

A CELEBRATION OF A
Life Well Lived
—♥—♥—♥—
Georgia Eleanor
—♥—♥—♥—
Covington

November 23, 1941 - June 28, 2026

—♥—♥—♥—
A LIFE OF
Faith,
Music &
Service
—♥—



SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2026

VISITATION
9:00 AM-10:00 AM

CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE
10:00 A.M.

—♥—♥—♥—
FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

3530 Chelsea Avenue
Kansas City, Missouri 64128

—♥—♥—♥—
OFFICIATING

Pastor James A. Terrance, Jr.
Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands.
Serve the Lord with gladness: come before
His presence with singing.
PSALM 100:1-2

Life Reflections



THE LIFE OF *Georgia Eleanor Covington*



Georgia Eleanor Covington was born on November 23, 1941, in Nashville, Tennessee, to the union of Rev. I. H. Henderson, Jr. and Ophelia B. Henderson, both of whom preceded her in death. She was the eldest of their children. On June 28, 2026, Georgia peacefully departed this life at Research Medical Center in Kansas City, Missouri.

Georgia received her early education in the Kansas City Public School District and graduated from Central High School in Kansas City, Missouri. During her high school years, she and her sister, Ms. Ruth F. Henderson, studied at the University of Kansas City Conservatory of Music, where they developed their lifelong passion for music. Following high school, Georgia attended Tennessee Agricultural and Industrial State University, where she earned both a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master of Arts in Education.

Georgia was united in marriage to William E. Atkins, and from this union they were blessed with one daughter, Rev. Schlyon T. Atkins. She later married Aaron Covington. Both William E. Atkins and Aaron Covington preceded her in death.

Georgia began her career as an educator with the Nashville Public School District. After returning to the Kansas City area to care for her mother, she joined the Kansas City, Missouri Public School District in 1977. She faithfully served the district for twenty years before retiring in 1997, leaving a legacy of dedication, compassion, and excellence in education.

At the age of five, Georgia united with Friendship Baptist Church, where she remained a faithful and devoted member for the rest of her life. Throughout her years of service, she participated in numerous ministries, including the Baptist Training Union, Cheerful Helpers, Christian Education Ministry, Culinary Ministry Summer Camp, Sunday School, Youth Fellowship and Counselors, the Deborah-Darcas Circle of the Women's Missionary Union, the Senior Adult Ministry as both Ministry Leader and Team Member, and the Music Ministry, where she faithfully served as musician, choir director, and musical leader. For decades, Georgia often directed songs and accompanied Friendship Sings. She founded the Voices of Praise Choir at Friendship Baptist Church on 43rd and Montgall. She believed deeply in preserving the rich heritage of church music, especially hymns and anthems, and was passionate about teaching choir members to read music and confidently sing their individual parts. Through her ministry, she inspired generations of musicians and worshippers to use their gifts. Even when declining health limited her, she remained active. In 2024, Friendship Baptist Church, together with family and friends, celebrated Georgia's extraordinary seventy years of faithful musical leadership and ministry.

Georgia's life was a beautiful testimony of unwavering faith, servant leadership, and steadfast devotion to God, her family, her church, her students, and her community. She was a gifted seamstress who found great joy in sewing and creating beautiful garments. She dearly loved her fur babies and cherished the companionship they brought into her life. Georgia possessed a quiet servant's heart, often helping others without seeking recognition or ever speaking of her acts of kindness. Her love for sacred music was evident in every aspect of her life. Whether directing a choir, or accompanying worship, she believed that excellence in music ministry was an offering to the Lord. While she treasured each of these passions, they all flowed from what mattered most to her: her unwavering love for Jesus Christ. One of her favorite hymns asked the question, "If it had not been for the Lord on my side, where would I be?" Those words reflected the faith by which she lived each day and the testimony she leaves behind.

She leaves to cherish her precious memory her devoted daughter, Rev. Schlyon T. Atkins, of the home; her beloved sister, Ms. Ruth F. Henderson of Dallas, Texas, her bonus children, Dr. Stephanie E. Berry (Michael), of St. Charles, Missouri, Theresa A. Smith of Cerritos, California, and Amber Goudeau-Garrett of Kansas City, Missouri; her bonus grandchildren, Michaela, Dorion, Aaron, and Aria; her bonus brother, Rev B.G. Roberson of Kansas City, Missouri, and a host of other loved ones, church family, and dear friends who will forever treasure her memory.



Order of Service

PROCESSIONAL

Pastor & Family

OPENING REMARKS

Pastor James A. Terrance, Jr.

MUSICAL SELECTION

"Total Praise"

Friendship Baptist Church Sanctuary Choir

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament: Psalm 27: 1-6 ~ Rev. Linda Milan

New Testament: Revelation 14:13 ~ Rev. Beverly Smith

PRAYER

Sheepfold Deacon ~ Christopher Lenore

MUSICAL SELECTION

"Ordinary People"

Mrs. Stephanie E. Berry

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & CONDOLENCES

Mrs. Nicole Walker ~ Church Clerk

SPECIAL TRIBUTES

Ms. Garnetta Brooks, Mrs. Gladys Burtin,

Ms. Esther Jackson ~ Senior Adult Mistry

Mrs. Kami Woodard ~ Director of Choral Music

Mrs. Charleszetta Shelby ~ Family/Friend

CELEBRATION OF LIFE VIDEO TRIBUTE

MUSICAL SELECTION

Musical Medley

Mr. Isaac Cates

WORDS OF COMFORT

Pastor James A. Terrance Jr.

