



Dorothy Ruth Kea

September 21, 1936 - November 21, 2024

Mrs. Dorothy R. Kea transitioned from labor to reward on November 21, 2024. Dorothy, affectionately known as “Dot or Peep,” to her closest friends and co-workers, was born on September 21, 1936, in Commerce, Georgia to the late Robert and Francine Harris. During her early years, Dorothy attended grade school and later graduated from Johntown High School in Commerce, Georgia, where she was a member of the school’s varsity basketball team. She often spoke of her fondness for her hometown and the many men, women, and friends that influenced her in her youth.

Dorothy came to Christ at an early age and was a member of Warren Chapel AME in Commerce, Georgia. After relocating to Gainesville, Georgia, she joined St. Paul United Methodist Church where she sang in the Chancel Hymn Choir, volunteered with the Willing Workers Guild, and ushered for many years before transferring her membership to St. John Baptist Church. She loved her church and community and allowed her faith in the Lord Jesus Christ to guide her work in the community. She was an early member of the Newtown Florist Club under the leadership of Mrs. Ruby Wilkins, and later, Mrs. Faye Bush. Her faith was central to her life, and she leaned on her faith through family losses and during challenging times. She reinforced her faith through daily prayer, church attendance, and regular bible-reading. In her later years, her bible, though tattered, was always open, marked, and never far away. One of her favorite pastimes was attending church concerts with her mother, Francine.

As a young adult, she pursued training in early childhood education and received certificates from Lanier Tech and Appalachian State University. She started her career in early childhood education in 1966 as a Kindergarten Teacher for Ninth District Head Start, and later as a Social Worker for the Community Service Center. Her entrepreneurial spirit led her to open and operate Kiddie Kollege in the former Green Hunter Homes daycare center. She worked for the Chestatee Regional Library as a Circulation Tech, and later assisted as a para-professional at Centennial Elementary School and Enota Elementary School. She was a strong advocate for early childhood education. She also believed that children should be taught to read as early as possible. After retiring from the classroom, she became a licensed provider for adults with special needs and hosted numerous adults in her home for over 15 years.

Dorothy loved her family and enjoyed traveling. She enjoyed having her grandchildren visit during the summer months. She cruised and traveled with her children and grandchildren and was delighted by their achievements: high school and college graduations, and military service. She marveled at what her children and grandchildren accomplished academically and professionally. Her grit, tenacity, tender heart, gifts for teaching and encouragement left an indelible mark on the lives of her children, grandchildren, and her students. In the community, she was known as an impeccable dresser. She loved dressing well. Not one women's boutique in Gainesville escaped her scrutiny. Her radiant smile, easy-going demeanor, and loving heart matched her taste for clothes. The compliments from young women were numerous as many would say to her, "I want to be like you when I grow up," which always warmed her heart. She would not go to the mailbox without looking her best. At her assisted living facility, her new friends continually complimented her fashion taste. Indeed, she was a true fashionista.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her late husband, Curtis W. Kea; and her ex-husband, Gholston W. "Charlie" Peeples; her brother, Bobbie Harris; her daughter, Dorothea "Rita" Harris; and her youngest son, Dwarn Patrick

Peeples. She leaves to cherish her memory sons, Darrell (Dior) Harris; Ken (Ethel) Harris, and Andreas (Felecia) Peeples; her loving grandchildren: Kenneth L. R. Harris, BS, MS; Robert Harris, Sr.; Dr. Peyton K. Harris; Max A. (India) Harris, JD; Ala Harbin, Arita (R.J.) Berkley, BS; Bryanna Peeples, BS; Nia S. Harris, BA, BA, MA; Chase A. Peeples, BS; Alexa Harris, BS; Schyler Peeples, BS (Candidate); and eight great-grandchildren. Also, Dorothy leaves to cherish her memory 1st cousin, Zeffer Norwood; nieces, Barbara Beasley, and Gloria Dean (Nate) Anderson; Ruby Nell Yarborough (2nd Cousin), Eugene and Gwen Castlin, Patrica Lott, Minnie Moody, Anne Morrow, Bea Stephens, Faye Bush, Bernice Wimpey, Hazel Giles, Helen Anderson and a host of other relatives, dear friends, and her beloved St. John Baptist Church family.

