



Emily Victoria Benjamin

July 19, 1934 - January 15, 2026

With saddened hearts, the Benjamin, McClain & Tolbert families announce the homegoing of our beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin and friend. This sad event occurred after a brief illness.

Emily leaves to celebrate her remarkable life her children: Frank Leslie, Hubert Walcott, Jr. (aka Hue), Harriet Claudine, Debra Estene (aka Peaches), Sheila Victoria (aka Vicki), Cleopatra Denise, James Robert (Kayea), Emile John Kish and Albert Walcott; her grandchildren, Hubert III, Gracy (William), Stewart II, Ashlie, Jamie (Michael), Francis III, James E, Jared, Derik, Martina, Keira, Shadrene, Shaun, James, Christopher, Immanuel, Jessica, Cornelius, Jennise, James, Emily, Omar and Mya; 15 great-grandchildren; her siblings: Florence Daramola, Charlotte Dean, Randolph McClain, Vashti Burrowes (Earl), Charles McClain (Alice), Louie McClain and Samuel McClain (Oretha); and scores of other family members and friends in Liberia, Antigua, England, the United States and other countries.

Emily was predeceased by her parents - Florence Tolbert McClain and Edward B. McClain, Sr.; daughter, Rosalyn PM Benjamin; son, James E. Benjamin; grandson, Malcolm E. Poindexter; and granddaughter, Emily V. Benjamin.

Viewing will be on Friday, January 30, 2026 from 10 - 11 AM at St. Paul's

Episcopal Church, 576 Roscoe Rd., Newnan, GA 30263. Funeral services will follow the viewing on Friday, January 30, 2026 at 11:00 AM. The church will host the repast in the fellowship hall following the service.

Online condolences may be shared by visiting www.mckoon.com.

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory, 770-253-4580

Previous Events

Public Viewing

JAN 30. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
576 Roscoe Road
Newnan, GA 30263

Funeral Service

JAN 30. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
576 Roscoe Road
Newnan, GA 30263

Reception

JAN 30. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
576 Roscoe Road
Newnan, GA 30263

Tribute Wall

WL

“ I loved reading the tributes here. You know a person has lived a full life with the number of nicknames that "Miss Emily" had! She lives on in many hearts not only in Newnan, but around the WORLD. You are missed terribly, and your impact will ripple on for a long time... ❤️



Wendy Llosa - March 06 at 12:45 AM

DM

“ Donna Merrill purchased the Heartfelt Comfort C harcuterie Gift Set for the family of Emily Victoria Benjamin.



Donna Merrill - February 04 at 04:22 PM

CB

“ We thank YHWH God, Our Creator, for His gift to us of our precious Aunt Emily, a wonderful earthly example of God’s Word, and His presence! She loved God. She loved God’s Word, the Holy Bible, and she was a lifelong student of it. She loved to sing God’s praises. She was never ashamed of proclaiming God’s praises in song. Aunt Emily loved people. She loved her family. She loved me – 1st niece, flower girl at her wedding, and over ensuing decades, so very much more!!! She loved KB and me, and our children, and she showed it by her words, by her presence at special occasions, gifts, and more. She had a wonderful personality – kind, friendly, sweet, encouraging, loving. She had a joyful personality, and she was a joy to be with. She was “a virtuous woman!” We thank GOD for her godly example, and for her impact on our lives. Matthew 5:16 says, “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” She did (let her light shine before men); we do (glorify her Father in heaven). As she faithfully passed the godly legacy she received to succeeding generations, may we faithfully follow her example, and do the same.



Constance Brown - January 30 at 02:45 PM

LH

“ Heartfelt Sympathy 🌸 to the entire family as we bid farewell to our beloved Mom Emily. May her gentle sweet soul continue to rest peacefully. May you all find comfort and peace as you reflect on fond memories shared. 💜🙏💜



Lynna Harris - January 30 at 12:30 PM



“ *My dear grandma. So many days she spent with me in my early childhood where I learned Liberian traditions and how to have high self esteem and a connection with God. She was a very generous woman and I miss her so much. Rest in peace* ☐🌸



Maxine Antwi - January 30 at 03:43 AM



“ *Cousin Emily was a sweet soul who held on to her faith no matter what she was going through. I remember fondly our calls and her love of ground peas (peanuts). May God grant her soul eternal rest through His grace and mercy and comfort all who are grieving her loss. Puchie*

Frances Gibson Dennis - January 30 at 02:10 AM



“ *Matilda Parker sent a virtual gift in memory of Emily Victoria Benjamin*



Matilda Parker - January 30 at 01:49 AM

MP

“ Mommy, I am so glad that I was privileged to spend more time with you in October. I will miss our talks, your wisdom, your laughter. Most of all, I miss your hugs. You made me feel so loved. My heart is broken, but full of beautiful memories.

