

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

FINAL RESTING PLACE

MANSFIELD CEMETERY
389 Altamont Ave, Mansfield, 44902

PALLBEARERS

Daron Taylor
LaCario Taylor
JaQuan Brown
Jahmere Thomas
Ahmaad Thomas
Ahmaan Thomas
Ny'Shawnare Petty
Maurice Banks

FLOWER BEARERS

Carol ~ Tina ~ Quaina

A WORD OF THANKS

*The family of **Melissa Thomas** wishes to express their deepest gratitude for the love, prayers, and support during this time of sorrow. Your kindness, visits, calls, and words of encouragement have brought comfort and peace to our hearts.*



MARLAN GARY
FUNERAL HOME
1 FUNERAL HOME | 5 LOCATIONS

MINISTRY OF COMFORT ENTRUSTED TO:

NORTH CHAPEL
2500 CLEVELAND AVE.,
COLUMBUS, OH 43211
614-267-8310

EAST CHAPEL
5456 LIVINGSTON AVE.,
COLUMBUS, OH 43232
614-604-8774

MANSFIELD CHAPEL
753 MCPHERSON ST.,
MANSFIELD, OH 44903
419-524-6999

SPRINGFIELD CHAPEL
823 SOUTH YELLOW SPRINGS ST.,
SPRINGFIELD, OHIO 45506
937-325-1447

CINCINNATI CHAPEL
674 FOREST AVE.,
CINCINNATI OH 45229
513-221-4812

WWW.THECHAPELOFPEACE.COM



MELISSA
THOMAS

FEBRUARY 5, 1977 — NOVEMBER 2, 2025

OBITUARY

*M*elissa Kaye Thomas was born February 5, 1977, to the late Rodger Ellis Felp Smith Sr. and mother Ollie “Rosie” Smith. Melissa was called home on November 2, 2025. Melissa was loved by everyone she knew. Melissa was a light and had a smile that brightened any room. To know her was to truly love her and to know that she loved you too. If you ever came in contact with Melissa, she made sure to stop and talk. Her genuine spirit, effortless smile, and contagious laugh could brighten any day.

Melissa received her GED and was a State Tested Nursing Assistant for many years. Her last residing job was at Speedway in Columbus, Ohio. After a long day, what she enjoyed most was relaxing, watching her favorite TV shows The Golden Girls and Law & Order, and taking a moment to herself. In her special times, she loved going on cruises and shopping. Most of all, she loved spending time with all her grandchildren.

Her mother, who was her best friend, enjoyed their daily calls and making sure she was taken care of. She was the best sister to her brothers, who assisted in family matters and always engaged in fun activities to do with family and hearts to hearts. She was given the lifelong nickname “Lissy” by her mother.

Melissa’s three sons were spoiled with love; every day she celebrated them.

Melissa loved her family. Nothing compared to a day or night with her cousins. The laughs would start immediately and go through the night, sharing memories and laughter. There was never a dull moment with Quaina, Trevia, Takara, Ashly, Oscar, and her late cousin Robert. Melissa also adored her aunt Carol and aunt Tina fully.

Aside from her immediate family, there were her special sisters: Kamesha Raglin, Denee’a Jackson, Ronda James, Karmiya Moxley, and the late Kenyonna Moxley. Melissa had a love for traveling with her special sisters.

She is loved and cherished by her mother, Ollie “Rosie” Smith; brother Rodger Ellis Felp Jr.; sons Daron Taylor (Idameka), LaCario Taylor (Storm) and JaQuan Brown — all of Mansfield, Ohio; grandchildren Jeremiah Mack of Columbus, Ni’yeir, Genesis, and Ke’monie of Mansfield; special nephew Manny, who lived with her in Columbus, Ohio; nephews and nieces Matthew Lara of Columbus, Ohio, Rakaysha Smith, Rogiana Smith, Rodger Smith III, and RahJanae Smith, all of Mansfield, Ohio. Aunts and uncles: Carol Thomas, Tina Thomas, Albert Thomas, Earl Thomas, Jamery Jennings, Lesia (Clifton) Patton, Regina (Rafael) Dixon. Great aunts: Willia Mingle (Aunt Boot), Queen Gardner. Bonus uncle: Uncle Charlie.

She is preceded in death by her father, Rodger Ellis Felp Smith Sr., and brother Thomas Michael Smith. Paternal grandparents: Felp Smith (Smitty) and Alice Smith. Maternal grandparents: Johnnie B. and Mary Thomas. Uncles: Johnnie Thomas Jr. (Bebe) and Michael Fletcher. Aunt: Mary Elders. Cousins: Robert Thomas, Geneva (Kay) Smith, and Bobby Hess.

THE DAY GOD TOOK YOU HOME

You never said I’m leaving.

You never said goodbye.

You were gone before I knew it,

And only God knew why.

A million times I needed you,

A million times I cried.

If Love alone could have saved you,

You never would have died.

In Life I loved you dearly,

In death I love you still.

In my heart you hold a place,

That no one could ever fill.

It broke my heart to lose you,

But you didn’t go alone.

For part of me went with you,

The day God took you home.

REMEMBER ME

*To the living, I am gone,
To the sorrowful, I will never return,
To the angry, I was cheated,
But to the happy, I am at peace,
And to the faithful, I have never left.*

*I cannot speak, but I can listen.
I cannot be seen, but I can be heard.
So as you stand upon a shore gazing at a beautiful sea,
As you look upon a flower and admire its simplicity,
Remember me.*

*Remember me in your heart:
Your thoughts, and your memories,
Of the times we loved,
The times we cried,
The times we fought,
The times we laughed.
For if you always think of me, I will never have gone.*

ORDER OF SERVICE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2025 ~ 11AM
*New Community Temple Church of God in Christ
338 Harker St, Mansfield, OH 44903*

ORGAN PRELUDE

PARTING VIEW

SCRIPTURE READING

PRAYER

SELECTION
Bobby Lloyd

SPECIAL WORDS FROM SONS
Daron, LaCario, JaQuan

REMARKS
2 minutes please

READING OF OBITUARY
Jesse Brooks

SELECTION
Church Choir

SPECIAL POEM READING
Aunt Carol

EULOGY
Supt. Henry J. Bradley

BENEDICTION

RECESSIONAL

