



Mary Francis Griffith

June 15, 1946 - March 10, 2024

Mary Francis Rooks Griffith, 77, of Chattanooga, passed away Sunday, March 10, 2024, at her residence. She was a 1965 graduate of Howard High School. Mary attended Cleveland State Community College and received her A.S. degree in Nursing. She was a registered nurse and was employed as a private duty nurse. Mary was a foster grandparent, and she was also a volunteer for the Election Commission. She was a faithful member of the Avondale Church of Christ where she participated in the VBS program as a teacher. Mary was preceded in death by her father, Thomas Rooks, Jr.; mother, Mary Bell Lightford Rooks; brother, Demetris "DeeDee" Rooks, and sister-in-law, Constance P. Rooks. Survivors include her daughters, Oria Aloha (Manley) Rooks and Tonya Monique Rooks Ball; son, Kenneth Lavell Ball; 6 grandchildren, Kenneth Jermaine Ball, Lamunika Deanne Eberhart, Jonathan Lavel (Celia) Rooks, Terrance Marbury, Keandria Diane Ball, and Kiara Mary Denise Ball; 10 great-grandchildren; brothers, Robert Earl Rooks, Sr., Thomas (Dorothy) Rooks, III, Walter Lee (Billie) Rooks, Sr., and Devon (Danielle) Rooks; a host of nieces; nephews; cousins; other relatives; special friend/mother/ sister, Annie Lee Borkman, as well as a host of other friends. Mary will lie-in-state on Saturday, March 16, 2024, at 9 a.m. at Taylor Funeral Home. Funeral service will follow at 3 p.m. in the chapel with Brother Robert Darby as the eulogist.

Previous Events

Lie-In-State

MAR **16**. 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM (ET)

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

Service

MAR **16**. 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall

SC

“ My name is Shirley Colvin from Tuscaloosa Al. I met Mary at Polishing the Pulpit. We exchanged phone number s and became very good friends. We remain friends for several years, calling, writing each other. I only met her and saw her face once but I loved her just from that meeting . We also exchanged birthday and holiday cards which I will miss To her family you have my deepest sympathy.

Shirley Colvin - March 20, 2024 at 03:29 PM

AC

“ Alyce Carlisle lit a candle in memory of Mary Francis Griffith



Alyce Carlisle - March 19, 2024 at 10:05 AM

AC

“ Loved to share Bible lessons with sis Mary. Will be missed. Love you! Alyce Carlisle

Alyce Carlisle - March 19, 2024 at 10:05 AM

CD

“ I love and will miss Ms Mary so much. She Became a dear family friend when she came to care for my mother Mrs. Lillie B. Cox. I didnt even have the going rate of money to pay her for the care she gave..But she said "Baby, every thing is not about the money". She helped me through that time which was kinda tough and I really appreciate it. She no longer has to deal with illness or the troubles of this world and Im glad.
I am very sorry family for your loss. She was truly a GEM.☐ Rest Ms Mary, and Find Joy and peace in HIS presence❤️ Connie. Amen



Constance Deramus - March 16, 2024 at 11:45 AM

CC

“ Carla Palmer Culbreath lit a candle in memory of Mary Francis Griffith



Carla Palmer Culbreath - March 16, 2024 at 09:19 AM

CA

“ Mae Francis was a conduit of love for our family. Always reaching out, supporting and checking on everybody. Love you cuz. Rest in His arms. 🙏

Carla Rooks Aultmon - March 16, 2024 at 06:46 AM

SR

“ *Sonja Richards lit a candle in memory of Mary Francis Griffith*



Sonja Richards - March 15, 2024 at 04:59 PM

DV

“ *Demetra Moore (Petersburg, Virginia) purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mary Francis Griffith.*



Demetra Moore (Petersburg, Virginia) - March 15, 2024 at 11:10 AM

DV

“ *Demetra Moore (Petersburg, Virginia) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Francis Griffith.*

Demetra Moore (Petersburg, Virginia) - March 15, 2024 at 11:10 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mary Francis Griffith.*



March 15, 2024 at 11:07 AM

D)

“ I am deeply saddened to hear of the passing of your Mother and our beloved and beautiful first cousin. She was an Angel always helping others in need. We will truly miss her kind spirit, giving, nature and graciousness., Our Prayers are with the entire family. Sincerely,
Victoria Tanner (Pumpkin), Demetra Moore (Peanut) Chris & Whitt.

Demetra Moore (Petersburg, Virginia) - March 15, 2024 at 10:36 AM

CB

“ Comm.Greg And Pat Beck sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary Francis Griffith



Comm.Greg and Pat Beck - March 14, 2024 at 11:52 PM

CB

“ Comm.Greg And Pat Beck lit a candle in memory of Mary Francis Griffith



Comm.Greg and Pat Beck - March 14, 2024 at 11:51 PM

JR

“ Jahazy, Duke, Bay Bro and Shannon Rooks purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mary Francis Griffith.



