



**"A FALLEN LIMB"**

*A limb has fallen from the family tree.  
 I keep hearing a voice that says, "Grieve not for me".  
 Remember the best times, the laughter, the song.  
 The good life I lived while I was strong.  
 Continue my heritage, I'm counting on you.  
 Keep smiling and surely the sun will shine through.  
 My mind is at ease, my soul at rest.  
 Remembering all, how I truly was blessed.  
 Continue traditions, no matter how small.  
 Go on with your life, don't worry about falls.  
 I miss you all dearly, so keep up your chin.  
 Until the day comes we're together again.*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

*Our family wishes to extend our profound and sincere gratitude for the outpouring of love, support, and prayers during this difficult time. Through our cherished memories, Lillian will live on in our hearts forever. May we continue to celebrate her life by living freely and with gratitude every single day that we have the ability to take a breath.*

**ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO:**

  
**BENTA'S**  
 Funeral Home, Inc.  
 630 St. Nicholas Avenue  
 New York, NY 10030  
 Phone: (212) 281-8850  
 Fax: (212) 234-3600

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF**



*Lillian Cain*

SUNRISE: MAY 6, 1928 - SUNSET: FEBRUARY 26, 2025

**FUNERAL SERVICE**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2025 - 11:00 A.M.**  
**THE CHURCH OF SAINT CATHERINE GENOA**  
 504 WEST 153RD STREET  
 NEW YORK, NY 10031  
 FATHER DAVID NOLAN, *Officiating*

# Order of Service

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- MUSIC PRELUDE** ..... Bart Mather
- INVOCATION** ..... Father Nolan
- HYMN OF COMFORT** ..... “Blessed Assurance”  
Liseli Lugo
- SCRIPTURE READING**  
Old Testament..... Wisdom 3:1-9 – Burton Richard Belle III  
New Testament..... Corinthian 12:31 – 13:8a
- GOSPEL** ..... John 14:1-6
- PRAYER OF THE INTERCESSION** ..... Father Nolan
- OFFERTORY HYMN** ..... “I Surrender All”  
Liseli Lugo
- LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST** ..... Father Nolan
- COMMUNION HYMN** ..... “How Great Thou Art”  
Liseli Lugo
- MEDITATION HYMN** .... “My Help Cometh From The Lord”  
Liseli Lugo
- EULOGY** ..... Father Nolan
- RECESSIONAL HYMN**..... “Be Not Afraid”  
Liseli Lugo

Repast At 1pm  
**RIVER TERRACE SOUTH COMMUNITY ROOM**  
156-20 Riverside Drive West  
New York, NY 10032

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## Entombment

**TRINITY CHURCH CEMETERY & MAUSOLEUM**  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

# Obituary

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**Mrs. Lillian Mae (Burton) Cain** was born in Gumberry, North Carolina on May 6, 1928. She was the 2nd of three children born to the late Paul Burton and Eunice Kee. Gumberry, North Carolina was where she met and married her first husband Chauncey Belle at a very young age and bore two sons, Burton Richard Belle and John Paul Belle.

Lillian was a woman of remarkable strength and determination. Living life on her own terms. She was known for her no-nonsense attitude and straightforward approach to life, qualities that endeared her to many. With a steadfast resolve to create a better future for her family, she made the courageous decision to leave Gumberry in the 1940's, relocating to New York in pursuit of greater opportunities for herself and her children.

While in New York, Lillian was dedicated to furthering her education by attending various job training programs, ultimately securing a position as a bookkeeper at A&P supermarket, where she worked diligently until her retirement.

In 1963, Lillian married Jimmy McNeal, and together they became one of the original shareholders of River Terrace building. She often reflected on this as one of the best decisions of her life, as River Terrace provided her with a close-knit and supportive community. She took great pride in her involvement with the “The Ladies of Terrace”, cherishing the friendships she formed and actively participating in the many planned outings and building activities. Jimmy McNeal passed away in 1976.

A devoted and faithful member of St. Catherine of Genoa Church, Lillian regularly attended services for as long as her health allowed.

In 1986, Lillian found love once again, marrying William Cain, a fellow River Terrace resident. Together they enjoyed a wonderful life together, traveling, going out to eat and entertaining family and friends until his passing in 2020.

Though Lillian built a life in New York, she never lost her deep connection to North Carolina. She purchased a home in Jackson, where she spent summers with her grandchildren, ensuring they remained close to their Southern roots and family traditions.

Lillian's legacy is one of love, resilience, and faith. Her kindness touched everyone who had the privilege of knowing her, and she leaves behind a family and community forever grateful for her presence. A true matriarch.

She is now reunited in eternal rest with her children and loved ones who have gone before her. Her memory will continue to be cherished by her grandchildren, Michelle Belle, Matthew Belle, Isadora Lanier, Burton Belle II, John Belle; her great-grandchildren; extended family; and a host of beloved friends.

Her presence will be missed, but her love and legacy will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.