



Thelma Josephine Henderson-Bumphus (DOWNTOWN)

February 15, 1933 - June 3, 2025

Thelma Josephine Bumphus was born February 15, 1933 in Louisville, KY to the late Julius Caesar Henderson and Charlotte Jane Jackson (Henderson).

She was a devoted wife of 52 beautiful years to the late James “Mickey” Bumphus, who preceded her in death. He treated her like a queen every day of their lives together. To this union four children were born and shown nothing but love. Their love was a partnership in every sense—when you saw her, you saw him too. He was not only her husband but also her main chauffeur and constant companion. Together, they built a home filled with love, laughter, and lasting memories.

She was also a devoted mother, grandmother, and nurturer to all who knew her. A woman of deep compassion and unshakable reliability, if you needed her—she was there. She didn’t meet a stranger, and her home was a safe haven for family and friends alike, especially for those visiting from out of town who always knew they had a place to stay and meal would be prepared.

Professionally, she made history. She and her husband both retired from Philip Morris November 1, 1986 after 37 years of dedicated service. There, she broke barriers and opened doors for others, becoming the first African American woman machine operator at the main plant—a remarkable accomplishment that reflected both her strength and determination. She was

always proud to let others know her journey and love for Philip Morris.

Thelma transitioned to her heavenly father on June 3, 2025 at the blessed age of 92 surrounded by her children and grandchildren. .

Leaving to cherish her memories are her children, Nonia Martin, James Bumphus (Sandra), Charlotte Scott (Alan) and Grace Blakemore (Reddrick); 9 grandchildren, LaTonya Shackelford, Latina Smith, James Bumphus (Sophia), Sharita Bumphus, Thomas Scott (Danielle), Jeron Scott (Ju-Nell), Charlesdrea Bumphus, Justin Scott and Reddrick Blakemore; 5 bonus grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, 14 bonus great grandchildren, 4 great great grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Vistation: 5pm-8pm Friday, June 13, 2025 at A. D. Porter & Sons Funeral Home, 1300 W. Chestnut St.

Funeral: 11am Saturday, June 14, 2025 at Greater Faith Church, 4205 Cane Run Rd., burial in Louisville Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Louisville

1339 Poplar Level Rd.
Louisville, KY 40217
lfbaine@gmail.com

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 13. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

A. D. Porter and Sons Funeral Home - Downtown
1300 West Chestnut Street
Louisville, KY 40203
(502) 587-9678
a.d.portersoutheast@gmail.com
<https://adporters.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of *Thelma Josephine Henderson-Bumphus (DOWNTOWN)*.



June 13, 2025 at 01:58 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of *Thelma Josephine Henderson-Bumphus (DOWNTOWN)*.

June 13, 2025 at 01:58 PM



“ *Loving Gary, IN Family! Armstrong/Hill* purchased the *Strength & Solace Spray* for the family of *Thelma Josephine Henderson-Bumphus (DOWNTOWN)*.



Loving Gary, IN Family! Armstrong/Hill - June 13, 2025 at 01:13 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet* was purchased for the family of *Thelma Josephine Henderson-Bumphus (DOWNTOWN)*.



June 12, 2025 at 05:31 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of *Thelma Josephine Henderson-Bumphus (DOWNTOWN)*.

June 12, 2025 at 05:31 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of *Thelma Josephine Henderson-Bumphus (DOWNTOWN)*.



June 11, 2025 at 03:56 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of *Thelma Josephine Henderson-Bumphus (DOWNTOWN)*.

June 11, 2025 at 03:56 PM

AT

“ I am just hearing at 12:14 p.m. today about my favorite patient since 1988, Mrs. Bumphus, from Drs. Aaron & Walker. Her visit was a truly unique experience that I will never forget, and I still share the story today. Then her daughters were my sons' teachers from McFerran Preparatory Academy, Stephen Foster Traditional Academy - The Best Teachers Ever! Then she was at the same Rehabilitation Facility that my Father was at. 💔 My heart is HEAVY AGAIN!💔 A Strong woman/child of God, Diva you were, Queen you are, Sassy as ever, and a beautiful SMILE till the end! Smooches and love you, Mrs. A. (Taylor-Mitchell Family)



Adriene Taylor-Mitchell - June 11, 2025 at 12:45 PM

VF

“ Victor Henderson and Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Thelma Josephine Henderson-Bumphus (DOWNTOWN).



Victor Henderson and Family - June 11, 2025 at 08:17 AM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Thelma Josephine Henderson-Bumphus (DOWNTOWN).



June 10, 2025 at 10:50 AM

GB

“ THIS IS SO HARD MAMA, BUT I KNOW YOU ARE AT PEACE AND STILL WITH ME IN SPIRIT. EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU I WILL ALWAYS CHERISH. YOUR STRENGTH, YOUR WISDOM, YOUR CRAZINESS, YOUR LAUGHTER, YOUR HEART, BUT MOST OF ALL YOUR LOVE. THERE WILL NEVER BE ANOTHER LIKE YOU AND I THANK GOD HE GAVE US TO EACH OTHER AND MORE TIME. I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M GONNA DO WITHOUT YOU, BUT WITH GODS GUIDANCE I'LL FIGURE IT OUT. WOOOO THIS IS SOOOOO HARD!! I LOVE YOU WITH EVERY HEART BEAT AND BREATH I TAKE. GET YOUR REST SUNSHINE. LOVE YOU MAMA

GRACE BUMPHUS BLAKEMORE - June 09, 2025 at 05:46 PM

JM

My condolences to the family. Mama Thelma was a beautiful and kind lady. So glad I got to meet her a long time ago. Glad also I was there for her 90th birthday. God promised us 70 years and 15 more if we are good. She must have been very good to get 94 years. What a blessing to have your dear Mom for so many wonderful years. But still I understand you're never ready to say so long. May she rest in peace.

Jeanette Martin - June 10, 2025 at 09:47 AM