

Honorary Pallbearers

Calvin McFarland | Damon Clark | George Harris | Jamel Dillard
Jordan Napolitano | Kirk Carruth | Marcel Dillard | Steven Carruth

Flower Bearers

Friends of the Family

Family Repast

The family of Leona Spates will be hosting the repast at the
Local 699 Union Hall, located at
1911 Bagley Street, Saginaw, Michigan 48602

Acknowledgement

The family wishes to express their sincere gratitude to all of you
for your prayers, presence, love, telephone calls and all other
expressions of concern that you have shown during our
time of bereavement. Never more than now was your
kindness needed and more appreciated.



Paradise Funeral Chapel

3100 South Washington Avenue
Saginaw, Michigan 48601
Phone (989) 754-4826 / Fax (989) 754-3740
pfcsaginaw@paradisefuneralchapel.com
Sharise Steele-Phillips, Manager
Ivan E. Phillips, President & Owner



Celebrating the Life of
Mrs. Leona Spates

Sunrise: July 9, 1945 - Sunset: June 3, 2025

11:00 AM - Thursday, June 12, 2025

Paradise Funeral Chapel
3100 South Washington Avenue
Saginaw, Michigan 48601

Bishop Zachary Williamson, Officiating

Order of Service

Processional
Family

Opening Prayer
Pastor Charlene Washington

Musical Tribute

Scripture Reading & Words of Expression

Old Testament
Apostle Ron Frierson
New Testament
Pastor Sharon Carter

Musical Tribute

Acknowledgements of
Condolences & Obituary
Tiarra Pickens

Words of Expression
(Limit 2 Minutes)
Family & Friends

Eulogy
Bishop Zachary Williamson

Benediction

Recessional

A Life of Love

She walked through life with grace and light,
A beacon glowing ever bright.
A partner true, with heart so wide,
Forever faithful, by your side.
A mother's love, so deep and strong,
With guiding hands that led us long.
As Granny, Great-Granny too,
She filled our days with joy so true.
A sister's bond, a niece so dear,
An aunt whose presence brought us cheer.
A cousin close, a loyal friend,
A love like hers will never end.
She gave her all, she gave her best,
And now she takes her well-earned rest.
Now her voice is soft and still,
We feel her love around us still.
Though we must part, we hold her near,
In every heart, she's always here.

Obituary

Our beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin, and cherished friend, Leona also known as Lee, Belle Starr, and Spates, peacefully went home to be with the Lord on Tuesday, June 3, 2025, at the age of 79. Born on July 9, 1945, in Saginaw, Michigan, she was the daughter of the late James Clark Sr. and Sona Carruth.

Leona was educated in the Saginaw Public School system and later earned her cosmetology license from MJ Murphy Beauty College. A passionate entrepreneur, she went on to establish her own salon, Leona's Place, where she served her community with warmth and grace.

Leona's legacy lives on through her devoted life partner, DeEddie Sanders; her loving daughter, Delena Spates-Allen (Ed); and her three grandchildren, ShaRease Price known as Sugar (Tariq), BreAna Allen, known as Brown Sugar, and Jordan Napolitano known as Jo (Laniyah). She also leaves behind six great-grandchildren; DeLeana (Brandon), Masen, Nylah, Kasen, Londyn, and Jordan Jr., and two great-great-grandchildren, Braxton and Braelon.

She will be fondly remembered by her seven sisters: Jamesetta Christian (Emmitt) of Decatur, GA; Marcetta Dillard (Frank) of Auburn Hills, MI; Brenda Clark, Odeania, Sona, and Charlotte Carruth, all of Saginaw, MI; as well as her brother Stevie Carruth (Ann) of Danville, IL.

Leona's love extended to a host of nieces; Tricia, Cheryl, Ericka, Kayla, Sherry, and Joy; nephews Damon, Calvin, Steven, Marcel, Jamel, Kirk, George, and Tra; great nieces, Danielle, Diamond, Tanzania, Tunisia, Taylor, ShaMari, Serenity, Brooklyn, Ziya, Ka'Mya, and Ziyah; great nephews Calvin, Marquavis, DeAnte', Darrick, Khalil, Nasir, Landin, Ryder, Jayden, King, Kameron, Sean, and Greg. She is also survived by her dear aunts, Revenia Brewer of Gary, IN, and Connie Hart of Pontiac, MI; uncle, Frederick Washington of Saginaw, MI; and sister-in-law, Alberta Phelps, Olive Branch, MS, along with other relatives, including the Sanders family.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Alfred Lewis Spates; daughter, Evelyn Faye Spates; her son, Gregory Clark; her mother and stepfather, Sona and Odie Carruth; her father, James Clark Sr.; her siblings Norma Thomas, Patricia Harris, and James Clark Jr.; her nephew Darrick Carruth; and numerous other loved ones who welcomed her home.

Leona had many joys in life, one of which was shopping, especially finding treasures at TJ Maxx and Marshalls. She loved the thrill of a good bargain and always had an eye for style.

Leona was blessed with many dear friends who became family, including the Gamez, McCloud, McKinney, Reed, Durrett, and Roby families. She shared special bonds with Alberta Pruitt, Barbara McCloud, Bea Manning, Charlene Washington, Connie Ward, Develma Howard, Don McClure, Don Durrett, Ethel Shaw, Gloria Napier, Ivan Phillips, Joyce Palmer, Michelle Barkley, Patricia Caldwell, and Rachel Roby.

Leona's radiant spirit, unwavering love, and nurturing heart will be deeply missed and forever treasured.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to Covenant at Home, Ivan E. Phillips and the staff of Paradise Funeral Chapel, and everyone who offered support during this time.