Your life was filled with kindness and grace. Even as your health declined, you kept your wit and kept us smiling. What a gift you were.

Thank you for always believing in me. Your courage gave me courage. I will forever be inspired by your resilience and grace.

You called me your daughter and treated me the same. I'll be forever grateful to you for keeping my son, Nicholas, for three weeks every Summer, for many years, to give me a break.

I cling to the memories of our last days together – your smile, your touch, your love. You were the best mother I could have ever imagined. Love,, Wokie

Matilda Parker - January 30 at 01:49 AM

P(

“ I would like to express my deepest and heartfelt condolences to you Peaches, and all of your siblings for the homegoing of Ms. Emily/ Mrs. B.

In the early 80's I became a daily visitor in her home. I had just moved to the neighbourhood. In time Peaches and I became very close friends and presently, even sisters. The entire family adopted me, and I always felt welcome in their home. I've always cherished these memories!

I pray that all of you are comforted by the love and memories you shared with your mother. I may not be there in person, but I am with you all in my heart.

Rest peacefully in the Lord, Mrs. B.



Patricia Ricks (Patsy) - January 29 at 05:59 PM

CC

“ Cousin Emily always had a smile on her face truly showing the love of Jesus shined in her life. I did not reach out often but when I did she had a smile and kind words. She was one of my favorites. Carl remembers cousin Emily being a good friend to his mom. We are keeping you all in prayer for God to comfort you as only he can.

Cark and Stephenette Cooper - January 29 at 05:38 PM

GY

Thank you, Empty Empty for remembering ALL my birthdays, checking in on all of my children, being at my graduation and wedding, spending time with me after I had my youngest, being my confidant and friend, my other mother, and special Aunty. I love you! Your essence graces our presence, always ❤️

Grace Yhap - January 30 at 11:54 AM

HC

“ On behalf of the Cathedral School Alumni Community, we extend our deepest condolences to our sister Cleopatra Benjamin (Class of '86 Vikings) on the passing of her dear beloved mother❤️❤️ We also extend condolences to Stephen Tolbert (Class of 80 Alpha) and Fitzgerald Speare (Class of 84 Zodiac). May the Lord accept her soul and may she rest in perfect peace 🙏🙏🙏

Hawa Massaley, President, CSAA - January 29 at 04:02 PM

BE

“ Cousin Em was so witty. She knew something about everything. I decided to pay a visit to Vicki and Cleo after my freshman year in college. It was only supposed to be for a month but then I decided to transfer to school in Washington, DC. Cousin Em decided to use my return ticket back to Houston to spend time with family there. After that we would always joke about our next trip.

Brenda Enechionya - January 28 at 01:21 PM

J(

“ If we had any say in the matter, our loved ones would remain with us Forever! However, knowing this SWOG - Strong Woman of God (Mrs. Emily Benjamin) - and how strong her faith in Jesus was, she knew that He had to fulfill His promise to her after getting her place prepared in Glory! She would not have wanted it any other way. So, as saddened and heavy-hearted as we are to see her leave, we are comforted in knowing that she has successfully graduated from the Earth realm to Glorious Realm! Now I can boldly say, “Mommy” (as I’ve called her from Elementary School until now), “You have fought a good fight! You have kept the faith. You have accomplished your purpose here on Earth. Enjoy your rest in Heaven with Jesus! I Thank God for showing His love through you to me and so many others. I’m also grateful to God for allowing me to hug on you one more time (I treasure that - see pics posted)!”

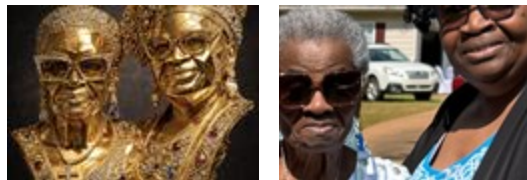
To my MES, CWA, CUC Family, especially Debra-Peach, Vicki, and Cleo, have my deepest sympathy! May our God of Peace, who’s our Refuge and Strength, continue to give you peace, love, and unity now and always! May He strengthen you all in ways you haven’t even asked Him yet. Thank you all for allowing me to enjoy Mommy’s love, also.

God WILL take care of you!

God bless you and I love you!