Friendship Baptist Church

BENEDICTION

RECESSIONAL - "GOING UP YONDER"

Friendship Baptist Sanctuary Choir



Tributes of Love



With Love from your daughter,

Dear Mama,
Every moment of my life, you cared for me, encouraged me,
prayed for me, and supported me. You loved me selflessly and
unconditionally through it all, even as your health began to
fail. You were my biggest cheerleader!

Now it's my turn to shout for joy because you're safe in His
arms. You're free, healed, and whole. Well done, good and
faithful servant!

You are my mom and my best friend. I miss you more than
words can say.

Love you, Mama.

Schlyon



From Her Eternal Sister, Ruth

Michael Bolton wrote a song some years ago that
speaks for me. The song was entitled,

"How Am I Supposed to Live Without You?"

Eternal love,
Your Sis, Ruth



Love Notes from the Heart

From Her Bonus Daughter, Stephanie

To My Dearest Sweet Gee,

God knew exactly what He was doing when He gave me you. From my childhood to my adulthood, you were a constant presence, a prayer warrior, and a part of every milestone. Thank you for loving Michael, Michaela, and Rocky.

I will forever cherish the holidays in St. Louis and the laughter we shared. I am a better person because of your faith and example; your fingerprints are all over my life.

While I miss you deeply, I rejoice knowing you are finally home, healed, and in the presence of your Savior. We love you always, Sweet Gee, and we will keep our promise to look after Schlyon and Auntie Ruth until we meet again.

Love you, Gee,

Stephanie, Michael, Michaela & Rocky



From Her Bonus Daughter, Theresa



You were the epitome of God's unconditional love. Thank you for teaching us, "Much prayer, much power. Little prayer, little power. No prayer, no power."

Thank you for being the best Godmother and Granny Gee we could have ever prayed for. Your love and legacy will live in our hearts forever.

Love you,

Your See's Candies & Baskin-Robbins crew



Dough and Theresa

Love Notes from the Heart

From Jalen and Tyler Terrance

Jalen Terrance

Mrs. Georgia was a woman who I saw as a grandmother in my life. From my first steps in Friendship to watching me and my wife walk up the aisle, she was there for every major moment in my life. She carried love, grace and perseverance wherever she went. Always happy to see you, and always had a smile to greet you. She will be someone I miss dearly, and someone I will speak of in great joy every day for the rest of my life.



Tyler Terrance

As emotional and lost as I feel writing this letter, I cannot help but smile and laugh when I think about all the memories and conversations Sister Covington and I shared. My family was called to Friendship when I was only 16 months old, moving away from all of our family. Growing up, it was just the four of us, and at times it felt like no one could relate to being a child whose father was a prominent pastor, always feeling like people were watching every move you made. But G'Ma understood that feeling, and from a young age she extended her hand, her heart, and her love to me and my brother.

Miss G never wanted to miss any of our events, from games to concerts, graduations, and even weddings. No matter how weak she may have felt at times, she always made time for us. I will never forget our last conversation at her house, when she held my hand and allowed me to release emotions and burdens I felt I could not let the public see. She looked me in my eyes and told me, "You are strong, and you are never in the struggle alone." No matter what I face in life, I will always know Miss G is with me. I will miss the text messages filled with emojis, the love she showed our family, and even her babysitting the dogs. She finished her race, and through her life, she showed me how to love, serve, and give back to others.

Thank you, G'Ma
I became strong because of you.

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

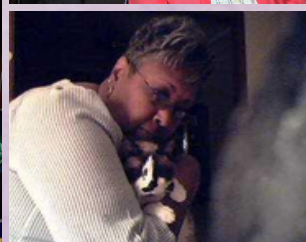
2 Timothy 4:7



Through the Years



A LIFE OF FAITH, FAMILY, MUSIC & LOVE





"Well done, good and faithful servant." (Matthew 25:23)

INTERMENT

Forest Hill Calvary Cemetery
6901 Troost Ave., KCMO 64131

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Henderson ~ Atkins Family wishes to express their sincere appreciation to the Friendship Baptist Church family for the cards, condolences, flowers, prayer and other expressions of sympathy extended to them during their bereavement.

We also wish to acknowledge the dedicated physicians and medical teams at Research Medical Center, St. Joseph Medical Center, Specialized Home Care, and Ms. Meadrica Suber and Ms. Crystal Spates-Newbill, her special Care Attendants.

May the grace and peace from God rest upon each of you!

The family asks that you continue to keep them in your prayers.



PALL BEARERS

Michael A. Berry
Dorion L. Green
Keith Robinson
Kent Robinson
Jalen Terrance
Tyler Terrance

SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO:

Serenity Funeral Home

1101 E. Bannister Rd.
Kansas City, MO
(816) 599-2939