Cemetery Details

Alta Vista Cemetery

521 Jones Street
Gainesville, GA 30501

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 29. 10:00 AM (ET)

Antioch Baptist Church
1010 Mill Street
Gainesville, GA 30501
<http://antiochbaptistgainesville.com>

Funeral Service

NOV 29. 11:00 AM (ET)

Antioch Baptist Church
1010 Mill Street
Gainesville, GA 30501
<http://antiochbaptistgainesville.com>

Tribute Wall

CY

“ *Cynetiabanks48@gmail.com lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



cynetiabanks48@gmail.com - November 30, 2024 at 08:16 PM

SW

“ *Prayers of strength, comfort and peace for Ms. Dorothy's family. So many fond memories, from admiring her growing up at St. Paul to hanging out in her basement in High School and beyond. She and Mr. Charlie always provided a safe environment for Kenny and his classmates, they were part of the village that kept us safe while we were having fun. I will be forever grateful for their support and their willingness to open their home to us and provide a safe haven for us.*



I pray that fond memories keep her close in your hearts always.

Sharon Williams - November 29, 2024 at 05:12 PM

DT

“ *Deron Turner sent a virtual gift in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Deron Turner - November 29, 2024 at 10:52 AM



“ *Frances Williams lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Frances Williams - November 27, 2024 at 11:56 PM



“ *Sincere condolences from Adrienne, Haj and Amir for the family.*



Adrienne Reid - November 27, 2024 at 11:17 PM



“ *My most sincere condolences to this beloved Family. May God grant you comfort, peace, understanding, and strength during this most difficult time. Mrs. Dorothy will be greatly missed, she was such a beautiful spirit.*



Natalie D Niles - November 27, 2024 at 11:07 AM



“ *Candace Hudson lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Candace Hudson - November 27, 2024 at 10:55 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dorothy Ruth Kea.*



November 27, 2024 at 10:41 AM



“ *Mattie L Mathis lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Mattie L Mathis - November 27, 2024 at 10:05 AM



“ *Tonya and Glenn Mathis & Family purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Dorothy Ruth Kea.*



Tonya and Glenn Mathis & Family - November 27, 2024 at 07:49 AM



“ *Tonya and Glenn Mathis & Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dorothy Ruth Kea.*

Tonya and Glenn Mathis & Family - November 27, 2024 at 07:49 AM

JG

“ You will be deeply missed Momma Peeps!
Sending my deepest condolences to the
family



Jeffery Goss - November 27, 2024 at 06:07 AM

JM

“ Juanita Muckle sent a virtual gift in memory of
Dorothy Ruth Kea



Juanita Muckle - November 26, 2024 at 08:26 PM

RD

“ Our deepest condolences to Darrell Harris and family on the
passing of Ms. Kea. Our prayers are with you. 🕊️ Sincerely, Robert
and Candice Diggs and family

Robert Diggs - November 26, 2024 at 06:23 PM

CC

“ CHERYL CASTLEBERRY lit a candle in
memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea



CHERYL CASTLEBERRY - November 26, 2024 at 01:14 PM

LE

“ *May you rest in peace Mrs. Dorothy. My sincerest condolences to the family.*

Linda Earls-Clark - November 26, 2024 at 12:48 PM

LE

“ *Linda Earls-Clark lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Linda Earls-Clark - November 26, 2024 at 12:47 PM

JC

“ *Our deepest condolences, we will miss her sweet, loving, kind spirit, Well done ,Ms. Dot!!*



Julie Christian - November 26, 2024 at 10:52 AM

PW

“ *Philip W. purchased the Sentiments of Serenity S pray for the family of Dorothy Ruth Kea.*



Philip W. - November 26, 2024 at 10:52 AM

PW

“ Philip W. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dorothy Ruth Kea.

