



Earnestine Johnson

June 12, 1956 - December 24, 2025

Celebrating a Life Filled with Creativity, Love, & Laughter

Earnestine Johnson was born on June 12, 1956, in Gainesville, GA, as the seventh bundle of joy for Bennie and Elizabeth Johnson. From her earliest days, Earnestine had a spark that lit up every room—curious, creative, and endlessly imaginative. As a young girl, she discovered her passion for nephology (yes, the study of clouds!), spending countless hours gazing upward and finding dragons, castles, and adventures in the sky. This sense of wonder never left her.

At East Hall High School, Earnestine combined her love of learning with her love of performing, dazzling crowds as a majorette. Her baton-twirling wasn't just good—it was spectacular. Whatever Earnestine set her mind to, she mastered with style and grace.

After her children graduated from high school, Earnestine pursued her passion. She studied computer programming at Lanier Technical College before finding her true calling as an educator in the Gainesville City School system. There, she transformed classrooms into creative workshops, sharing her enthusiasm for arts and crafts. But her most treasured students were her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, who spent hours with her decorating cookies, learning to sew, and creating memories that sparkled with love and

laughter.

While visual arts were her specialty, Earnestine's creativity extended to her love of music, especially Tupac, whose beats she and her son Benji would enjoy together. Their relationship was a beautiful exchange—he brought her swag, she imparted wisdom—teaching him how to cook—and that respect is earned, not given freely. Earnestine became Benji's personal "weather reporter" when he traveled, but their phone calls ranged far beyond forecasts. They'd dive into everything from perfecting recipes to navigating relationships, their conversations flowing as easily as the music they shared. It was a bond that combined laughter, life lessons, and unconditional love.

Adventure was a constant companion in Earnestine's life. She and her daughter Tashiana became the ultimate travel duo, creating unforgettable memories at Niagara Falls, in New York City, soaking up sunshine on the beaches of Pensacola, shopping through Montreal, and enjoying the sights and sounds of Chicago. While in Pensacola, Earnestine even tried Zumba—because she believed life was meant to be lived fully and joyfully.

When the COVID-19 pandemic brought uncertainty and sadness, Earnestine did what she did best: she transformed difficulty into something beautiful. She sewed colorful, personalized masks for friends and family, turning a necessity into an expression of love and care. Even in challenging times, she found ways to brighten the world.

Earnestine's legacy is one of creativity, courage, and boundless love. The memories she wove into the hearts of everyone who knew her will continue to shine as brightly as her infectious personality. She is preceded in death by her parents, Bennie and Elizabeth Johnson; her siblings, Carolyn Witherspoon and William Johnson; and her grandchildren, Sexton Rucker and Noah Gray.

Celebrating her life are her children, Tashiana Cheeks and Hiram Lipscomb, Jr.; her sisters, Linda Buffington, Margaret (Otis) Hendrix, Johnnie Curry, Nancy (Jerry) Ellison, and Eddy (Jerry) Pittmon; her grandchildren, Elijah Lipscomb, Sarai Lipscomb, Jackie 'Angel' Lipscomb, and Israel 'Izzy-Mama' Lipscomb; and her great-grandchildren, London Lipscomb, Kyius Whitt, MeLani Babcock, Valentino Gray, and Loyal Babcock; and a host of extended family, friends, and community members.

Cemetery Details

Alta Vista Cemetery

521 Jones Street
Gainesville, GA 30501

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JAN 9. 12:00 PM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall

WT

“ *Wanda Tabor-Jenkins lit a candle in memory of Earnestine Johnson*



Wanda Tabor-Jenkins - January 19 at 05:22 PM

ER

“ *Elisa Bonds Ratliff sent a virtual gift in memory of Earnestine Johnson*



Elisa Bonds Ratliff - January 11 at 05:28 PM

CB

“ *Christine Burrowes lit a candle in memory of Earnestine Johnson*



Christine Burrowes - January 09 at 10:55 PM

NF

“ On behalf of Otis Few and family we would like to send our sincere deepest condolences to our family during the passing of Earnestine. She will be greatly missed. My daughter Nikiya held a special place in her heart. Earnestine was Nikiya’s mother’s friend until she passed in 2017. We love you Earnestine! You are resting peacefully in the arms of Jews!



