



Dorothy Mae Watkins

November 3, 1934 - April 12, 2025

Dorothy Mae Watkins, 90, of Chattanooga, passed away Saturday, April 12, 2025, in a local hospital after battling several illnesses. Dorothy, together with her husband, William Richard Watkins, Sr., established Grace Fellowship Baptist Church, which she attended with steadfast commitment until the deterioration of her health.

Dorothy received her education within the Lauderdale County school system located in Rogersville, Alabama. She was employed at Erlanger Health Care System for 25 years in Environmental Services and was an active member of the Widow's Harvest Ministry along with demonstrating her dedication to community services.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her loving husband, William Richard Watkins, Sr.; her daughter, Edna Earl Baker; her son, Jommie Watkins; and her granddaughter, Stacey Barrow; her grandfather, Jesse King (Rogersville, AL); her mother, Margaret King Fuqua (Rogersville, AL); and her father, Sims Fuqua, Sr. (Rogersville, AL). Additionally, she was preceded by her sisters, Mary Ellen Fuqua, Alice Fuqua Nance, and Margaret Mangrum, as well as her brothers, Deloris Fuqua, Sims Fuqua, Jr., Robert Fuqua, Elisa Fuqua, and Herman Fuqua, Sr.

She leaves to cherish her memories her devoted son and caregiver, Michael

DeWayne Watkins, and his brothers, Anthony “Tony” Watkins and William Richard Watkins, Jr., all of Chattanooga; her daughters include Dorothy (Alfred) Johnson, Linda Patton, Maxine Barnes, Tanika Barrow, and Juanita Barrow, all of Chattanooga. She also helped raise two grandchildren, Nikela Henderson and Curtis Brandon Barnes, both of Chattanooga. Among her siblings are sisters, Marvelene Fuqua and Millie Ann Murphy, both of Buffalo, NY; and brothers, James (Ellen) Fuqua, Hudson (Dorothy) Fuqua, Wayne Fuqua, all of Rogersville, AL, and Granderson (Monica) Fuqua of Buffalo, NY. Additionally, she is survived by her brothers-in-law, Edward Watkins and Hayward Watkins, both of Chattanooga, Ben Thomas Watkins, of Rogersville, Benford (Mona) Watkins, of Ohio; 28 grandchildren, 68 great-grandchildren, and 17 great-great-grandchildren, along with numerous nieces, nephews, and friends. Special recognition goes to her three nieces, Jessie Fuqua, of Rogersville, Patricia Fuqua Cole, of Florence, AL, and Sandy Mangrum, of Madison, AL; her dear friends, Betty Morgan, Katie Smith, and Gwendolyn Norman also held a special place in her heart, as did the members of The Church of The Firstborn.

Dorothy will lie-in-state on Friday, April 18, 2025, from 12:30-5:00 p.m. at Taylor Funeral Home. Funeral service will be Saturday, April 19, 2025, at 12:00 noon (CST) at Little Zion Baptist Church, 955 County Road 610, Rogersville, Alabama 35652 with Pastor Alfred Johnson, Sr. as the Eulogist. Burial in Little Zion Baptist Church Cemetery. Per the family’s request, please send flowers directly to the church instead of the funeral home.

Cemetery Details

LITTLE ZION BAPTIST CHURCH CEMETERY

955 County Road 610
Rogersville, AL 35652-6455

Previous Events

Lie-In-State

APR **18**. 12:30 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Taylor Funeral Home
3417 Wilcox Boulevard
Chattanooga, TN 37411-1076

Visitation

APR **19**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

LITTLE ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
955 County Road 610
Rogersville, AL 35652-6455

Funeral Service

APR **19**. 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM (CT)

LITTLE ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
955 County Road 610
Rogersville, AL 35652-6455

Burial

APR **19**. 2:00 PM - 2:20 PM (CT)

LITTLE ZION BAPTIST CHURCH CEMETERY

955 County Road 610

Rogersville, AL 35652-6455

Tribute Wall

VS

“ *Vanessa Sewell lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Mae Watkins*



vanessa sewell - April 29, 2025 at 03:14 PM

VS

Such a kind sweet gentle spirit with a pretty smile, almost like a second mom. My condolence to the family, and may your mom rest in the arms of the Lord!

vanessa sewell - April 29, 2025 at 03:17 PM

MB

“ *Maxie & Joe Benton lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Mae Watkins*



maxie & joe benton - April 24, 2025 at 12:32 AM

SS

“ *Sonya Stiggers lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Mae Watkins*