Always,

JMoms - Josephine Simmons Dennis



Josephine Simmons Dennis (JMoms) - January 27 at 10:02 PM

TC

To my sisters and family, you did your best! You all kept Ms Emily happy to the very end. The overwhelming pouring of love was visible to all who follow your updates. Ms Emily is in a better place and you guys have gained another angel. She has reunited with JE and Lyn! She is proud of you all. Rest in perfect peace Ms Emily. Love you!

Teagbae Coleman - January 29 at 02:44 PM

MF

“ We are deeply saddened by the passing of our dear sister and mother, *Emily McClain Benjamin*. *Sis. Emily*, as we affectionately called her; was a devoted follower of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. She epitomized humility, service and compassion. While she resided in New York City, her presence was always a sweet aroma in Church, Bible Study and Prayer Meetings. It was rare to see *Sis Emily* without a smile on her face, even though we knew that life was not always easy for her. To the Children, siblings and family of *Sis. Emily*, we are sorry for your loss. Have our deepest sympathy and condolences. We mourn now; but we will see our beloved sister again. Sleep well *Sis. Emily*. You will hear the first trumpet sound and the shout of the archangel. From *Rev. Momolu S. Freeman & Family*

Momolu S. Freeman - January 27 at 08:08 PM

DT

“ Family, I know there are no words that can console you at a time like this cause losing a mother is one of those very sad events that one simply can't help prepare you for but I do hope the memories shared on this site will put a smile on your faces. I am not about to tell you anything you don't already know. Cos Emily was such a sweet person - full of laughter, always cracking a joke and making you laugh. She was someone you always wanted to be around cause she made you smile. I will definitely miss that smile and her sweet voice calling me "Dawn Richards"!

Cos. Emily, I know you are up there dancing, laughing and having so much fun. Enjoy yourself 'til we meet again ☐

Dawn Richards Tolbert - January 27 at 06:45 PM

HH

“ Henry Hali lit a candle in memory of Emily Victoria Benjamin



Henry Hali - January 27 at 03:43 AM

HH

Emily was a wonderful person. I remembered while working at Mesurado Fishing Company, I had dinner with her family in 1973. She accepted me and I was well received. May her soul rest in Perfect Peace. God Bless

Henry Hali - January 27 at 03:48 AM

PY

“ In loving memory of Aunty Emily. She always remembered. Our birthdays and anniversaries with thoughtful cards filled with love . She will always be remembered in our ❤️ Eric & Paulete

Paulette & Eric Yhap - January 26 at 11:11 PM

NE

“ When I first started attending St. Paul's, Ms. Emily was one of the first people who welcomed my family. She was a gentle, kind, but firm woman. She knew how to correct with love gently. You will be missed, Ms. Emily!

Nicole Edwards - January 25 at 04:39 PM

NE

“ When I first started attending St. Paul's, Ms. Emily was one of the first people who welcomed my family. She was a gentle, kind, but firm woman. She knew how to correct with love gently. You will be missed, Ms. Emily!

Nicole Edwards - January 25 at 04:39 PM

AW

“ *Aunty Emily was a force to be reckoned with. At the same time caring, compassionate and kind. I remember she had an epiphany and encouraged me to create a plaque which stands on my wall now and inspires me to keep going. Thank you for watching over us! We love you-Ayaba, Lahni and Zola.*



ayaba worjloh-clemens - January 25 at 03:40 PM

DW

“ *4 files added to the tribute wall*



Dorothy Williams-Antwi - January 24 at 03:42 PM



I would like to say thank you God for allowing me into her space. Oh what a blessing it is for me to have known Godma Emily. She was always there for me physically and spiritually. I pray that in my life I become half of the person she was. Love you more mommy.

Dorothy Williams-Antwi - January 24 at 04:03 PM

FF

“ I had the privilege of living with Aunt Emily and Uncle Ben during my high school years (CWA). I have always considered them my faithful bonus parents.

Aunt Emily was a woman of faith and discipline. Her faith was evident not only in the stories she told, but in the way she lived her life each day. Her discipline showed in her practice as a well-trained Registered Nurse, and as a devoted mother.

I remember one day when Aunt Emily gave me an injection. To my surprise, it didn't hurt nearly as much as I expected, based on previous experiences. I asked her why, and she smiled and said, "Child, I'm well-trained". Years later, when I became an RN myself, I fully understood what she meant. I still recall— and use— her technique for giving injections, with consistently good results.

Aunt Emily was also a woman of order. A friend recently reminded me of an incident that happened years ago at the Benjamin's home — an incident I vividly remember.

