



Ruby Lena Graves Word

January 3, 1929 - December 5, 2024

Ruby Lena Graves-Word, 95, of Chattanooga, TN, passed away peacefully on Thursday, December 5, 2024, surrounded by family. She was born January 3, 1929, in Chattanooga. She was born to the late Reverend A.J. Lewis and Hattie Mae Freeman. She was the oldest of her siblings. Ruby attended the Chattanooga Public School system. She was employed by Provident Insurance as a custodian, and at Dixie Yarn, where she retired after 25 years. Ruby was also a foster grandparent at Chamberlain Home Childcare Center. She was affectionately known as, "Lena," or, "Lene." She was a devoted member of Second Missionary Baptist Church and also attended several other churches where she sang in the choir and served on the missionary board. She found joy in singing and worship. She sang with her late husband, James "Pete" Graves and Five Sons of Calvary Quartet, Chattanooga Mass Choir, and Widow Aids Choir. Her deep faith was a source of comfort and guidance for both herself and for the people she loved. Lena was preceded in death by her husband, James Graves, Sr.; sons, James "Spookie" Graves, Jr. and Alphonso Graves; granddaughter, Versa (Shawn) Kilgore; brothers, Walter Freeman, Sr., Howard Turner, Claude Freeman, and Floyd Mathis, sister, Estella Freeman; step-daughter, Linda Fletcher.

She is survived by her son, Willie H. (Dorothy) Graves; daughters-in-law, Paulette Graves, and Eleanor Graves; daughter/granddaughter, Tara (Eric) Kennedy; sister, Norma Jean Hughley; brother, Leslie (Shirley) Lewis, of

Norfolk, VA; god-daughter, Shawn Tatum; 9 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; 7 great-great-grandchildren; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and extended family. Ruby will lie-in-state on Friday, December 13, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at Taylor Funeral Home. Funeral service will follow at 11:30 a.m. in the chapel with Minister Dorothy Graves as Eulogist. Burial in Chattanooga National Cemetery.

DIRECTIONS TO LIVE STREAM: Click on the link below to view the service.

<https://view.oneroomstreaming.com/index.php?data=MTczMzg0NDcwODE0OTY5MDYmb25lcm9vbS1hZG1pbiZjb3B5X2xpbms=>

Cemetery Details

Chattanooga National Cemetery

1200 Bailey Ave
Chattanooga, TN 37404

Previous Events

Lie-In-State

DEC **13**. 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

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

Service

DEC **13**. 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *FuneralServiceCamera2-RubyLenaGravesWord*



Taylor Funeral Home of Chattanooga, Inc. - January 11, 2025 at 12:27 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *CemeteryService-RubyLenaGravesWord*



Taylor Funeral Home of Chattanooga, Inc. - January 11, 2025 at 12:27 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *FuneralServiceCamera1-RubyLenaGravesWord*



Taylor Funeral Home of Chattanooga, Inc. - January 11, 2025 at 12:27 PM



“ Sincere sympathy to the family - I loved to hear her sing- her son Spookie and I attended elementary school thru high school together. What a well lived life - precious memories how they linger always.



Rubye Wilson - December 16, 2024 at 09:12 AM

KR

“ Kookie Rollins lit a candle in memory of Ruby Lena Graves Word



Kookie Rollins - December 15, 2024 at 05:08 PM

CB

“ Comm. Greg And Pat Beck lit a candle in memory of Ruby Lena Graves Word



Comm. Greg and Pat Beck - December 13, 2024 at 09:39 PM

RH

“ Our deepest sympathy to the GRAVES FAMILY. The LORD will see you through as you hold on to all those precious memories! You all will remain in our thoughts & prayers! The Harris Family (Ronald & Rosalind)



Rosalind Harris - December 13, 2024 at 05:02 PM

MT

“ *Marva Taylor lit a candle in memory of Ruby Lena Graves Word*



Marva Taylor - December 13, 2024 at 02:42 PM

SG

“ *Sharon Graves-Coffin lit a candle in memory of Ruby Lena Graves Word*



Sharon Graves-Coffin - December 13, 2024 at 12:58 PM

SG

To our entire Graves family, I extend my heart-felt condolences and prayers to all of you. May God be with you over the coming days to comfort you.

Sharon Graves-Coffin - December 13, 2024 at 01:00 PM

DR

“ *Mother Ruby, you will be missed. I never had the pleasure to meet you, but the wonderful stories Tiffany has shared with me, make me feel connected to your love.*

*Graves family, I mourn your loss and have you in my prayers.
~Duane, Uncle Bubba*

Duane Rankin - December 13, 2024 at 11:11 AM

CF

“ *Cora Fields lit a candle in memory of Ruby Lena Graves Word*



Cora Fields - December 12, 2024 at 07:57 PM

DM

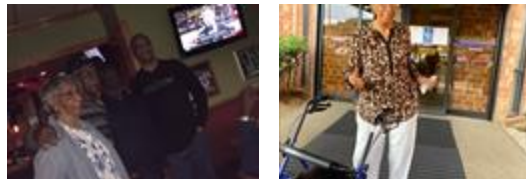
“ *Dorothy Mitchell lit a candle in memory of Ruby Lena Graves Word*



Dorothy Mitchell - December 12, 2024 at 05:53 PM

AC

“ *You will be deeply missed, Granny*



Ashley C - December 12, 2024 at 04:41 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ruby Lena Graves Word.*



December 12, 2024 at 02:41 PM

AR

“ Anne & Richard Runyan purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Ruby Lena Graves Word.



