OBITUARY

Mary Elizabeth Butler Cooper, daughter of the late Amos and Mary Francis Butler was born on January 17, 1917 and departed this life on Thursday, February 28, 2008. She was reared and educated with nine brothers and sisters in the Roseboro and Clinton, North Carolina area. Mary was a graduate of Sampson County High School located in Clinton. She also graduated from the All Quinn School of Beauty Culture in Durham, North Carolina; Poro School of Beauty Culture and Adele Reed School of Advanced Hair Styling and Weaving both located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Additionally, she attended advanced graduate classes in Hair and Beauty Culture in Florida, California, and New York.

On January 6, 1938, Mary was united in Holy Matrimony to Fred D. Cooper. From this union they were blessed with two loving and devoted children Lorraine and Ronald.

Mary, was affectionately called “Nana and Aunt Mary” by many who knew her. She served more than sixty dedicated years as a member of the Shiloh Baptist Church of under the pastorate of the late Rev. Dr. S. Howard Woodson, Jr. and presently Rev. Darrell L. Armstrong. She was an honorary member of the Senior Usher and the Ladies Guild Ministries. Mary devotedly served and was faithfully affiliated with numerous organizations and committees of the church. She was the founder and Chairperson of the Mother’s Day Recognition Breakfast and she continued to serve her beloved Shiloh though the work of her children.
For over fifty years, she was the proud proprietor of Mary’s Beauty Shoppe, with locations in Trenton, Bordentown and Wrightstown. Mary mentored and supported countless local beauticians.

In the community, Mary was a member of the New Breed Coiffure #12, Coiffures Guild #10, and the Alpha Chi Pi Omega Sorority. She and her late husband Fred served as mentors to numerous boys and girls in the greater Trenton Community. The door of her home stood ajar for all those seeking good advice, good conversation and of course the best of home cooking.

Mary was predeceased by her husband Fred, brothers: Willie Williams, James, Maceo, Dancy and Rev. Dr. J. Ray Butler; sisters: Louberta Sampson, Juanita Boney, Estelle Isaac; Goddaughter, Elizabeth Sallie, and a “special daughter”, Myrtle Young. Nana leaves to cherish her precious memories and inherit her love, dedication and loyalty to God, family and life, her tremendously dedicated children: daughter and son, Lorraine and Ronald D. Cooper, Sr. (Carolyn), of Trenton and grandson, R. Douglas Cooper, Jr. (Kiana); two great grandsons, Keon and Savion Cooper, of Yardville, NJ. One sister Arletha B. Graham of Washington, DC; two sisters-in-law and one brother-in-law, Marion Butler of Winston-Salem, NC, Mozelle Butler of Clinton, NC, and Holland Boney of Rose Hill, NC; a former sister-in-law, Mozelle Butler Boney of Rose Hill, NC; and a “special cousin”, Lester Young of Waycross, GA; Godchildren: Marion Ingram, Sheryl Lee Lewis, Irene Leonard and Robin Randolph: Caregivers: Mary Bryson, Eddie Mae Simmons, Lucretia Bennett, Bill Williams, Harold Kirby, Bessie Staley Irma Glover and Nurse, Rosemarie Fitzpatrick She also leaves to mourn a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, and her Shiloh Church Family.