



Rhoda Franklin Ross

December 29, 1937 - April 10, 2025

Rhoda Franklin Ross, 87, lovingly known as "Sus" to family, transitioned into an eternal life and entered God's Kingdom on Thursday, April 10, 2025. She was born on December 29, 1937, in Chattanooga, Tennessee to the late William Franklin Sr. and Eva Walton Franklin, who was an evangelist minister.

Her mother instilled in her to have faith in Jesus. As a result, she trusted in Jesus; she was a Christian and she studied and read her Bible every day of her life. Rhoda was a graduate of Howard High School. After graduating, she worked as the first Black female elevator operator at the Chattanooga Bank Building.

Later, she took a few classes to become an Instrument Technician at Erlanger Hospital. She later retired after 30 years of service. After retiring, she went to work, part-time, for Surgical Center as an Instrument Technician; Lilyland Day Care Center and Friendship Church as a Day care Teacher.

She was preceded in death by Willie Ross (husband), William and Eva Franklin, Sr. (parents), William Franklin, Jr, Benjamin Franklin, Ada Franklin, James Franklin. She is survived by (children) Ronald Dewitt Kight, Vinita Kight, Lance Kight, Felicia (Kim) Kight, and Cathy Ross (Whitney) NY.; (siblings) Roland Franklin (Charleston, SC), Patsy Franklin (NY, NY), Urania (Lewis) Davis; David (Vera) Franklin, Berkley, CA, Dan (Carmen) Franklin,

LaFeria, TX; (sister-in-laws), Marie Franklin, Ocala, FL, Carolyn Franklin (Oakland, CA)/ Grandchildren: Ryan Kight, Joshua Kight, Chris Langford, Alex Langford, Justin Amaker, Lance Kight, Jr, Eric Anderson, and Maxwell Anderson; Great-grandchildren, Colton Langford, Ryan Langford, Jr., Ryleigh Langford, and devoted cousin Telicia Strickland Howell and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Rhoda will lie-in-state on Tuesday, April 22, 2025, from 12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at Taylor Funeral Home. Funeral service will be on Wednesday, April 23, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at Taylor Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Eric Jones officiating. Burial in Chattanooga National Cemetery.

Previous Events

Lie-In-State

APR **22**. 12:30 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

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

Service

APR **23**. 10:00 AM (ET)

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

Burial

APR **23**. 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Chattanooga National Cemetery
1200 Bailey Avenue
Chattanooga, TN 37404

Tribute Wall

CP

“ *Carla Palmer lit a candle in memory of Rhoda Franklin Ross*



Carla Palmer - April 21, 2025 at 07:52 PM

KA

“ *Kamal Abdulalim purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Rhoda Franklin Ross.*



Kamal Abdulalim - April 21, 2025 at 01:27 PM

LM

“ *Love, LJ, Tracie and Missy purchased the Serenity Wreath for the family of Rhoda Franklin Ross.*



Love, LJ, Tracie and Missy - April 21, 2025 at 10:37 AM

LH

“ *Laretta Harrison lit a candle in memory of Rhoda Franklin Ross*



Laretta Harrison - April 21, 2025 at 01:10 AM

RJ

“ Roland M. Franklin, Jr. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Rhoda Franklin Ross.



Roland M. Franklin, Jr. - April 20, 2025 at 06:53 PM

RJ

“ Roland M. Franklin, Jr. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rhoda Franklin Ross.

Roland M. Franklin, Jr. - April 20, 2025 at 06:53 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Rhoda Franklin Ross.



April 20, 2025 at 01:54 PM

MT

“ Marva Taylor lit a candle in memory of Rhoda Franklin Ross



Marva Taylor - April 19, 2025 at 09:23 PM

FW

“ From the descendants of Floyd H. Walton purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Rhoda Franklin Ross.



From the descendants of Floyd H. Walton - April 19, 2025 at 01:33 PM

FW

“ From the descendants of Floyd H. Walton planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rhoda Franklin Ross.

From the descendants of Floyd H. Walton - April 19, 2025 at 01:33 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rhoda Franklin Ross.



April 17, 2025 at 07:16 PM

PJ

“ Preston Bailey Jr lit a candle in memory of Rhoda Franklin Ross



Preston Bailey Jr - April 17, 2025 at 01:40 PM

VR

“ Vincent Robinson lit a candle in memory of Rhoda Franklin Ross



Vincent Robinson - April 17, 2025 at 10:36 AM

MD

“ I extend my sincere condolences to the Ross family during this difficult time. Ms Ross consistently had positive words to share. Kim and your entire family are in our thoughts and prayers.

Marty Davenport - April 15, 2025 at 05:53 PM

YW

“ Such a kind heart. We hours talking about food and cooking. Laughed about a lot of things and good God is. Will truly be missed. ❤️🙏. My prayers are going up for her family 🙏❤️.

Yolanda Wynn - April 15, 2025 at 03:48 PM

GW

My prayers and condolences to the Rhoda Ross family. 🙏🙏

Gaylin J Walker - April 15, 2025 at 04:30 PM

PA

To My Dear Sister - Rhoda Belle:

Your presence will remain with me until my journey ends. Then we can walk together again in that ethereal world you have now become apart of.

So many memories have ignited the flame in my heart that burns brightly as I think of you. You were so caring, so generous and spirited. Invisible though your physical body maybe, your spirit lingers on and on thru all the great family gathering we experienced. SO HAPPY TO HAVE PART OF LIFE ON THIS EARTH. I FEEL VERY BLESSED.

Thank you for being a kind, radiant and lovely sister. You will be missed.

*All My Love,
Patsy*

Patsy - April 25, 2025 at 02:15 PM

PA

To My Dear Sister - Rhoda Belle:

Your presence will remain with me until my journey ends. Then we can walk together again in that ethereal world you have now become apart of.

So many memories have ignited the flame in my heart that burns brightly as I think of you. You were so caring, so generous and spirited. Invisible though your physical body maybe, your spirit lingers on and on thru all the great family gathering we experienced. SO HAPPY TO HAVE Been PART OF Your LIFE ON THIS EARTH. I FEEL VERY BLESSED.

Thank you for being a kind, radiant and lovely sister. You will be missed.

*All My Love,
Patsy*

Patsy - April 25, 2025 at 02:18 PM

EC

“ *My deepest condolences and prayers to the Rhoda Franklin Ross and family.*

Eloise Cooke and family.

ELOISE COOKE - April 14, 2025 at 04:59 PM



BE

My deepest sympathy to the family. Lance you and your family are in my prayers.

Bernadene Ellington - April 16, 2025 at 06:59 PM

H1

“ *Howard Class Of 1976 lit a candle in memory of Rhoda Franklin Ross*

Howard Class of 1976 - April 14, 2025 at 02:08 PM



H1

“ *Howard Class Of 1976 lit a candle in memory of Rhoda Franklin Ross*

Howard Class of 1976 - April 14, 2025 at 02:07 PM



AH

I've got many memories of Rhoda Franklin Ross some laughter and some with tears but my prayers are for my friend Kim and family 💕💕 friends rest well and will never be forgotten.

Angela Hampton - April 17, 2025 at 06:00 PM

RH

“*Condolences and prayers goes out to the family. May God continue to bless you and give you peace during this time.*”



Reginia Hamilton - April 12, 2025 at 05:03 PM

AH

My friend Kim and family 💕 friends my prayers 🙏 go beyond such good memories to laugh and cry about she's in a better place and that what really matters love 💕 you'll.

Angela Hampton - April 16, 2025 at 11:19 AM