Sonya Stiggers - April 22, 2025 at 01:50 PM

GG

“ Gloria Patton Griffin lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Mae Watkins



Gloria Patton Griffin - April 18, 2025 at 10:32 PM

BD

“ Our condolences and prayers to the family of Aunt Dot. We love you Barbara, Mary and Elijah

Barbara Daniel - April 18, 2025 at 07:33 PM

KS

“ Sending our Condolences. Praying for you all. 🙏🙏 Kathy, Vickie, Gary, Jeffrey, Stephanie, Todd and Leslie 🙏🙏🌹

Kathy Sligh - April 18, 2025 at 03:23 PM

MC

My prayers and condolence to the family Watson, a queen that wearing many hats and will truly be missed. God bless you all, Mrs. Phyllis Parrish Crafter. 🙏🙏🌹📺📺

Mrs. Phyllis Parrish Crafter - April 19, 2025 at 03:43 PM

LC

“ We the Little Zion MB Church Family extends our most sincere condolences to your family during your time of bereavement. We pray that in time God will lighten your heavy hearts. May he continue to keep you in the the comfort of his loving arms.



Little Zion MB Church - April 17, 2025 at 06:32 PM

JM

“Joyce Fears- Widows Harvest Ministries lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Mae Watkins



Joyce Fears- widows Harvest Ministries - April 17, 2025 at 02:18 PM

BM

. my condolences and prayers to the Watkins family God bless you all
❤️ love you Wayne

Betty Morgan - April 18, 2025 at 09:39 AM

NH

“Natalie High lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Mae Watkins



Natalie High - April 17, 2025 at 12:57 PM

LR

“Lera Richmond lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Mae Watkins



Lera Richmond - April 17, 2025 at 12:26 PM

HH

“ *Hilda Harris-Hardaway lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Mae Watkins*



Hilda Harris-Hardaway - April 17, 2025 at 09:16 AM

BS

“ *My sincere condolences to Wayne and his family in your loss.*



Brenda Faye Sims - April 15, 2025 at 09:40 PM

KS

“ *Sending our Deepest Condolences in the Home Going of a Wonderful Woman. Mother you will be missed. To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. The Sligh, Kelly, Thomas and Gilbert Families.*



Kathy Sligh - April 15, 2025 at 03:55 PM

CE

*My sincere condolences. GOD Bless you Family with peace and Comfort and strength. Much Love and prayers extended to you All.
Carliss Ingram Egbon*

Carliss Egbon - April 17, 2025 at 11:42 AM

CW

“ *The best mother-in-law a daughter-in-law could ever have. I will miss her. May God bless her family with love and peace. Cynthia Watkins*



Cynthia Watkins - April 15, 2025 at 09:49 AM

BM

My condolences and prayers to Wayne and family God bless you all ❤️ ❤️

Betty Morgan - April 15, 2025 at 05:11 PM

AH

My condolences and prayers to the Watkins family. I worked with Mrs. Dorothy Watkins at Erlanger Hospital, and we were both members of Widows Harvest Ministries of St. Emo. We were friends for a very long time. I will miss her friendly smile and friendly personality.

Airlean Hutchins and Family

Airlean Hutchins - April 15, 2025 at 11:20 PM

BW

Sending love and prayers to the Watkins' family. I've known Ms. Dorothy and some family members for probably close to 40 years. She was a sweet lady and I know she was a wonderful mother.

Brenda Walters (worked with Flossie Weill)

Brenda Walters - April 17, 2025 at 01:48 PM

PB

MEMBER MRS WATKINS FROM WHEN WE LIVED ON PORTLAND ST.,AND THEY LIVED ON THE ROAD BESIDE US ALL THOSE YEARS AGO, AND US GROWING UP WITH THIER CHILDREN. SHE WAS ALWAYS QUIET, AND NICE TO ME. SHE WOULD SMILE WHEN I SPOKE, AND SPEAK BACK. THAT WAS OVER 50 YRS. AGO, AND AFTER THEY MOVED, AND OVER THE YEARS SHE REMAINED THE SAME TO ME! I KNOW THE JOURNEY HAS BEEN HARD FOR MRS. DOROTHY . AND ALL OF YOU, BUT SHE IS OKAY NOW, AND I PRAY SHE, AND MY MOTHER CAN CATCH UP IN GLORY! MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS, AND KEEP YOU ALL.
PASTOR BRENDA(PEAVEY) BENN & FAMILY(DOLL)

PASTOR BRENDA PEAVEY BENN - April 18, 2025 at 01:59 PM