Jahazy, Duke, Bay Bro and Shannon Rooks - March 14, 2024 at 09:12 PM

JR

“ *Jahazy, Duke, Bay Bro and Shannon Rooks planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Francis Griffith.*

Jahazy, Duke, Bay Bro and Shannon Rooks - March 14, 2024 at 09:12 PM

MS

“ *Walter, sorry for your loss. Mitchell Smith*

Mitchell Smith - March 14, 2024 at 12:56 PM

TS

“ *The Stanley's purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mary Francis Griffith.*



The Stanley's - March 14, 2024 at 09:28 AM

FR

“ *Freida and Madalyn Ramsey purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Mary Francis Griffith.*



Freida and Madalyn Ramsey - March 14, 2024 at 09:28 AM

GM

“ *Condolences to the Griffith family. May she rest in peace.*



Gracelia Moore - March 13, 2024 at 05:54 PM

SD

“ A dear sweet servant of God..my 3rd mom, dearest friend of 18 years and sister in Christ Mary Griffith aka Mary Fay, Ms Mary as we lovingly called her has left us for her heavenly home. I can recall many things about Ms. Mary. The many times we spent together over the years. She taught me how to garden. We went shopping together all over Chatt town..preparing for the growing seasons.

At Christmas time, we decorated my house together...sewing curtains and munching on drinks and cookies or crackers or cooking anything we could put our hands on and chatting and enjoying each other's company. We would go to Hamricks together and spend hours checking out sales until we finally decide on what we could afford to buy. Then to top off the shopping spree, we would always be sure to search through her little bag of Burger King coupons and stop for lunch before going back to my house to relax and enjoy our meal.

As she became ill, there were times when Robert and I felt she did not need to be alone at home at nights and our home was her place of rest and relaxation. There was always a bedroom ready for her and a good warm tub to soak. There were times when she would get serious with me and I would get serious with her and she would just say "yes mam" and everything was back to normal. We knew each other so well and we loved each other like mother and daughter. She was my mom #3 and I truly loved her. Whenever I called her Mary Fay...(Robert gave her that name) she knew I was not happy about something she was probably getting stressed over and she'd always say "yes mam, I sorry...I'm talking too much". Ms Mary, Mary Fay...death is so final! if I could just hear you talk to me again, make another shopping run, sit and enjoy each others company. I miss you already!

When my mom visited from Jamaica some years ago and they both met, my mom asked Ms Mary to take care of her daughter for her, and you did just that. I love you for that. Now you are gone on to your resting place where there is no more pain, no more of life's

stressors. Go on and take your rest dear, sweet sister. You have done your course in this life...touching many lives.

The greatest and most assuring thing about this beautiful woman was that she knew her Jesus. She put on Christ in baptism in the Church of Christ on her birthday in June 15, 2005 and never looked back. She was a faithful servant to her church family and everyone around her. She always did her best for everyone. She believed that if she was not doing her best for someone, she would rather not do it at all.

Go on and receive your heavenly reward. We love you. Now you can "breathe easy". Rest In Peace my sweet sister. The Darby Family (Sandra Darby, Robert Darby, Mich Moulton, Jayson Moulton and Cala Darby).

Sandra Darby - March 13, 2024 at 02:07 PM

DB

“ *Sending my sincere condolences to the Rooks and Griffin families, praying for strength and comfort during this difficult time. We all love you and hated to see you go but, God loves you best, sleep on and take your rest my dear cousin. Thank you for the love you shared with your family. I will certainly miss you, until we meet again. Revelations 21:1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. Love Ann & Family*



Dorothy Barley - March 13, 2024 at 01:27 PM

AH

“ *Angela Hill sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary Francis Griffith*



Angela Hill - March 13, 2024 at 09:17 AM

CM

“ *Condolences to The Family of Mary Rooks Griffith Her and My Mother was friends for many years now they are together again It's Not Good-bye But See You Later May God each of You what you need during this time of sorrow*



Carolyn Malone - March 13, 2024 at 05:47 AM

MM

“ *My sincere condolences and prayers to the family. May God give you strength, understanding and peace during this time. God bless you all. The Moore family* 🙏❤️



Monica Moore - March 12, 2024 at 08:47 PM

MJ

“ *Mildred Jones lit a candle in memory of Mary Francis Griffith*



Mildred Jones - March 12, 2024 at 06:52 PM

PB

“ *Patricia Ball lit a candle in memory of Mary Francis Griffith*



Patricia Ball - March 12, 2024 at 06:02 PM

PB

Thank you May Francis for who you were to me and my mom! I have good memories of the time you spent, the care you gave and for the prayers you prayed for her while you were waning in strength! You are well now❤️

Patricia Ball - March 12, 2024 at 06:07 PM

JS

“ *Prayers and Condolences for Family and Friends.*



Janice Sledge - March 12, 2024 at 03:54 PM

ML

“ *Beautiful Lady gone to soon .Prayers for family .Will miss you Mary we sing together again one day .Love you*

Marilyn Morris from Salvation Army ladies - March 12, 2024 at 12:15 PM

LR

“ Rest peacefully my Alpha Aunt Mae. I love you more than you will ever know. Alpha Niece Lisa.



Lisa Rooks - March 12, 2024 at 10:50 AM

LE

“ we love you gma! RIP

Lamunika E. - March 12, 2024 at 09:11 AM

JB

“ Praying for the Family & Freinds for Comfort and Strength for better days ahead as we celebrate Sis. Mary "Homegoing". Sis.Mary will truly be missed. ❤️



Joe & maxie benton - March 12, 2024 at 02:24 AM

GW

“ Mary (Mae Francis) never diminished her love, care and concern for me...for this I will always be grateful to our God and Mae. May her God n mine comfort, strengthen and draw. My condolences to her children, grands, brothers and family. Gail

Gail Walker - March 11, 2024 at 08:41 PM

ME

My sincerely sympathy and prayers to the family and friends. Rest in Peace

Marcella Eberhart - March 12, 2024 at 05:00 AM