

Mama Made A Man

She worked two jobs and never called it hard,
her hands worn rough, her heart of solid gold.
I heard her weeping through the wall at night;
by morning, not a soul was ever told.

The lights hung by a thread, the table thinned ---
she stretched a supper till it fed us all,
and everything the world would not provide,
she built by hand inside those thin four walls.

“Stand tall”, she said. “Don’t beg and don’t you fold.
This life will test your soul, so hold your own.”
She never preached a word she hadn’t lived;
I learned it watching her, and I have grown.

So, if you’re looking for her, look at me ---
she’s in the way I stand and hold my own.
She left no fortune anyone can count.
She left me everything. She raised a man.



Grandma's Gone to Heaven

One quiet Tuesday morning,
the angels came and took Grandma far away
But in the stillness of the night, we could almost hear her
say, “Dear grandchildren ---I will miss you,
you all mean so much to me
But Jesus called me to His side, in Heaven I will be.
A place of God’s great beauty, no tears of earthly cares
Only peace and joy forever and love beyond compare.
So remember all the good times, don’t think about the sad
Treasure all the special moments
through the years we’ve always had.
And if you trust in Jesus, I can promise this and more
You will get a hug from Grandma
someday past Heaven’s golden gates.

Honorary Pallbearers

Deacons & Officers, Greater Elizabeth M. B. Church
Willie D. Jones
David Johnson
Ashton Smith
Vincent Ray Brown
Alpha Johnson

Active Pallbearers

JaMari Jones
Jermain “Boss” Frison
Willis McDaniels
Alex “AJ” Jones
Carlester Fryson
Jermaine McClees

Moral Attendants

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.
National Association of University Women (TLH Branch)
FAMU NAA Leon County Chapter

*Motorists: Please drive with your headlights on high beam
and stay up with the car in front of you.*

The Service of Committal & Interment

Tallahassee Memory Gardens * Tallahassee, Florida

Repast

TNL Performing Arts Center
1533 South Monroe Street, Unit C * Tallahassee, Florida 32301

The Family's Message of Gratitude

We, the family of **Ronica O. Mathis**, gratefully acknowledges
the many expressions of love, sympathy, and kindness shown to
us during the illness and passing of our beloved leading lady.
Your prayers, visits, calls, cards, flowers and food have carried
us through days we could not have faced alone. May God richly
bless and keep you in His loving care.

Services Entrusted To:


1215 North Jefferson Street • P. O. Box 425
Monticello, Florida 32345
Phone: (850) 997-5853 • Fax: (850) 997-4706
4006 Crawfordville Road • Tallahassee, Florida 32305
Phone: (850) 942-1950 • Fax: (850) 942-2375
Alfonza "Al" Hall • George Clayton
Amy Davis • Damien Davis
Demetrius Hawk • Isaac Miller, Jr.
Funeral Directors & Embalmers
Sillman... Making A Difference Since 1931

Celebrating the Life & Legacy of

Ronica O. Mathis

ΣΓΡ



Earth's Gift: April 7, 1973 – Heaven's Gain: August 25, 2026

*Friday, September 4, 2026
Eleven O'clock in the Morning*

Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church

615 TUSKEGEE STREET * TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32305

The Reverend Stanley L. Walker, Sr., Pastor
The Elder Rodney Stewart, Eulogist
PASTOR, GREATER ELIZABETH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
MONTICELLO, FLORIDA

Reflections of Life

Ronica Orenthia Brown Mathis was the beloved daughter of Clyde Brown, Jr. and Josephine Johnson Brown. **Ronica** was the oldest of four children. Her parents, as well as the youngest of the four, Paula Brown Graham, preceded her in death. Her grandson, Cammeren Jones, also preceded her to Glory.

Raised in a family of educators, **Ronica** attended the public schools of Leon County and graduated from Amos P. Godby High School in 1971. She continued her education at Florida A&M University (FAMU) where she pursued a degree in Accounting. **Ronica** would then enlist in the United States Army and served in active duty status for three years before being honorably discharged. With both of her parents having strong ties to FAMU, it was only natural that **Ronica** would continue her education at their alma mater. Her father, a public school educator, earned his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from FAMU and her mother was a longtime administrative support employee at FAMU. After obtaining her degree, **Ronica** worked as an Accountant for many years at FAMU before being appointed Chief Financial Officer. Most recently, she was employed in a similar role in Tallahassee with the Neighborhood Medical Center.

A very pragmatic person, **Ronica** was known and well-respected for her candor and her ability to direct a project successfully from inception to completion. She was active in several community-based and fraternal organizations. She was a devoted member of Greater Elizabeth Missionary Baptist Church of Lloyd, Florida and had several leadership positions in her sorority, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.

On Tuesday, August 25, 2026, God summoned **Sister Ronica Orenthia Brown Mathis** Home for her eternal rest. Her love and legacy will be cherished forever by her **son**: Willie (Monica) Jones; **grandchildren**: Jasmine, Audriana, Breana, Jamari, Alexander, Honour and Kenya Jones, Amari Sapp, Aubrey and Ashton Smith; **sister**: Vernita Brown; **brother**: Vincent (Kimberly) Brown; **brother-in-law**: Reverend Tony (Gloria) Graham; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Precious Memories



The Order of Service

The Reverend Tony O. Graham, Presiding

Prelude..... The *Tillman* Gospel Chorale

Processional..... Pastor, Eulogist, Clergy, Officers & Family

The Parting Glance & Seating of Family..... The *Tillman* Staff

Hymn of Praise..... Deacon Mannix Hawkins

Prayer of Comfort Minister Allison McNealy

Comfort from Scriptures:

Old Testament Elder George Proctor, Jr.

New Testament..... Elder Harold Brown

Solo..... Elder Dr. Chris A. Burney

Reflections & Tributes: Two Minutes Each, Please

A Friend Sister Diane Porter

A Soror Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. Rep.

A Mentor Sister Nichole Murry

A Colleague..... Sister Jeanne Freeman

Our Beloved Grandma Grandchildren

Selection Chorale

Resolutions/Acknowledgements..... Sister Doris Maloy

Special Tribute from Son Brother Willie D. Jones

Solo..... Brother Donnell Davis

Eulogy Elder Rodney Stewart

Recessional..... Clergy, Family & Friends