

MARIE LYONS HILL

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Educator & Role Model



Marie Lyons Hill was born to Mr. and Mrs. Gaines A. Lyons Sr., of Mangham. She had two brothers and two sisters, all whom proceeded her in death. She loved her family consisting of six nieces, six great nieces, five nephews, five great nephews, four great, great nephews and cousins. One thing she loved more than her family was God and serving him. She was a life member of greater Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church. She was in the choir and served as a deaconess and was very fond of her Pastor Lionel Robinson. After starting elementary school in Mangham, she graduated from the former Eula D. Britton High School in Rayville. She attended Grambling State University majoring in early elementary education. The Lyons family have a long and storied legacy as educators in the Black community. Marie Lyons Hill and her sisters and niece; Alice Lyons McMillan, Adeline Lyons Youngblood and Earline Lyons



The Marie Lyons Hill

Education Assistance Foundation in Rayville, LA was established in 2014, by Liddle Wagner Owens her adopted daughter. The foundation continues to positively impact educational opportunities in the local area. The foundation is a tax-exempt, non-profit tax code designated 501 (c)(3) organization.

Marie Lyons Hill was a woman who exemplified the true meaning of Christian warrior. With the full armor of God, she blazed through the trails of injustice, poverty, suffering and hatred looking ahead toward the many success of generations to come. The risks taken were just a part of the process that guaranteed their success. How proud she was to see the result of her efforts when Sen. Barack Hussein Obama was elected as

taught two and three generations of students at Pardue, Egypt, Mangham, Alto and Baskin Elementary schools. She was an educator, administrator, counselor, role model, dominant leader, girls' and boys' basketball coach, and very passionate about life and her religious and social beliefs. She took a vow to make things better than the circumstance of inequities that existed between the segregated schools; separate but unequal access to books, facilities, supplies, and other resources.

She took on the task of conducting protests and petitions to bring about a change to integrate the school's system. Her actions were not always accepted and created a hostile work and social environment; even in the Black community she was ostracized and shunned. She and Claude Minor were instrumental in organizing and establishing the Martin Luther King (MLK) Society and MLK observance activities officially recognized. Mrs. Hill served as President of the MLK Society. She was president and a key proponent of the Richland Parish Teacher's Association, until her death.



president of the United States of America. Despite her footsteps growing short, she attended President Obama's 2008 Inauguration. You can imagine her exhilaration to witness his re-election for a second term. Because of Dr. King's works to lay the path, she developed the strength to walk in his footsteps which provided the foundation for President Obama and many more to follow. She believed all establishments should be built on the solid foundation of Jesus Christ. One of her favorite saying was by Frederick Douglas, "I would unite with anybody to do right and with nobody to do wrong." Marie Lyons Hill a truly remarkable woman that will live on in the hearts of the generations of students she taught and the people she loved and humbly served.