Anne & Richard Runyan - December 12, 2024 at 01:24 PM

AR

“ Anne & Richard Runyan planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ruby Lena Graves Word.

Anne & Richard Runyan - December 12, 2024 at 01:24 PM

DC

“ David and Ria Collins planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ruby Lena Graves Word.

David and Ria Collins - December 12, 2024 at 12:27 PM

DC

“ David and Ria Collins purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Ruby Lena Graves Word.



David and Ria Collins - December 12, 2024 at 12:27 PM

DS

“ *Debra Shaw lit a candle in memory of Ruby
Lena Graves Word*



Debra Shaw - December 12, 2024 at 10:37 AM

VB

“ *Vincinetta Brown lit a candle in memory of
Ruby Lena Graves Word*



Vincinetta Brown - December 12, 2024 at 09:04 AM

VB

*Our thoughts and prayers are with the Word and Graves family at this
difficult time. May God's strength and comfort be with you in the days
ahead.*

Vincinetta Brown and family

Vincinetta Brown - December 12, 2024 at 09:06 AM

LR

“ *Luella G Reed lit a candle in memory of Ruby
Lena Graves Word*



Luella G Reed - December 11, 2024 at 04:06 PM

LW

“ *Louvenia Watkins lit a candle in memory of
Ruby Lena Graves Word*



Louvenia Watkins - December 11, 2024 at 01:52 PM

MD

“ *Minister Rosalyn Smedley Dodson lit a candle
in memory of Ruby Lena Graves Word*



Minister Rosalyn Smedley Dodson - December 11, 2024 at 12:24 PM

VL

“ *Vanessa M Lowery lit a candle in memory of
Ruby Lena Graves Word*



Vanessa M Lowery - December 11, 2024 at 11:51 AM

SK

“ *Sharon Kennard lit a candle in memory of
Ruby Lena Graves Word*



Sharon Kennard - December 11, 2024 at 09:58 AM

LP

Lit a candle in memory of mother Lena Graves.

Leola Phelps - December 12, 2024 at 03:32 AM

LP

My condolences to the Graves family.

Leola Phelps - December 12, 2024 at 03:34 AM

BS

“ *Brenda F Sims lit a candle in memory of Ruby
Lena Graves Word*



Brenda F Sims - December 10, 2024 at 10:02 PM

IB

“ *Ida Mickey Battle lit a candle in memory of
Ruby Lena Graves Word*



Ida Mickey Battle - December 10, 2024 at 07:47 PM

VA

“ *Velma Adams lit a candle in memory of Ruby
Lena Graves Word*



Velma Adams - December 10, 2024 at 01:40 PM

NH

“ *Najah Husser lit a candle in memory of Ruby
Lena Graves Word*



Najah Husser - December 10, 2024 at 12:31 PM

NH

*Deepest condolences to the entire family and the loss of the matriarch.
Keeping you in the light during this time.
- Najah & the JLL Design Solutions Team*

Najah Husser - December 10, 2024 at 12:33 PM

BS

“ *Sincere condolences to the entire family,
during this difficult time!!*

Beulah Stoudmire and Beverly Silva



Beverly Silva - December 10, 2024 at 10:11 AM

JJ

“ *Jackie Johnson lit a candle in memory of
Ruby Lena Graves Word*



Jackie Johnson - December 09, 2024 at 06:26 PM

GP

“ Billy, Dot, Norma Jean and the entire family, you all are in my thoughts and prayers during this time of your loss. I will definitely miss Len's singing and dancing. She definitely was one of a kind! I love you all to life! 🙏🙏🙏



Gloria J Pickens - December 09, 2024 at 07:46 AM



“ Ethel Jones lit a candle in memory of Ruby Lena Graves Word



Ethel Jones - December 08, 2024 at 02:44 PM



May God comfort the family at this time.

Ethel Jones - December 08, 2024 at 02:45 PM

JF

“ Joyce Fears lit a candle in memory of Ruby Lena Graves Word



Joyce Fears - December 07, 2024 at 11:08 AM

LO

“ Louise Davis O'Neal lit a candle in memory of
Ruby Lena Graves Word



Louise Davis O'Neal - December 07, 2024 at 10:16 AM

NM

“ Family,I love ya'll and I grieve with with you.
Lene was always so sweet, kind, loving and
actually funny. Years ago Pete and Lene were
my other set of Parents,Billy & Dot, Norma
Jean, Jermaine, Dorothy, Henrietta, Tara. Ya'll
know, My Grandchildren are a part of you and I
will always be here for you, how, when and wherever, Just call me
and I'll Be There!!!!



Nita Montgomery - December 07, 2024 at 10:08 AM

MW

“ Prayers and condolences to the family



Meka Ware - December 07, 2024 at 05:31 AM