My girlfriend was visiting, and we had all gathered in Hue and JE's room, just chatting. Aunt Emily came home from work, walked straight into the room, greeted everyone, and then addressed my friend directly, respectfully, and softly: "Lil girl, I don't like girls in my Sons' room". She was serious, yet the moment was funny at the same time. My friend immediately exited the room, and from that day forward, whenever she visited, she knew to sit in the family room. She understood that Aunt Emily meant well—she was simply a woman of discipline and order.

My friend also remembered the scripture Aunt Emily had written on

her car, and we reminisced fondly about her when she called to offer her sympathy.

Aunt Emily loved the Lord, and her subtle messages—whether through scripture or story—were lasting, and influenced not only her household, but many others in a positive way.

Aunt Emily, you will be well-missed by many, and we love you so much! You ran a good race and finished your course beautifully. Rest in perfect peace.

God bless,

Felena

Felena Finley - January 24 at 12:56 PM

CD

“*Cousin Emily had a caring soul. She always took the time out to remember you. I mean you’ll be sitting down and something will come in the mail ‘just thinking about you’ or she’ll stop by and have something just for you that she couldn’t resist to bring. or she will call to find out how you’re doing. I know you have your wings now, Cousin Emily! Rest in Peace!*”



Cy Williette Dennis-Tukpah - January 24 at 09:03 AM

SD

Emily Vic, I will really miss you, But all I know about is good. I am glad to have had your companionship all these years and to share so much with you; LOVE, JOY, AND CHRIST. I GOT TO KNOW AND ENJOY YOUR CHILDREN AND GRANCHILDREN EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE DISTANT. BUT YOU SHARED YOUR LOVE FOR THEM WITH ME. I WAS SO HAPPY TO SEE YOU ON MY BIRTHDAY! YOU ARE TRULY BELOVED. WE WILL SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN.

Sadie DeShield - January 26 at 10:45 AM

GK

Aunty Emily, as I watched your celebration of life today I was deeply saddened. So many memories from my childhood came to mind. One of them being your impact on my spiritual life. I remember how you would pick us up to take us to prayer meetings at Trinity Cathedral. You treated us as one of your children. Even here in the states, You always checked on me. May your gentle soul rest in perfect peace.

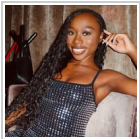
Gloria King-hoff - January 30 at 10:31 PM

JO

*“Cousin Emily was more than just Cousin Emily, Mrs. Benjamin or Emily. She was our village Mom. The village of Mesurado Compound, Bushrod Island, Liberia. She kept all of us in line, including the expats kids. If Cousin Emily reported you to your parents for doing something you had no business doing and she saw you, it was a guaranteed punishment no questions asked. She was a 2nd Mom to my siblings and I. She stood by our mother when no one else would. RIP Cousin Emily. I know you have your crown.
JoJo*



JoJo - January 23 at 07:41 AM



“My sweet Grandmother. She was the kindest and most generous woman I know. She raised me to be strong and independent and to put “Sis” or “Brother” before any one's name ahahaha. Grandma Benjamin will always be in my heart.



Maxine Antwi - January 22 at 09:27 PM



*VERY GENEROUS WOMAN ** typo*

Maxine Antwi - January 23 at 04:20 PM

AP

“ I had class lunch twice with the Oma. I remember she was energetic, fun, lively, sharing old school and Liberian stories. It was a fulfilling experience. Prayers for the family. Stay strong stay comforted.

Ansah Perry - January 22 at 01:26 PM

TB

“ The coleys lisa linda and bryan purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Emily Victoria Benjamin.



The coleys lisa linda and bryan - January 22 at 12:38 PM

KY

“ May Aunty Emily rest in heavenly peace. I have so many memories of Aunty Emily but one of my fondness and funniest is: She called me and told me she was in California and that she and Ms Dunbar had tickets to go to the "Price is Right." And she was telling me they had to be in the line by 4am or 6am. I said but it is going to be raining cats and dog. She commented "rain or shine" we are going. And sure enough it rained but they were there. She loved "galloping" as we say in Liberia. She will be missed but Jesus wants her by His side. Farewell, till we meet again

Katy Grrard Yhap - January 22 at 12:35 PM

SA

“ I always will remember whenever she visited with Aunty Tidi and the two of them would be talking about their Bromley days. She was such a lovely person. I always admired her energy when she was around. She will be missed.