Philip W. - November 26, 2024 at 10:52 AM

GB

“ So sorry for your loss. Mrs Kea was a joy to be around. She was a great teacher and touched the lives of many children. She will be missed. I lived her dearly.
Love Gwenell Brown

Gwenell Brown - November 26, 2024 at 10:31 AM

“ Janice Fair lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea



Janice Fair - November 26, 2024 at 06:33 AM

KB

“ Sending prayers of comfort and condolences to the family

Kimberly Bryant - November 25, 2024 at 10:57 PM

LL

“ Linda Lyles lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea



Linda lyles - November 25, 2024 at 08:59 PM

NN

“ *Nathan Ann Neal lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Nathan Ann Neal - November 25, 2024 at 06:54 PM

PO

“ *My deep felt condolence I send out and prayers for Mrs.Dorothy's Family, God Bless each of you,another Angel has entered Heaven! Gone but will not be forgotten 🙏*

Pamela OsborneHarris - November 25, 2024 at 03:53 PM

JM

“ *Sending Love and Prayers to the Family 🙏❤️*



Joyce Mitchell - November 25, 2024 at 03:16 PM

DC

“ *Deborah Collins lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Deborah Collins - November 25, 2024 at 03:14 PM

DC

Rest In Peace 🕯️🌹🌹

Deborah Collins - November 25, 2024 at 03:15 PM

CB

“ *Christine Burrows lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Christine Burrows - November 25, 2024 at 02:45 PM

EB

“ *Elisa Bonds-Ratliff sent a virtual gift in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Elisa Bonds-Ratliff - November 25, 2024 at 12:09 PM

TF

“ *The Barnes Family lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



The Barnes Family - November 25, 2024 at 10:59 AM

SF

“ *Sewell Family lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Sewell family - November 25, 2024 at 10:29 AM

TF

“ *The Sewell Family lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



The Sewell Family - November 25, 2024 at 10:28 AM

PM

“ *Priscilla A Martin lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Priscilla A Martin - November 25, 2024 at 08:54 AM

DB

“ *Daphne Brownlee lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Daphne Brownlee - November 25, 2024 at 08:14 AM

KS

“ *Kimberly Sims sent a virtual gift in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Kimberly sims - November 25, 2024 at 12:10 AM

PM

“ Pamela Millsap sent a virtual gift in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea



Pamela Millsap - November 24, 2024 at 04:41 PM

BS

“ Love, Prayers and Condolences for the family of a beautiful dear friend and former co-worker

Bea Stephens - November 24, 2024 at 03:50 PM

CH

“ Cornell Hendrix sent a virtual gift in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea



Cornell Hendrix - November 24, 2024 at 12:22 PM

MS

“ MS. C. ELAINE SIMS sent a virtual gift in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea



MS. C. ELAINE SIMS - November 24, 2024 at 08:53 AM

SJ

“ *Star Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Star Johnson - November 23, 2024 at 07:53 PM

SJ

“ *Star Johnson lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Star Johnson - November 23, 2024 at 07:53 PM

SJ

“ *Star Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Star Johnson - November 23, 2024 at 07:53 PM

AC

“ *April Coleman lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



April Coleman - November 23, 2024 at 07:44 PM

CW

“ *Catherine Wilmont sent a virtual gift in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Catherine Wilmont - November 23, 2024 at 06:17 PM

BW

“ *Beverly Wilson sent a virtual gift in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Beverly Wilson - November 23, 2024 at 04:22 PM

GM

“ *Gloria Maddox sent a virtual gift in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Gloria Maddox - November 23, 2024 at 01:17 PM

DS

“ *Douglas Stephens lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Douglas Stephens - November 23, 2024 at 10:33 AM

DW

“ *Diane Shields Williams lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Diane Shields Williams - November 23, 2024 at 09:45 AM

SD

“ *Susan Dukes lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Susan Dukes - November 23, 2024 at 08:43 AM

ML

“ *Marion Lott sent a virtual gift in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Marion Lott - November 23, 2024 at 08:21 AM

CH

“ *Candace Hudson lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Candace Hudson - November 22, 2024 at 07:12 PM

MM

“ *Mary Moore sent a virtual gift in memory of Dorothy Ruth Kea*



Mary Moore - November 22, 2024 at 01:19 PM