

Nephews

FLOWER BEARERS

Nieces

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The family of the late Leola Cooks wishes to thank you for all acts of kindness shown during our period of bereavement. Your thoughts and prayers are most appreciated. We ask that you continue to pray for us as we move forward in the days to come. We pray that God continue to bless and keep each of you.

~ The Cooks Family

Special Thanks To: Frensius Dialysis Southern Springs Rehabilitation Haynes Ambulance



Final Life Celebration Entrusted to:



Carter Funeral Home
302 Carter Street
Union Springs, AL 36089
Phone: (334) 738-3020
Fax: (334) 738-3099
carterfuneralhomeusa@yahoo.com
"Where Professional Service becomes an Everlasting Memory"

Funeral Keepsake by Orlando Johnson • ORJ Keepsakes • 334 318 1114

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE AND TRIUMPH HONORING



REMEMBERING OUR " ON CHARGE LEOLA COOKS

who was deeply loved and will truly be missed.

On March 9, 1961, God blessed the union of the late Tom, Sr. and Mable Weems Cooks with the birth of a baby girl and nineteenth child they would name Leola Cooks. She would affectionately be called "Bonchaes", as a nickname given by her godmother, Rochelle Finney.

Leola confessed and proclaimed Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior, and united with Old Sardis Baptist Church where she served faithfully unto death. She coordinated many of the church functions and served in several capacities, including Financial Secretary, Church Trustee, and Program Coordinator. She was also one of the founding members of the Old Sardis Mass Choir. She truly loved God and her church family.

Leola was a proud product of the Bullock County School System and a 1978 Graduate of Bullock County High School. She established lasting memories and forever friendships with her classmates. She attended Chauncey Sparks Community College where she earned an Associate Degree in Business and later received a Bachelor Degree in Business Administration. She took great pride in her education and her alumni status.

Leola Cooks served her community with dignity and integrity. She understood the value of work ethic. Although Leola held several jobs in her life's tenure, she committed to her professional career as Tax Assessor at Bullock County Revenue Commissioner's Office for many years before retiring. She also fulfilled her civic duty as secretary of the Bullock County Executive Democratic Committee and a precinct inspector for many national, state, and local elections.



Bonchaes had a true passion for children and played an essential role in the rearing of most of her nieces and nephews, many of whom she accepted the role of a second mother. She acknowledged their accomplishments with honor and pride as her own. That pride was shown in the love and rearing of Christopher (Boo) Cooks and Devontae Pettway. Most recently she found much joy and love in her telephone and video chats with her great-great nephew, "Sweet Jayden" Mack. She also demonstrated her love and passion for children by advocating for the youth in the community and as being a foster parent with Seraaj. She enjoyed researching her family history and reading a variety of books and spent much of her leisure time watching Days of Our Lives, Little House on the Prairie, WWE Raw and Smackdown, and many western movies and series.

Leola exchanged her mortal body for immortality on Monday, February 21, 2021, surrounded by the love and a peace of her family. Those that she planned to meet in the resurrection are her parents- Tom, Sr. and Mable Weems Cooks, her siblings- Walter, Hudson Lee, Christine, Tom, Jr., Martha, Ada Louise, Curtis, Charles, Emmitte, Queen Victoria, Paris, Tommie Mae, Alfred and Martin Luther.

Those that are abound by the treasures and memories of Bonchaes' life are her loving and devoted siblings—Vera Davis, Columbus, Georgia, Mable McKinnon, Fayetteville, North Carolina, Shepherd Cooks, Detroit, Michigan, Annie (Webster) Youngblood, Ruby (Kelvin) Stephens and Patricia Crawford, all of Union Springs, Alabama; sisters-in-law: Alberta Cooks, Detroit, Michigan, Lucy Cooks, Montgomery, Alabama, Ruth Cooks and Martha Cooks, Union Springs, Alabama; Godsons: Markeon (Shannon) and Shawtagous Ross, Kendall Hurts and Taureaun (Tachara) Crawford; Goddaughters: Shameka Maddox and Rhonda Anthony; adoptive mother figures-- Ella Mae Johnson, Mattie L. Ousley, and Lillie Banks; special niece and best friend- Dorothy Nobles; special nephew-Sammy Cooks; longtime best friend and sister- Irene Ross. Other friends include: Mary Turpin, Sandra Thomas, Donna Smith, Annie Gochett, Barbara Lewis, BJ Benton, Rev. Hawthorne and Neara Reed, Lisa Scott, Kathy Scott-Williams, Betty Goshay, Margarent Morris, Novella Woodfaulk and Lucretia Baldwin-Jernigan. Special Cousins: Jerome Townsend, Frazier Townsend, Charlene Baskin-Mitchell, Shirley Ivy, James Cooks and Charles Weaver and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives and friends.

The family also wishes to acknowledge special caretakers: Odessa Beachem, Lucy Smith, Lashonda Wheeler and Beverly Crawford.

To Those Whom I Love

& THOSE WHO LOVED ME

When I am gone, release me, let me go. I have so many things to see and do, You mustn't tie yourself to me with too many tears, But be thankful we had so many good years. I gave you my love, and you can only guess How much you've given me in happiness. I thank you for the love that you have shown, But now it is time I traveled on alone. So grieve for me a while, if grieve you must, Then let your grief be comforted by trust. It is only for a while that we must part, So treasure the memories within your heart. I won't be far away for life goes on. And if you need me, call and I will come. Though you can't see or touch me, I will be near. And if you listen with your heart, you'll hear, All my love around you soft and clear. And then, when you come this way alone, I'll greet you with a smile and a 'Welcome Home'.

Love you always and forever,

Bonchaes



















Sunday, February 27, 2022
2:00 p.m.
Old Sardis Baptist Church
4397 Highway 223
Union Springs, Alabama 36089
Eulogist: Dr. James H. Gochett, Pastor
Officiating: Rev. Hawthorne Reed

Order of Service

Prelude

Invocation Elder Della Murray

The Old Testament Scripture Rev. Hawthorne Reed

The New Testament Scripture Rev. Sidney Jernigan

Musical Selection

Memorial Tribute Terry K. Crawford

Acknowledgements/Resolutions Carter Funeral Home

Reflections of Love (Please, limit 2 minutes)

The Obituary Read in Silence

Musical Selection

Eulogy Dr. James H. Gochett

Recessional



In life we loved you dearly,
In death, we do the same.
It broke our hearts to lose you.
You did not go alone.
For part of us went with you,
The day God called you home.
You left us beautiful memories,
Your love is still our guide.
And although we cannot see you,
You are always at our side.
Our family chain is broken,
And nothing seems the same,
But as God calls us one by one,
The chain will link again.
- Your Brother and Sisters

















