

Active Pallbearers

Carlton Fortson
Kevin Jackson

Claude Fortson
Reggie Timms

Honorary Pallbearers

Ken Wesley
Lowell Alexander Jr.
Chad Royal
Carl Loyd
Jared Sanders

Terrance Loyd
Carlton McConnell
Cayden Royal
Lowell Alexander Sr.
Gary Wesley

Flower Bearers

Friends of the Family

Acknowledgement

Because you cared, you came to share, beautiful flowers and words of prayer. Because you cared enough to do, words of comfort on cards came too. Because you cared, we are not alone, love and visits reached afar and at home. Because you cared, we are able to bear the grief and sorrow there is no despair. Because you cared, we are praying too for God's richest Blessings upon each of you.

Special thanks to Angel Care Hospice & Arbor Grace of Kilgore.

~The Family of Bernice Gray~

Interment

Mt. Pleasant Cemetery
Kilgore, Texas



"No Service Can Compare"

CUNNINGHAM FUNERAL HOME, LLC

600 E. MAIN ST. KILGORE, TX 75662
903-984-2072

RENEE' CUNNINGHAM & JESSICA CUNNINGHAM-JAMES
FUNERAL SPECIALISTS

www.cunninghamkilgore.com

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Celebration of Life *For*



Heaven Sent:
July 29, 1935

Glory Bound:
January 2, 2023

Mrs. Bernice Wesley
Gray

Service

Saturday, January 7, 2023 - 10:00 A.M.

MT. PLEASANT CME CHURCH

4242 Old Hwy 135 S.
Kilgore, TX 75662

Reverend Melvina Evans Darby- Pastor
Pastor Oscar Epps- Officiant
Reverend TJ Davis, Jr.- Eulogist



Mom...

They say there is a reason,
 They say time will heal.
 Neither time or reason
 Will change the way I feel.
 Gone are the days
 We used to share,
 But in my heart
 You are always there.
 The gates of memories
 Will never close.
 I miss you
 More than anybody knows,
 Love & miss you everyday
 Till we meet again
**Always & Forever
 Love You**



Order of Service

Cunningham Funeral Directors in Charge

Prelude.....Ms. Earlene Sutphen

Processional.....Clergy/Family-What a Mighty God We Serve

Prayer.....Reverend Melvina Evans Dardy

Scriptures of Comfort:

Old Testament.....Minister Carl Loyd

New Testament.....Reverend Mitchell Cheatham

Solo.....Pastor Oscar Epps
Community Missionary Baptist Church, Desoto & Cedar Hill, TX

Resolutions

Acknowledgment.....Sis. Callie Harvey

Obituary Reflections.....Soft Music

Words of Comfort.....Reverend TJ Davis, Jr.
Mt. Zion CME, Minden, LA

Presentation.....Cunningham Directors

Final Tribute.....Cunningham Directors

Recessional



If Flowers Grow in Heaven

If flowers grow in heaven,
Lord, then pick a bunch for me.
Then place them in my grandmother's
arms
and tell her they're from me.

Tell her that I love and miss her
and when she turns to smile,
place a kiss upon her cheek and hold her
for awhile.

Because remembering her is easy,
I do it every day,
but there's an ache within my heart
that will never go away.



Life Epitome

Bernice was born July 29, 1935 to the parentage of Johnny Wesley and Rena Davis, both preceded her in death. She received her formal education at Post Oak School and CB Dansby Colored High School.

She accepted Christ at an early age and united with Bates Memorial CME Church and later united with New Mt. Calvary Baptist Church where she served as Youth Director. She later joined Mt. Pleasant CME Church where she served until her health failed.

She worked for Cuties Manufacturing Corporations as Plant Supervisor and at TG&Y and Perry's in the Fabric Department. She was a professional seamstress and hairdresser and loved fishing and spending time cooking for her family. "Diva B" was known for her style and grace and will be missed by all.

She married Cleveland Gray in December, 1956 and to this union six children were born. She was preceded in death by her husband Cleveland Gray, son Johnny Gray, daughter Regina Gray and Granddaughter Anitrice Simmons.

Those left to cherish her memory: Gary Wesley of Desoto TX. (Cassandra), Rhonda Loyd of Kilgore TX. (Minister Carl), La Toneau Alexander of Desoto TX. (Lowell), Ramona Wyatt (James) of Kilgore TX. 11 Grandchildren, 17 Great-grandchildren, 5 Great-great grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.



When
Tomorrow
Starts Without
Me +



If tomorrow starts without me, and I'm not there to see. If the sun should rise and find your eyes all filled with tears for me, I wish so much you wouldn't cry the way you did today. While thinking of the many things we didn't get to say. I know how much you love me, as much as I love you, and each time that you think of me, I know you'll miss me too; But when tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand, that an angel came and called my name, and took me by the hand and said my place was ready, in heaven far above, and that I'd have to leave behind all those I dearly love.

But as I turned to walk away, A tear fell from my eye, for all my life, I'd always thought, I didn't want to die I had so much to live for, so much left yet to do, it seemed almost impossible, that I was leaving you. I thought of all the yesterdays, the good ones and the bad, I thought of all that we had shared, and all the fun we had. If I could relive yesterday, just even for a while, I'd say good-bye and kiss you and maybe see you smile. But then I fully realized, that this could never be, for emptiness and memories, would take the place of me. And when I thought of worldly things, I might miss come tomorrow, I thought of you, and when I did, my heart was filled with sorrow. But when I walked through heaven's gates, I felt so much at home. When God looked down and smiled at me, from His great golden throne, He said, "This is eternity, and all I've promised you." Today your life on earth is past, but here life starts anew. I promise no tomorrow, but today will always last, and since each day is the same way, there's no longing for the past. You have been so faithful, so trusting and so true. Though there were times you did some things, you knew you shouldn't do. But you have been forgiven, and now at last you're free. So, won't you come and take my hand, and share my life with me, when tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far apart, for every time you think of me, I'm right here, in your heart.



THE Broken Chain

WE LITTLE KNEW
the day that God was going
 TO CALL YOUR NAME. IN LIFE WE LOVED YOU
dearly, in death we do the same. It broke our
 HEARTS TO LOSE YOU BUT YOU DIDN'T GO
alone, for part of us went with you the day God
 CALLED YOU HOME. YOU LEFT US PEACEFUL
memories, your love is still our guide, and although
 WE CANNOT SEE YOU, YOU ARE ALWAYS AT OUR
side. Our family chain is broken and nothing
 SEEMS THE SAME, BUT AS GOD CALLS US
one by one, the chain will link again.

