



## Sister Queen Esther Jefferson Gilford

December 24, 1932 - December 11, 2020

Sis. Queen Esther Jefferson Gilford, 87, of Galveston, Texas, was called to her Heavenly home on December 11, 2020. She was born December 24, 1932 in Angie, Louisiana to Theodore and Rosetta Jefferson.

She was educated at Wesley Ray High School, where she graduated as Valedictorian. She received her Bachelors of Science Degree in Health and Physical Education from Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and later received her Masters of Education in Elementary Education from Texas Southern University in Houston, TX. She was an educator in Hitchcock Independent School District, where she retired after 30 years.

She was a member of Thessalonia Missionary Baptist Church where she served as First Lady under the leadership of her husband Pastor Ervin Gilford. She was also a member of Sunlight Missionary Baptist Church where she served diligently under the leadership of Pastor A.C. Tryon, until her health began to fail.

She is preceded in death by her parents; her husband Rev. Ervin Gilford, and her siblings, Thomas Jefferson, Carrie B. Harris, Robert Lee Jefferson, Annie Bell Peters, and Reuben James Jefferson. She leaves her precious memories to her children, Jacqueline Azore of Houston, TX, Rev. Reginald Gilford, Sr. of Galveston, TX, and Sonya Fontenot, Frisco, TX; Step-daughter Rose Alma

Gilford; and niece Wenn Jefferson- Reese; siblings; Silas Jefferson (Vickie) and Ernestine Davis; 9 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren, and a host of relatives and friends.

# Cemetery Details

## Lakeview Cemetery

Galveston, TX

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 22. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church  
302 N. Oak Street  
Texas City, TX 77591

## Funeral Service

DEC 22. 11:00 AM (CT)

Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church  
302 N. Oak Street  
Texas City, TX 77591

# Tribute Wall



“ *Sister Queen Esther Jefferson Gilford*

October 05, 2023 at 01:51 AM



“ *I was blessed to have Mrs. Gilford as my fifth grade teacher for the fall semester of the 1977-1978 school year at Stewart Elementary. We moved over Christmas break that year, and I will never forget her telling me how disappointed she was that I was leaving because she truly felt that I could have been the highest ranking student that year. Her belief in me inspired me to always do my very best, and I went on to graduate high school and college with honors and became a teacher myself. I, too, have sought to inspire countless young lives, and to make young people feel just as special as she made me feel. When I look back on my life and think about those people who have had the greatest impact on me, she is definitely at the top of the list. What an amazing life of love and service she lived, and I have absolutely no doubt that she was greeted by our Savior with the words, “Well done, My good and faithful servant!”*

**Karyn Ryder** - December 18, 2021 at 01:12 AM



“ *Sabrina Grant-Young lit a candle in memory of Sister Queen Esther Jefferson Gilford*



**Sabrina Grant-Young** - December 22, 2020 at 07:24 PM

AB

“ *Andrea B. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Sister Queen Esther Jefferson Gilford.*



Andrea B. - December 22, 2020 at 12:41 PM

AB

“ *Andrea Brown lit a candle in memory of Sister Queen Esther Jefferson Gilford*



Andrea Brown - December 22, 2020 at 12:27 PM



“ *23 files added to the album LifeTributes*



McBride Funeral Home - December 21, 2020 at 04:32 PM

LS

“ Mrs. Gilford left us beautiful memories. As we remember Mrs Gilford, we look back on a life well-lived. She’s truly a woman who will missed. Sonya, Jackie , Rose and Reggie .... “Those we love don’t go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard but always near”. The Stubblefield Family send our condolences.

Lelia S. - December 21, 2020 at 01:01 PM

LB

Condolences and Prayers of Comfort & Peace to the Gilford family during this difficult time. RIHP Mrs Gilford.

Linda B - December 23, 2020 at 09:34 AM

JM

“ Justine Mickens lit a candle in memory of Sister Queen Esther Jefferson Gilford



Justine Mickens - December 19, 2020 at 11:58 PM

JM

My prayers and condolences to the Gilford family.

Justine Mickens - December 20, 2020 at 12:01 AM

GM

“ Mrs. Gilford was my teacher at Stewart Elementary. She was very kind but stern. She was an excellent teacher. I remember she never wore pants. She was a good witness for something greater than herself. She was a reflection of dignity. I can see her most vividly in my mind. God bless her family, friends and every life she continues to influence through her influence. I am blessed to have had Mrs. Gilford as my teacher.

Gwen M. - December 19, 2020 at 07:52 PM