Nikiya Few - January 09 at 09:44 PM

PF

“ Peek Family lit a candle in memory of Earnestine Johnson



Peek Family - January 09 at 09:07 AM

CH

“ Candace Hudson lit a candle in memory of Earnestine Johnson



Candace Hudson - January 09 at 07:34 AM

JM

“ *Juanita Muckle sent a virtual gift in memory of Earnestine Johnson*



Juanita Muckle - January 08 at 07:47 AM



“ *Dorothy Bolden sent a virtual gift in memory of Earnestine Johnson*



Dorothy Bolden - January 07 at 06:28 PM

SJ

“ *Star Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Earnestine Johnson*



Star Johnson - January 07 at 05:30 PM

SJ

“ *Star Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Earnestine Johnson*



Star Johnson - January 07 at 05:29 PM

SJ

“ *Star Johnson lit a candle in memory of Earnestine Johnson*



Star Johnson - January 07 at 05:29 PM

JY

“ *Earnestine connected with our family through our beloved sister, Izealia, who now is enjoying the glory of the Lord in heaven. Earnestine had a beautiful quiet spirit but had a big heart for people and for God. To her family, our sincerest prayers are with you to bring you comfort during this difficult time. We will be here for you days ahead. Much love,
Grover E. & Janice C. Young*



Janice C. Young - January 07 at 01:54 PM

GM

“ *Gloria Maddox sent a virtual gift in memory of Earnestine Johnson*



Gloria Maddox - January 07 at 01:26 PM

JM

“ *Joyce Mitchell sent a virtual gift in memory of Earnestine Johnson*



Joyce Mitchell - January 07 at 07:13 AM

SJ

“ *Star Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Earnestine Johnson*



Star Johnson - January 07 at 12:59 AM

SJ

“ *Star Johnson lit a candle in memory of Earnestine Johnson*



Star Johnson - January 07 at 12:58 AM

CB

“ *Cynetia Banks lit a candle in memory of Earnestine Johnson*



Cynetia Banks - January 06 at 10:32 PM

KS

“ *Kimberly Sims lit a candle in memory of Earnestine Johnson*



kimberly sims - January 06 at 08:47 PM

MM

“ *Mary Moore lit a candle in memory of Earnestine Johnson*



Mary Moore - January 06 at 08:02 PM

BW

“ *Barbara Wilkins sent a virtual gift in memory of Earnestine Johnson*



Barbara Wilkins - January 06 at 06:48 PM

CN

“ *Charline Niles lit a candle in memory of Earnestine Johnson*



Charline Niles - January 06 at 04:17 PM

RT

“ *Richard Oliver Trammell(Rickey.) lit a candle in memory of Earnestine Johnson*



Richard Oliver Trammell(Rickey.) - January 06 at 03:48 PM

RT

My Condolences to Ms. Earnestness and family. Earnestness and I had lot of classes together back at the school of the Viking East hall high school back during the early 70s.R.I.P Earnestine

Richard Oliver Trammell(Rickey.) - January 06 at 03:57 PM

WF

“ *Wanda & Larry King Jr. Family lit a candle in memory of Earnestine Johnson*



Wanda & Larry King Jr. Family - January 06 at 02:12 PM

DT

“ *Deon Silas Turner sent a virtual gift in memory of Earnestine Johnson*



Deon Silas Turner - January 06 at 11:31 AM

DC

“ Deborah Collins sent a virtual gift in memory of Earnestine Johnson



Deborah Collins - January 06 at 11:08 AM

DC

R.I.P. You were always so sweet. Love You! ☐ 🍼 🌹 🌹

Deborah Collins - January 06 at 11:11 AM