



## Doris Jean Williams Evans

March 12, 1935 - May 20, 2022

Mrs. Doris Jean Williams Evans was born March 12, 1935 to the late Clyde and Minnie Williams in Flowery Branch, Georgia. Her father was a sharecropper and a Jack-of-all-Trades; her mother was a homemaker who homeschooled her children. Doris told us that her mother went to the Superintendent of Schools and told him that if her children couldn't go their local school, they could at least provide the books so that she could teach them at home. And they did!

After being homeschooled in the first and second grades, young Doris attended the Mt. Zion School on the campus of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church from third through eighth grades. She later graduated from Fair Street High School in 1952; her diploma reads "Gainesville Colored High School." After working in the poultry plant with her Aunt Frances for a few years, Doris received her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education in 1959 from HBCU Paine College. She also became certified as a teacher in 1959 and began her teaching career in Covington, Ga.

After many suitors, on July 21, 1961 Doris selected Bennie Evans, a brick mason and entrepreneur, to be her life partner and husband. From that union came Lynne, a financial accountant; Arnold, a West Point graduate and lawyer; and the baby, L. Todd, an engineer. Bennie and Doris would go on to pursue many business endeavors including B & E Quality Homes, Mangum's

Service Station & Grocery Store, and The Place for Fine BBQ to name a few. Still new in the teaching world, Doris continued her education. She was among the first wave of Negroes to graduate from the University of Georgia, receiving a master's degree in Education in 1970. A few months later, she was offered a position to be the first Black teacher to work in an all-White school at Candler Street; it was integrated shortly thereafter. In 1972, she was appointed as the director of the newly launched preschool, Early Child Development Center. She remained in this position until it was no longer affiliated with the Gainesville City School system.

In 1983, Mrs. Evans returned to teaching in the classroom at Enota Elementary School where she taught kindergarten through third grades. In 1991, she was selected to manage the startup of Centennial Elementary School. Her responsibilities covered the spectrum from hiring teachers to ordering classroom supplies. After her assignment was completed and to her surprise, she was named the first African American Assistant Principal at this new school. She remained in her position until she retired in 1999, after 41 years as an educator.

In 1985, Doris was initiated into the Lambda Iota Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Her Chapter positions were Basileus, Anti-Basileus, Grammateus, Pecunious Grammateus, Hodegos, and Philacter. She traveled throughout the country attending conventions and training sessions. She also participated in the recruitment and initiation of new Sorors.

After retirement, Grandma Doris was heavily involved in her grandchildren's education by showing up to read on Fridays in their classrooms and attending their school functions. She also enjoyed gardening and sewing, and became involved in several organizations such as the Hall County Black History Society, Georgia Retired Educators Association, Gainesville-Hall County Metropolitan Planning Organization, Northwestern Baptist Association Mass

Choir, Northeast Georgia Phi Delta Kappa Fraternity in Education, and Home Development Resources, Inc.

Doris supported many charitable organizations, which included American Cancer Society, Susan G. Komen Foundation, Easter Seals, American Red Cross, Ronald McDonald House, March of Dimes, Make A Wish Foundation, United Negro College Fund, Special Olympics, Heart Association, Alzheimer's Association, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Georgia Food Bank, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, and her alma mater, Paine College.

As a life-long member of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Mother Evans served in numerous capacities over the years such as member of the Pastors search committee and Senior Choir, and President and Treasurer of the Mother Board—just to name a few.

As a two-time Cancer Survivor, Mrs. Evans taught us more than reading and writing. She taught us how to carry ourselves with grace, class, and professionalism—regardless of how others treated us and regardless of the pain of our circumstances.

Doris is preceded in death by her husband, Trustee Bennie Evans; her brother, Rev. Calvin W (the late Mattie) Williams; and her sisters, Sarah Eloise Williams ( the late Robert) Stringer and Maggie Ruth Williams (the late Doc) Lowe.

