

# Back with Mama

By Equalla Butler (Niece)

I'm sorry I had to go,  
But I'm back with Mama now, as you all know.

No more pain, no more doctors,  
Just peaceful days and happy stories.

Pookie, it's okay, I'm where I want to be.  
I'm back with Mama; this is the place I want to be.  
The sun is shining, I'm laughing and free,  
And Heaven feels just like home to me.

Miss me, but only for a little while,  
I'm back with Mama now, my child (Jasmine).  
K.J. and Christian, I will miss you two,  
Do right by your Mama and Omar too.

Heaven is home, and I'm right where I want to be,  
Wrapped in love, smiling, completely free.  
I'm back with Mama; there's no place I'd rather be,  
Forever together, for eternity.



## Pallbearers

MacNeil Tuggle (with love)  
Family & Friends

## Flower Ladies

Dwyla Tuggle (with love)  
Zola Camp (with love)  
Greta Tuggle (with love)  
Family & Friends

## Interment

Lawnwood Memorial Park  
1111 Access Rd, Covington, GA 30014

## Acknowledgements

The family of Betty Jean Gaither gratefully acknowledges the many thoughtful expressions of sympathy that we received during our time of bereavement. We sincerely appreciate the comforting messages, phone calls, visits, cards, food, prayer and other expressions of kindness. Words cannot express our gratitude.

## Professional Services Entrusted To:



Lester Lackey & Sons Funeral Home, Inc.  
1163 Reynolds Street SW  
Covington, GA 30014, Phone: 770-786-6177

# Celebrating

## THE LIFE OF



# Betty Jean

## GAITHER

JUNE 10, 1963 - MARCH 15, 2026

Friday, March 20, 2026 at 1:00 P.M.  
Mt. Zion AME Church  
119 5 th Ave. Mansfield, GA 30055  
Rev. Noah Nyamaropa, Pastor  
Bishop Milton Holston, Eulogy

CELEBRATING  
*The Life & Legacy*

Betty Jean Gaither, 63, entered eternal rest on Sunday, March 15, 2026. Two brothers preceded her in death Micheal and Ricky Reid.

She was born June 10, 1963, in Mansfield, Georgia, to the late Bobby Jean Gaither and Tommie Lee Reid. As a young girl, she attended Mt. Zion AME Church, where her faith and love for God were nurtured.

Betty graduated from Newton County High School in 1981. She was a dedicated worker who spent many years at OHCO and later at Bard in Covington, forming lifelong friendships. Even through life's challenges, she remained strong and determined.

God blessed her with her daughter, Jasmine a beautiful surprise who gave her two of her greatest loves, K.J. and Chris.

Betty enjoyed the simple things in life. You could often find her at Food Depot or Walmart, but most of the time she was riding around with Libbut (Pookie) or Coaleen. She loved watching her "soaperos," sharing tea the good gossip and playfully putting folks in "time out," right Jenny? She also had an 18-hour in-home daycare, caring for her great niece "Mae-Mae" and Khai, which brought her great joy (as long as Tionna brought her money lol!).

She would catch up with her sisters, Jack and Toni and her brother, Tony on the phone from time to time. Betty loved her family deeply.

Tio, Rio and your crew, Peanut, De'Adrian, Jordan, Marquez, Amyy, Jaquila her "Lolo," London, Jalyn and Sara she had her eyes on each of you.

She cherished her friendships with lifelong friends, Cynthia Bell, Lisa Floyd, Linda Fuller, Rosa Rodriguez, her unbreakable bond with Coaleen, and a special friendship with Beatrice Chalate. Betty loved her snacks, dogs, and traveling.

Betty leaves to cherish her memory; daughter, Jasmine (Omar) Gaither-Burke; Grandsons, Kevin Ellzey Jr. (K.J.), Christian Ellzey; Goddaughters, LaBrela Davis, Stephany Juarez, Elizabeth Juarez, Nery Juarez; siblings; Elizabeth (Artis) Laquin, Virginia (Clinton) Ross, Jackeline (Curtis) England, Tony (Monica) Gaither, Toni (Daniel) Lovelace Petty, Tammy (Gerald) Rogers, Brandy Johnson, Tony Reid and Tommie (Brunical) Reid Jr. Along with a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Betty will be remembered for her strength, love, laughter and the lasting impact she made on all who knew her.

ORDER *OF* SERVICE

**PRESIDING**  
Pastor Nicholas A. Curry  
Peeks Chapel Baptist Church

**PROCESSIONAL**  
Music

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**  
Old Testament | Tommie Reid Jr (*Brother*)  
New Testament

**PRAYER**  
Apostle Toni Petty (*Sister*)

**SELECTION**  
Pastor Nicholas A. Curry

**OBITUARY READING**  
Read Silently

**TRIBUTE**  
Ms. Jakeline England (*Sister*)

**SELECTION**  
Rev. Daniel Petty (*Brother-in-law*)

**EULOGY**  
Bishop Milton Holsten  
Oak Grove Baptist Church

**CLOSING REMARKS / BENEDICTION**  
Pastor

