 2024 at 07:58 PM

JA

“ *Jane Anthony lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright*



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**Jane Anthony** - November 05, 2024 at 07:17 PM

JN

“ *Joe & Jeannie Nickens lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright*



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**Joe & Jeannie Nickens** - November 05, 2024 at 06:37 PM

MK

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the family during this sad and difficult time.*  
*Margaret Cohey Kaufman*

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**Margaret C Kaufman** - November 05, 2024 at 06:05 PM

JH

“ *John Hammett purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright.*



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**John Hammett** - November 05, 2024 at 04:44 PM

JH

“ John Hammett planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright.

John Hammett - November 05, 2024 at 04:44 PM

LJ

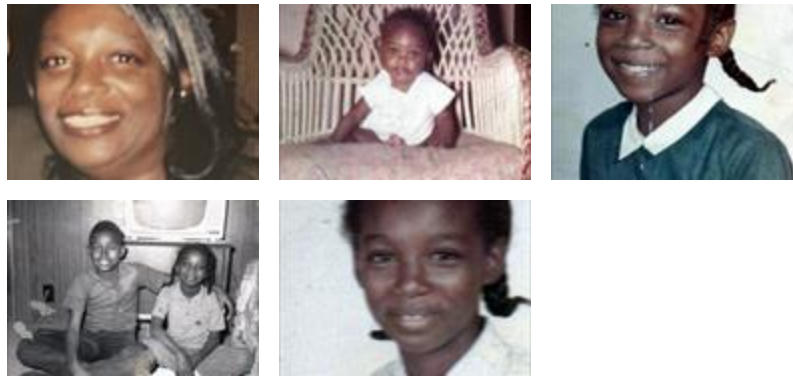
“ GOD HAS HIS HANDS ON EACH OF YOU!  
HE WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU NOR  
FORSAKE YOU! ALWAYS CHERISH THE  
FOND MEMORIES ❤️



Lorraine Jenkins - November 05, 2024 at 04:17 PM

WF

“ 97 files added to the album Slideshow photos



Wright Family - November 05, 2024 at 03:32 PM

DH

“ Donna Hollett lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



Donna Hollett - November 05, 2024 at 01:42 PM

HF

“ HELEN FISHER lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



HELEN FISHER - November 05, 2024 at 11:51 AM

DP

“ Denise And Delmar Patterson lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



Denise and Delmar Patterson - November 05, 2024 at 10:39 AM

DP

*I will miss Marilyn's warm welcomes when I saw her. Love Denise and Delmar*

Denise and Delmar Patterson - November 05, 2024 at 10:56 AM

RS

*I will miss you so much Merl and I will think about all the times we have together all the things we were together did things together. I will miss you love you. Cause you're sitting on the right hand of God was silly. Be missed.*

Ruth Shakoor - November 05, 2024 at 12:39 PM

IC

“ *Sister*  
*That morning I found you in eternal sleep; I*  
*wanted to wake you as I began to weep, But all*  
*my pleas you couldn't hear. It's now all the*  
*precious memories I'll forever hold deep and so*  
*very tight in the fabric of my heart. ❤️*  
*Love Iris*



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**Iris Carter** - November 05, 2024 at 12:30 AM

RB

“ *Robin Brown lit a candle in memory of Marilyn*  
*"Merl" R. Wright*



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**Robin Brown** - November 04, 2024 at 10:45 PM

DW

“ *Doreen Walker lit a candle in memory of*  
*Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright*



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**Doreen Walker** - November 04, 2024 at 04:08 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the*  
*family of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright.*



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November 04, 2024 at 10:24 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright.

November 04, 2024 at 10:24 AM



“ Our prayers are with the family" our family.  
With sympathy cousin Phils' Wright family.



**Tammy** - November 04, 2024 at 10:14 AM



“ *Fairest of All* was purchased for the family of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright.



November 04, 2024 at 09:13 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright.

November 04, 2024 at 09:13 AM

MF

“ Marilyn Ford lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



Marilyn Ford - November 04, 2024 at 12:36 AM

TR

“ Treveon lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



Treveon - November 03, 2024 at 07:24 PM

TY

“ To my family so sorry to hear of Marilyn's passing she was a beautiful person/cousin I'm so glad she excepted me into the family when I married Terry yrs ago Aunt Vonnie so sorry for ur loss Terry n I will truly miss seeing her whenever we come to Maryland!! Love u Terry n Yea!!

Terry n yea - November 03, 2024 at 06:27 PM



“ Barbara Robinson lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



Barbara Robinson - November 03, 2024 at 05:09 PM

DL

“ *Dr. Jacqueline Lewis-Henry lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright*



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**Dr. Jacqueline Lewis-Henry** - November 03, 2024 at 04:19 PM

AF

“ *Brenda Commodore & Alison Farmer sending condolences*



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**Alison Farmer** - November 03, 2024 at 03:24 PM

BW

“ *Betty Whyte lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright*



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**Betty Whyte** - November 03, 2024 at 10:33 AM

JW

“ *I'm gonna miss Ms. Marilyn. She is a sweetheart. I'll be praying for the family. We miss you Ms. Marilyn. You'll in our hearts. You in a better place called home cause your wings were ready but our hearts was not. We love you and you will be missed dearly. Rest Easy*

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**jared wilkerson** - November 03, 2024 at 04:13 AM

CB

“ Cheryl Butler lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



Cheryl Butler - November 02, 2024 at 11:02 PM

MO

“ Melissa Owen lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



Melissa Owen - November 02, 2024 at 10:10 AM

AH

“ Alfreda Henry lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



Alfreda Henry - November 01, 2024 at 10:32 PM

DT

“ Daphine Thomas lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



Daphine Thomas - November 01, 2024 at 08:57 PM

PJ

“ Pansy Jackson lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



Pansy Jackson - November 01, 2024 at 07:40 PM

TF

“ Tina & Pete Fisher lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



Tina & Pete Fisher - November 01, 2024 at 07:01 PM

RJ

“ To the family please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.



Rev Densie M. Jones - November 01, 2024 at 06:57 PM

EM

“ Eddie & Tina Moaney lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



Eddie & Tina Moaney - November 01, 2024 at 02:37 PM

CR

“ Carolyn Rochester lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



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**Carolyn Rochester** - November 01, 2024 at 02:25 PM

TH

“ Trudy Henry-Brown lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



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**Trudy Henry-Brown** - November 01, 2024 at 12:36 PM

JP

“ Janet Pauls lit a candle in memory of Marilyn "Merl" R. Wright



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**Janet Pauls** - November 01, 2024 at 11:55 AM