She leaves to cherish her memories three children: Lynne (Cedric) Randolph of Gainesville, GA; Arnold (Joyce) Evans of Atlanta, GA; and L. Todd (Shelia) Evans of Flowery Branch, GA; her six grandchildren: C. Monique Randolph of Sugar Hill, GA; Cierra (Orrin) Portwood of Marietta, GA; PaShance Evans of Flowery Branch, GA; Dominique Evans of Valdosta, GA; Asha & Aaren Evans

of Atlanta, GA; her four great-grandchildren: Treyven and Andre Blackwell, Cymphoni Giles, and Madison Greene; her sisters: twin Dorothy (Rev. Gene) Dean of Hepzibah, GA; Geraldine (the late Rev. B.G.) Roberts of Savannah, GA; and Ernestine (the late Deacon Harold) Williams of Clinton, SC; and a host of sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends whom she held dear.

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Zion Baptist Church Cemetery

4000 Thurmond Tanner Road  
Flowery Branch, AK 30542

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 27. 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Wimberly Funeral Home  
325 Summitt St SE  
Gainesville, GA 30501  
(770) 536-3251  
[info@wimberlyjackson.com](mailto:info@wimberlyjackson.com)  
<https://www.wimberlyjacksonfuneralhome.com>

## Visitation

MAY 27. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Mount Zion Baptist Church  
4000 Thurmond Tanner Road  
Flowery Branch, GA 30542

## Service

---

MAY **28**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Mount Zion Baptist Church  
4000 Thurmond Tanner Road  
Flowery Branch, GA 30542

# Tribute Wall



“ *Doris Jean Williams Evans*

October 22, 2023 at 04:48 PM



“ *Greg Smith lit a candle in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans*



**Greg Smith** - August 02, 2022 at 04:39 PM



“ *Lynn, So sorry to hear about your mom. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*

**Dee Dee Stephens** - May 31, 2022 at 03:59 PM



“ *Wanda Tabor-Jenkins lit a candle in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans*



**Wanda Tabor-Jenkins** - May 30, 2022 at 09:58 AM

CA

“ I knew Doris through retired educators. She was a very faithful member for many years. She was on the membership committee. She will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with the family.  
Carlette Ansley

---

**Carlette Ansley** - May 29, 2022 at 03:26 PM

HC

“ May 28, 2022  
God was walking through His garden. He created for His very own. He Paused beside a lovely flower that was very overgrown, He stooped down with Love and Mercy and relieved her of her pain and sorrow, He went His way knowing it would add luster to His heavenly bouquet.  
But He would not leave you comfortless, so we do not grieve as those who have no hope. Sister Doris Jean Williams left a legacy to her family to trust in Jesus Christ alone.  
With great love and concern for you the family and friends of Sister Williams, we offer our sincere condolences.

*Humbly Submitted,  
Hopewell Temple Christian Methodist Episcopal Church  
3320 South Lake Drive  
Texarkana, Texas 75501*

*Dr. Kai Horn, Pastor  
Sister Virginia Reed, Church Administrator*

---

**Hopewell Temple CME Church** - May 28, 2022 at 10:28 AM

DW

“ *Doris was so sweet! My thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of grief.*



---

**Dianasue Fiske Walton** - May 27, 2022 at 10:52 PM

TC

“ *Doris was a lovely lady and she will be missed. You all will be in our thoughts and prayers*

*Trudy Couch  
Vicki Pinson*

---

**Trudy Couch** - May 27, 2022 at 10:01 PM

NN

“ *My deepest condolences to this beloved family, may God grant you comfort and strength during this most difficult time. My prayers are with you all.*



---

**Natalie D Niles** - May 27, 2022 at 07:02 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Doris Jean Williams Evans.*



---

May 27, 2022 at 12:35 PM



“ *Doris was a lovely person inside and out. I worked with her at Enota and Centennial for 15 years. Not once can I recall seeing her without a smile on her face. Condolences to her family. Doris is shining her light on heavens gate.*

Janet Walker - May 27, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *Nana Neal lit a candle in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans*



Nana Neal - May 26, 2022 at 03:41 PM



*My thoughts and prayers are with you in your time of grief.*

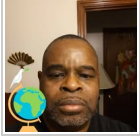
Nana Neal - May 26, 2022 at 03:57 PM



“ *Mary Moore lit a candle in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans*



Mary Moore - May 26, 2022 at 02:06 PM



“ *Corinthaus Richie lit a candle in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans*



---

**Corinthaus Richie** - May 26, 2022 at 01:23 PM

MF

“ *Lynn, Arnold & All the family,  
My heart is IN all that you must bear during these times of grief,  
sadness. May Our Lord give you strength to get thru these times  
and may He give all of us gratefulness in our hearts that your  
beautiful Mom shared her beauty with all of us.*

