Homegoing Celebration

for



Mrs. Geraldine Hayes McCollum

September 8, 1950—October 18, 2025

Thursday, October 23, 2025
Visitation | 11:00 a.m.; Celebration Service | 1:00 p.m.

Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church
803 Simpson Highway 540E, Mendenhall, Mississippi 39114
Reverend Willie Barber, Pastor

Geraldine's Favorite Passage

the Lord's Prayer

our father which
art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.

thy kingdom come,
thy will be done in earth,
as it is in heaven.

give us this day
our daily bread.

and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.

and lead us not
into temptation,
but deliver us from evil:
for thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever. Amen

Matthew 6:9-13



In Memory of Our Beloved Mother • Grandmother • Sister • Aunt

Geraldine Hayes McCollum

You're peacefully now sleeping
In a world of purest light.
Where angels sing their sweet refrain
And where everything shines bright.

Beside the tranquil waters you walk along each day.
Where the blossoms are so beautiful
With the colors they display.

You are so very dearly thought of
And every precious memory
Has left a lovely rainbow
That will last eternally.

Forever in Our Hearts—Your Loving Family

The Obituary

"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." Romans 8:18 (KJV)

Geraldine McCollum of Mendenhall, Mississippi, lived a life full of joy, peace and love for the Lord.

Born on September 8, 1950, in Mendenhall, Mississippi, she is the third daughter of Mr. Grover Hayes and Mrs. Erma Lee Hamilton Hayes.

Geraldine was called home to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on October 18, 2025.

Geraldine had a strong love for her Savior Jesus Christ. She accepted Christ and was baptized at an early age at Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church.

Gerladine met and married her first husband, Donnie Ray Smith, who preceded her in death in 1975. In 1976, she married Mr. William Walter McCollum of Harrisville, Mississippi.

She was a member of Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church in Harrisville, Mississippi, where she served faithfully under the leadership of Pastors: Reverend Ollie Lee Baugh, Reverend Mancil Carter, Reverend Roy Gardner, and Reverend Michael Lilly. After the passing of her husband William Walter McCollum, Geraldine returned to Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church under the pastoral leadership of Reverend Willie Barber.

Geraldine worked faithfully in the church as a follower of God. She was a member of the Mission Department and the Order of Eastern Star (OES) and she loved to teach Bible Class.

Geraldine loved cooking, reading her Bible, attending church, dressing up, being with family and friends, dancing, traveling, and community work. Her favorite colors are red and white. The red is for the blood of Christ and white is for purity. Her favorite flowers are roses and carnations. Her favorite Bible passage is the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13). Her favorite songs are "This Little Light of Mine and "Let Your Light Shine."

Down through the years, the Lord has been good to Geraldine. She was blessed to have three children, and Geraldine believed in training up a child in the way that he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it (Proverbs 22:6). Her children loved and respected her and they faithfully took care of their Mother throughout the years until the end of her life. Her children truly did rise up and called her blessed as a virtuous woman.

Geraldine is preceded in death by her husbands, Donnie Ray Smith and William Walter McCollum; her parents, Grover Hayes and Erma Lee Hamilton Hayes; her brothers, Grover Hayes, Jr., and Winston Hayes; her sons, Donnie Ray Smith, Jr., and William Gerald McCollum. Geraldine leaves to cherish her memories: her loving children, Helen Ann Hayes of Mendenhall, Mississippi, David Ray Hayes (Alice) of Jackson, Mississippi, and Richard Ray Smith (Lydia) of Huntington Beach, California; 11 grandchildren; 10 great grandchildren; her siblings, Ernestine Byrd of Mendenhall, Mississippi, Jewelstine Sutton (Alton) of Belzoni, Mississippi, Willie L. Hayes (Ruby) of Greenwood, Mississippi, Flora L. Brooks of Joliet, Illinois, and Willie Jean Youngblood of Collins, Mississippi; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.



The Order of Service

Sister Lydia Smith, Mistress of Ceremonies

Prelude ..... Musicians

Processional ..... Ministers/Family

Selection ..... Congregational Hymn

Scripture

- Old Testament ..... Psalm 23 ..... Pulpit Designee
- New Testament ..... Philippians 4:4-11 ..... Pulpit Designee

Prayer of Comfort ..... Pulpit Designee

Words of Encouragement ..... Pastor Willie Barber

Solo ..... Billy Womack

Tributes

- As a Sister ..... Deacon Willie Hayes
- As an Eastern Star ..... Sister Ruby J. Hays
- As a Mission Member ..... Sister JoAnn Baugh

Selection ..... Congregational Hymn

Acknowledgments ..... Sister Carolyn S. Fletcher

Obituary ..... Read Silently ..... Soft Music

Eulogy ..... Minister Richard Smith

Benediction ..... Pastor Willie Barber

Recessional ..... Pastor/Ministers/Family

Funeral Directors of J&M in Charge

Memories...





















Memories...





















Family Acknowledgment

We, the family, wish to express our sincere appreciation for the tremendous outpouring of love expressed during our time of bereavement. For the many prayers, visits, comforting messages and other acts of kindness, we thank you.

Special thanks are extended to the Director and Residents of Harper Village, Mendenhall, Mississippi; St Dominic Hospital, Jackson, Mississippi; the Staff of Magnolia Senior Care, Jackson, Mississippi; and the Staff of Hillcrest Nursing Center, Magee, Mississippi.

Special Request

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Angel Wings Outreach Center in memory of Mrs. Geraldine McCollum.

Active Pallbearers

David Ray Hayes, Jr.
Ryan Strickland
William Hayes
Louis Hamilton
Tyler Smith
Shelton Hayes

Honorary Pallbearers

David Ray Hayes, Sr.
Willie Hayes
Richard Smith
Alton Sutton
Lamont Hayes
Gerald Hayes

Flower Bearers

Nieces & Granddaughters

Interment

Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery
803 Simpson Highway 540E
Mendenhall, Mississippi 39114
Reverend Willie Barber, Pastor



Services Entrusted to
J & M Funeral Home, LLC

732 Dixie Avenue • P.O. Box 475
Mendenhall, Mississippi 39114
(601)847-2911 • www.jandmfuneralhome.com

Geraldine Hayes McCollum
1950—2025

"Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates." Proverbs 31:29-31

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