

Order of Service

Worship Leader
Pastor Roland Whitley Jr.
Pastor, Evans Chapel A.M.E. Church, Smithfield, NC

Musical Prelude
Min. Malachi Mays
Processional

Selection
Wesley Chapel A.M.E. Church Combined Choir

Prayer of Comfort
Rev. Howard Johnson
Pastor, Mt. Olive A.M.E. Church, Wilmington, NC

Old Testament
Rev. Davion Thomas
Pastor, Zion Hill Church, Littleton, NC

New Testament
Pastor Ralph Barnes
Pastor, Hornet's Chapel F.W.B., Dunn, NC

The Gospel
Min. Kay Johnson
Harvest Word Ministries, Zebulon, NC

Acknowledgements and Obituary
LaTisha Edwards

Tributes
Family – Rev. Serena Reddick Lofton
Classmate, Smithfield-Selma Senior High School Class of 1970 – Rosa Edwards
Church Class Leader – Olive Bryant, Evans Chapel A.M.E. Church

Selection
Wesley Chapel A.M.E. Church Combined Choir

Eulogy
Rev. Robert Bland
Pastor, St. Augustine A.M.E. Church, Clayton, NC

Solo
Evangelist Yasmin Monroe

Mortician's Brief

The Family's Message of Gratitude

The family would like to express our deepest and most sincere gratitude for your prayers, words of comfort, condolences, and acts of kindness shown to us during our time of bereavement. Your love, compassion, and support will always be remembered. We especially acknowledge the Evans Chapel A.M.E. Church family, Warren Sanders Jr., the Sanders Family, Sina Richardson (caregiver), and Olive Bryant (care support) for their devotion and care. May God continue to bless and keep you in His care.

-The Avery Family
#AveryStrong

Interment

Sunset Memorial Park

Following the interment, the repass will be held at the Men's Progressive Club in Smithfield, North Carolina.

Professional Services Entrusted to:



Sanders Funeral Home
806 E Market St • Smithfield, NC 27577
Phone: (919) 934-8416

In Loving Memory



Veronica Avery

September 30, 1950 — September 14, 2025

Saturday, September 20, 2025

Noon

Evans Chapel AME Church



Veronica's Life Story

“For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing.”
2 Timothy 4:6-8

Veronica Avery was born on September 30, 1950, to the late Mr. Offe Avery and Ms. Geraldine Atkinson-Avery in Brooklyn, New York, and was raised by her aunt, the late Ms. Swannie Mae Avery, in Smithfield, North Carolina.

Veronica attended Smithfield-Selma Senior High School and was a member of the school's first graduating class in 1970. She worked for many years, but her most rewarding and cherished role was being a mother to Kiawana and Damien (Kenisha) Avery. Veronica loved the Lord and was a devoted member of Evans Chapel A.M.E. Church, where she served as head usher for over 10 years and as a member of the trustee board.

She had an infectious smile and a big personality that could fill any room she entered. In her spare time, she enjoyed completing puzzle books, traveling with friends, and spending time in Florida with her son, daughter, and grand-puppy, Onyx.

Cherishing her memory are her children; brothers Terry (Diane) Avery and Rigney Avery, both of Smithfield, North Carolina; special daughter, Kendra Mays of Smithfield, North Carolina; and her children's grandmother, Dottie Sanders. She also leaves behind her sister-cousins: Rosa (Ralph) Edwards of Selma, North Carolina; Laura Ingram of Smithfield, North Carolina; Bernice (Dee) Durham of Smithfield, North Carolina; and Winifred Johnson of Charlotte, North Carolina; as well as brother-cousins: Charles (Etta) Avery of Clayton, North Carolina, and Bernard Bryant of Selma, North Carolina.

Her extended family includes: Marshall Nixon of Smithfield, North Carolina; Angela (Kenneth) Wright of Maryland; Marsha (Curtis) Small of Winston-Salem, North Carolina; Serena (Jimmy) Lofton of Bailey, North Carolina; Omar (Michelle) Reddick of Maryland; and Travis Reddick of Durham, North Carolina.

Veronica is also remembered by her close friends: Sina Richardson of Smithfield, North Carolina; Jerry Williams of Selma, North Carolina; Olive Bryant of Smithfield, North Carolina; Sarah Watson and Alice King of Smithfield, North Carolina; Emma Graham of Virginia; and Doug and Robin Watson of Smithfield, North Carolina, along with many other family and friends.



To Mom, From Kiawana

To my dearest Mom, though you're not here, I feel your presence always so near. Your loving guidance is a light in my heart, a bond that death can never tear apart. I see your halo, a radiant sign, a mother's love eternally divine. Though tears may fall when I think of you, I'll celebrate your life, beautiful and true.

Love,
Kiawana

To Mom, From Sugarfoot

I miss you, Mom. I thought of you with love today, but that is nothing new. I thought about you yesterday and days before that too. I think of you in silence, and I often speak your name. All I have are memories and your picture in a frame. Your memory is my keepsake with which I'll never part. God has you in His keeping, and I have you in my heart.

Love,
Sugarfoot