*You are in my heart & mind today and always,*

*Figueras*

---

**Myrtle Figueras** - May 26, 2022 at 11:43 AM

ML

“ *Marion Lott lit a candle in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans*



---

**Marion Lott** - May 26, 2022 at 10:40 AM

DS

“ Deon S,Turner lit a candle in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans



Deon S,Turner - May 26, 2022 at 09:37 AM

JS

“ Jeraldine Sewell sent a virtual gift in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans



Jeraldine Sewell - May 26, 2022 at 09:10 AM

HF

“ Hopkins's Family lit a candle in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans



Hopkins's Family - May 26, 2022 at 08:53 AM

SJ

“ Star Johnson lit a candle in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans



Star Johnson - May 25, 2022 at 08:57 PM



“ *Frances Williams lit a candle in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans*



-----  
**Frances Williams** - May 25, 2022 at 07:27 PM

DB

“ *Deanna Burris-Rucker lit a candle in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans*



-----  
**Deanna Burris-Rucker** - May 25, 2022 at 05:03 PM

DB

*Praying for peace and comfort.*

-----  
**Deanna Burris-Rucker** - May 25, 2022 at 05:04 PM

RH

“ *Regina Harris And Family Are Sending Prayers Out To The Williams And Evans Family!!*

-----  
**Regina Harris** - May 25, 2022 at 02:36 PM

RH

“ *Regina Harris sent a virtual gift in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans*



-----  
**Regina Harris** - May 25, 2022 at 02:25 PM

GM

“ *Gloria Maddox sent a virtual gift in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans*



---

**Gloria Maddox** - May 25, 2022 at 02:14 PM

GM

*We are sending our deepest condolences from the Kesler Family.*

---

**Gloria Maddox** - May 25, 2022 at 02:16 PM

SW

“ *Prayers for peace, strength and comfort.*



---

**Sharon Williams** - May 25, 2022 at 01:19 PM

CH

“ *Candace Hudson lit a candle in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans*



---

**Candace Hudson** - May 25, 2022 at 12:45 PM



“ *Cynetia Banks lit a candle in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans*



---

**Cynetia Banks** - May 25, 2022 at 11:39 AM

SE

“ *Samuel Evans lit a candle in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans*



---

**Samuel Evans** - May 25, 2022 at 11:11 AM

MH

“ *Our prayers & condolences to the Evans Family! Mr. Ira & Lisher Hamilton*

---

**Mr. Ira Hamilton** - May 25, 2022 at 08:40 AM

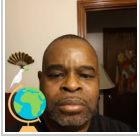
KB

“ *Kim Brown lit a candle in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans*



---

**Kim Brown** - May 25, 2022 at 08:32 AM



“ *Corinthus Richie lit a candle in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans*



Corinthus Richie - May 25, 2022 at 12:54 AM

BR

“ *Brenda lit a candle in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans*



Brenda - May 24, 2022 at 12:55 PM

CN

“ *Charlene & Avery Niles lit a candle in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans*



Charlene & Avery Niles - May 24, 2022 at 11:53 AM

JS

“ *Jeraldine Sewell sent a virtual gift in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans*



Jeraldine Sewell - May 24, 2022 at 11:10 AM

EB

“ Elisa Bonds-Ratliff sent a virtual gift in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans



Elisa Bonds-Ratliff - May 24, 2022 at 09:57 AM

HO

“ Hollis-Smith sent a virtual gift in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans



Hollis-Smith - May 23, 2022 at 11:14 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Doris Jean Williams Evans.



May 23, 2022 at 04:23 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Doris Jean Williams Evans.



May 23, 2022 at 04:07 PM

SB

“ *Shirlee Barnes sent a virtual gift in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans*



---

**Shirlee Barnes** - May 23, 2022 at 03:39 PM

CA

“ *Carolyn lit a candle in memory of Doris Jean Williams Evans*



---

**Carolyn** - May 23, 2022 at 02:41 PM

SB

“ *Lynn, Todd and your Brother as well as the entire family. I loved your mom I will never forget how she supported and helped me when I moved to gainesville in 1994. I am so so sorry for your loss.*



---

**Shirley blake** - May 23, 2022 at 01:33 PM