



## Clareice D. Jenkins

June 17, 1934 - October 8, 2024

With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of Clareice D. Jenkins, affectionately known as “Mama Jenkins.” Clareice passed away Tuesday, October 8, 2024, in a Nashville Hospital surrounded by her daughter's, family, and friends. Born in Escatawpa, MS on June 17, 1934 and graduated from Magnolia High School then moved with her sister, Tommye, to Chattanooga, TN. Let’s say Chattanooga would not be the same. A member of Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Clareice worked several jobs over the years; housekeeper, Memorial Hospital, Cutter Laboratories, Buster Brown, and the last and most impactful was with the City of Chattanooga as Director of Parks and Recreation. A cherished member of our community at age 90, Clareice’s legacy is woven into the fabric of countless lives. A mentor to many generations, Clareice dedicated her life to nurturing the youth and anyone else in her sphere, imparting wisdom, kindness, and a sense of purpose to all who had the privilege to know her. She enjoyed spending time playing basketball, watching sports, bowling, and teaching aerobics in her younger years. She was skilled in a variety of crafts: ceramics, glass staining, leather stamping, and all things artsy. Whether she was driving the blue Astro van or at the center, she was always available to give advice, provide encouragement, employ the rules of lady like behavior or enforce manners. She was there. She was also known for her sense of style, loved fashion and decorating. Her community activism led her to become a member of the Glenwood and Avondale Neighborhood Associations. Her fondest times were

spent with her many siblings at family functions, traveling, and shopping with her daughters. She was particularly fond of hanging out with longtime friends and Vel-vet Social Club members. Her warmth and generosity were a beacon of hope and guidance. Clareice will be deeply missed, but her spirit will continue to inspire and uplift us. Rest in peace, Clareice "Mama Jenkins." Your light shines on in our hearts. She was preceded in death by her mother, Alma King Norvel; stepfather, Norman Norvel Sr.; husband, Alfonso Jenkins; brothers-in-law, Edgar Montgomery Jr., and Odell Hudson Sr.; sisters-in-law, Mary Weaver and Helen Rucker; brothers, Herman Carter, Thomas Safford (Jeanette), James Safford (Alfratis); sisters, Norma Norvel, Ollie Williams, Cathy Norvel, Helen Norvel, and Dorothy Hudson. Clareice leaves to cherish her memory her beloved daughters, Alesia Jenkins of Chattanooga, TN, Cassandra Jenkins Cooper (Marcus) of Nashville, TN; surrogate sons, Edward Harrison of Queens, NY and Dexter Joshen of Chattanooga, TN; siblings, Tommye Montgomery of Nashville, TN, Alma Norvel of Atlanta, GA, Norman Norvel Jr (Karin) of Asheville, NC, Emma Norvel of Syracuse, NY, Iona Putmon (Willie) of Syracuse NY; a host of nieces, nephews, extended relatives, and friends. Clareice funeral service will be on Wednesday, October 16, 2024, at 11:30 a.m. at Taylor Funeral Home with Pastor Gary Hathaway as the eulogist. Burial in Chattanooga National Cemetery.

DIRECTIONS TO LIVESTREAM: Click on the link below.

<https://view.oneroomstreaming.com/index.php?data=MTcyODg4ODM4OTE0NTY5OTgmb25lcm9vbS1lbWFpbCZpbmZpdGF0aW9uX2NvcHlfbGluaw==>

# Cemetery Details

## Chattanooga National Cemetery

1200 Bailey Ave  
Chattanooga, TN 37404

# Previous Events

## Service

OCT **16**. 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Taylor Funeral Home of Chattanooga, Inc  
3417 Wilcox Boulevard  
Chattanooga, TN 37411

## Burial

OCT **16**. 12:30 PM (ET)

Chattanooga National Cemetery  
1200 Bailey Ave  
Chattanooga, TN 37404

# Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Camer2-FuneralService-ClareiceJenkins*



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**Taylor Funeral Home of Chattanooga, Inc.** - November 23, 2024 at 11:56 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Camera1-FuneralService-ClareiceJenkins*



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**Taylor Funeral Home of Chattanooga, Inc.** - November 23, 2024 at 11:56 PM



“ *My deepest condolences Alesia and Sandy at the passing of your beloved mother. She was an awesome woman!*

*The Cross Family  
Anne, Gail, June, Lynn, Homer Jr. and Paul*

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**Barbara Hobson** - October 27, 2024 at 11:12 PM

CC

“ *Cassandra Cooper lit a candle in memory of Clareice D. Jenkins*



Cassandra Cooper - October 19, 2024 at 02:55 PM

AB

“ *We send our prayers to the Family*



Anna Butler - October 16, 2024 at 08:48 PM

MC

“ *Sorry for your loss. Praying for strength and peace to the family.*

Monchiere Commodore - October 16, 2024 at 12:20 PM

CW

“ *To Cassandra And Lisa, thank you both for sharing your mother with me and my family. I'm definitely gonna miss the talks about live experiences and her days playing basketball and other sports. One of my best moments with her was watching the NBA Finals in VA Beach. Thank you both and know that she will be missed by us all. Love you all*



Cedric Walker - October 16, 2024 at 12:08 PM

MJ

“ I just want to send my condolences to Sandy and Lisa. You spoke of your mother often, so it was well understood the love you had for her. Whatever you need, let Tina and me know. You are in our prayers.

Michael Andre Jones - October 16, 2024 at 11:29 AM

GD

“ Lisa, Sandy & Family,  
Our condolences to you all. Your mom, our sister, sister-in-law & auntie will be missed, but Clarice will forever be in our hearts.

God Bless  
Love, Hugs & Kisses,  
Your Syracuse NY Families

Gwen Dowdell - October 15, 2024 at 01:07 PM

YF

“ Your Syracuse NY Families purchased the Rose Garden Heart for the family of Clareice D. Jenkins.



Your Syracuse NY Families - October 15, 2024 at 12:31 PM

VM

“ Clareice was a very caring person. She and Tommye helped Etta and I with several functions with the Glass Farm Neighborhood Association. Please accept my sincere condolences in your loss of a very special lady. Verlene Middlebrooks

Verlene Middlebrooks - October 14, 2024 at 08:12 PM

AB

*So Sorry to hear about Mrs.Clareice.A very sweet woman and a good neighbor in Avondale. She was always the same she kept the kids on Ocoee St.in line,just like another mother to us all.The Buckner Family love her and Mrs.Montgomery.*

**Anna Butler** - October 16, 2024 at 08:45 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Clareice D. Jenkins.*



October 14, 2024 at 07:56 PM

KD

“ *Kelli Darden lit a candle in memory of Clareice D. Jenkins*



**Kelli Darden** - October 14, 2024 at 01:35 PM

SB

“ *Sebastian and Monique Brazelton purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Clareice D. Jenkins.*



**Sebastian and Monique Brazelton** - October 14, 2024 at 01:10 PM

BF

“ *Boea Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Clareice D. Jenkins.*



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**Boea Family** - October 14, 2024 at 12:41 PM

GH

“ *Gerald Hall planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Clareice D. Jenkins.*

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**Gerald Hall** - October 14, 2024 at 12:04 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Clareice D. Jenkins.*



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October 14, 2024 at 12:04 PM