My heartfelt condolences for your loss. May the many precious memories made be a consolation for all of you. Rest in peace, Mrs. Benjamin! 🙏🕊️

Shirley Allen - January 22 at 10:07 AM

TS

“ Aunt Emily

May your soul rest in perfect peace

The memories are cherished when she visited Texas to be with her dearest friend, Aunty Tidi. I know you all are in heaven and having a wonderful time. She is missed. Rest on Aunty Emily.

Tuwlo Stewart - January 21 at 03:22 PM

LC

My good friend as well as my neighbor . Will miss the times we shared and solved problems on my front porch . She always made me smile and feel good .

Linda Coley - January 21 at 06:30 PM

JS

“ Share Facebook X

JS

J.Yuku Stewart

6 minutes ago

My sweet aunty Emily, May your soul rest In Jesus peace and love. I always enjoyed when you visited me and my wife. I remembered calling telling you to come to Texas to be with your friend my mother and you came and we had so much fun with you aunty Emily and mommy, especially in the morning when mommy only drank tea and you drank coffee and one time you put the coffee on and mommy came and put her tea on and you said Tidi you put tea in my coffee and mommy said Emily you know I drink tea and both of them started laughing at each other. Memories I will carry forever. I love ❤️ you both. Rest well two friends.

J.Yuku Stewart - January 21 at 12:04 PM

WL

“ WITH LOVE, MICHELE AND LEO planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Emily Victoria Benjamin.

WITH LOVE, MICHELE AND LEO - January 21 at 11:48 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Emily Victoria Benjamin.



January 21 at 11:48 AM

AK

“ Good bye sweet sixteen rest well till we meet again ❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️

Alice Smallwood Kamara - January 21 at 11:27 AM

SJ

“ For over 60 years plus, I have been privileged to have such a beautiful soul in my life. Cousin Emily or Godma Emily, as I called her was always close and dear to my heart. She was always telling us stories and we were always welcome in her home. She always took the time to check up on all of her cousin Sewell, my father’s children. We will surely missed her presence and love she shown us over the years. May her beautiful soul and the pleasant memories remain in our hearts! Rest in Perfect Peace Cousin Emily 🙏❤️🙏
❤️

Sewell Brewer Jr - January 21 at 11:11 AM

CA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



care - January 21 at 09:19 AM

JS

My sweet aunty Emily, May your soul rest In Jesus peace and love. I always enjoyed when you visited me and my wife. I remembered calling telling you to come to Texas to be with your friend my mother and you came and we had so much fun with you aunty Emily and mommy, especially in the morning when mommy only drank tea and you drank coffee and one time you put the coffee on and mommy came and put her tea on and you said Tidi you put tea in my coffee and mommy said Emily you know I drink tea and both of them started laughing at each other. Memories I will carry forever. I love ❤️ you both. Rest well two friends.

J.Yuku Stewart - January 21 at 11:55 AM

JR

I called her Mommie because of the warmth she exuded. She was a beautiful soul. I don't believe I have ever met a person so strong in their faith as Emily Benjamin. May her soul rest in perfect peace. Sending prayers and love to the entire family💜

Jocelia Rancy - January 21 at 01:27 PM

BJ

“ One of my fondest memories of Mama Emily is how, every single time I came into the house, she recognized me and greeted me with the biggest, most beautiful smile. That smile alone could light up the room. I also loved how she would sneak cookies and cake whenever she could, always with a little sparkle in her eye, as if we were sharing a sweet secret.

Mama Emily had such a beautiful spirit—so positive, so welcoming, and so full of love. She embraced me as one of her bonus daughters and always made me feel special and seen. That kind of love is a gift I will forever cherish.

I am truly blessed and grateful that I was able to be in her presence and to know such a beautiful angel. I take comfort in knowing that she is at peace now, smiling down from above, resting in heavenly peace.

May her soul rest gently, wrapped in love and eternal joy.

Love Always
Brenda Johnson

Brenda Johnson - January 20 at 06:51 PM

FS

I met her once. She left an impression on me that was profound. Her personality and smiles was infectious. I am glad and blessed to have met her. She will be missed and may she rest in peace.

Forever Love
Felitta Shelton

Felitta Shelton - January 21 at 10:00 AM

LM

My Dear Sister Vick: The first (only) family member to recognize and encourage me to stay on my spiritual journey, though she didn't quite understand the depth of the journey - even provided some financial support at a critical juncture during those early trying times. I especially feel proud when I hear her friends and relatives speak complimentarily of their relationship with her; also, how other extended family members talk about how she reached out, embracing them as part of the family - as God would have it. She's done what she could; now, it's up to HIM.

Louie McClain - January 22 at 12:19 AM