

Celebrating the Beautiful Life of



Sunrise
July 16, 1954

Sunset
August 6, 2026

Mrs. Audrey Nell Smith Yates

Graveside Service
Pinelawn Memorial Park
Repast to Follow
4488 US-70, Kinston, NC 28504
Officiating Pastor Godfrey L. Deaver

The Obituary

Mrs. Audrey Nell Smith Yates was born in Craven County to the late Maggie Smith Moore and William Wiggins on July 16, 1954. During her childhood, she joined her family's church, St. Peter Church of Christ "DOC" where she continued to be a member until her passing. As a member, Audrey served in many ministries including the choir.

Audrey was raised by her late maternal grandparents, Rosa Smith and Luby Smith, Sr. and was a proud graduate of the extraordinary class of 1973 of Kinston High School.

After high school, Audrey enrolled into Fayetteville Tech to study interior design. At church one Sunday, Audrey met and fell in love with Marvin Yates and on May 22, 1976, they were united in Holy Matrimony.

During the marriage, they welcomed two daughters Rosalyn and Monica Yates and later became proud grandparents of their granddaughter, Taja Yates.

Audrey worked at West Company, Barnet Yarn Company, Kinston Shirt Factory, and she retired as a Health Technician I from Caswell Development Center where she was recognized on numerous occasions for outstanding performance.

A gifted seamstress, a foster grandparent, a member of the Eastern Stars, and a friend to everyone she met, Audrey enjoyed and appreciated life to the fullest.

Audrey was preceded in death by both parents, her husband, two sisters, Rosalyn Smith and Nebraska Waites and one brother, Anthony Crosby.

Audrey leaves to cherish her memories her daughters Rosalyn of Raleigh, NC and Monica of Charlotte, NC, one granddaughter, Taja Yates of Raleigh, NC, one grand dog daughter, Okoye Yates of Charlotte, NC, one sister, Linda Deaver (Godfrey) of Fayetteville, NC, one brother-in-law, Jasper Jr. Yates (Paulette) of Kinston, NC, nieces, nephews, a host of cousins, classmates, and dear friends.

I Have a Place in Heaven

Please don't sing sad songs for me; Forget your grief and fears.

For I am in a perfect place; away from pain and tears.

It's far away from hunger, and hurt and want, and pride.

I have a place in Heaven, with the Master at my side.

My life on earth was very good; as earthly life can go.

But Paradise is so much more; than anyone can know.

My heart is filled with happiness and sweet rejoicing too

To walk with God is perfect peace; A joy forever new.

Order of Service



Officiating by Pastor Godfrey L. Deaver

Opening Scriptures: Elder Darryl D. Deaver

Prayer of Comfort: Pastor Tyrone Haney

Remembering Remarks: Open for family and friends-limited 2 minutes, please

Special Tribute: Monica Yates

Scripture/Word: Pastor Godfrey L. Deaver

Committal: Pastor Godfrey L. Deaver

It is with grateful appreciation that we extend our sincere thanks for your presence, deeds of kindness, flowers, cards, expressions of love, and messages of comfort extended to us during the passing of the matriarch of our family, Audrey Nell Yates.

Special thanks to The Rite Writers LLC for creating this beautiful obituary.

The Yates Family

Services entrusted to R. Swinson Funeral Service
208 E. Blount Street Kinston, NC 28501-4942 | (252) 527-3779
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