

In Loving
Memory



Cornelia Ann
Akins Taylor

Sunrise
January 16, 1949

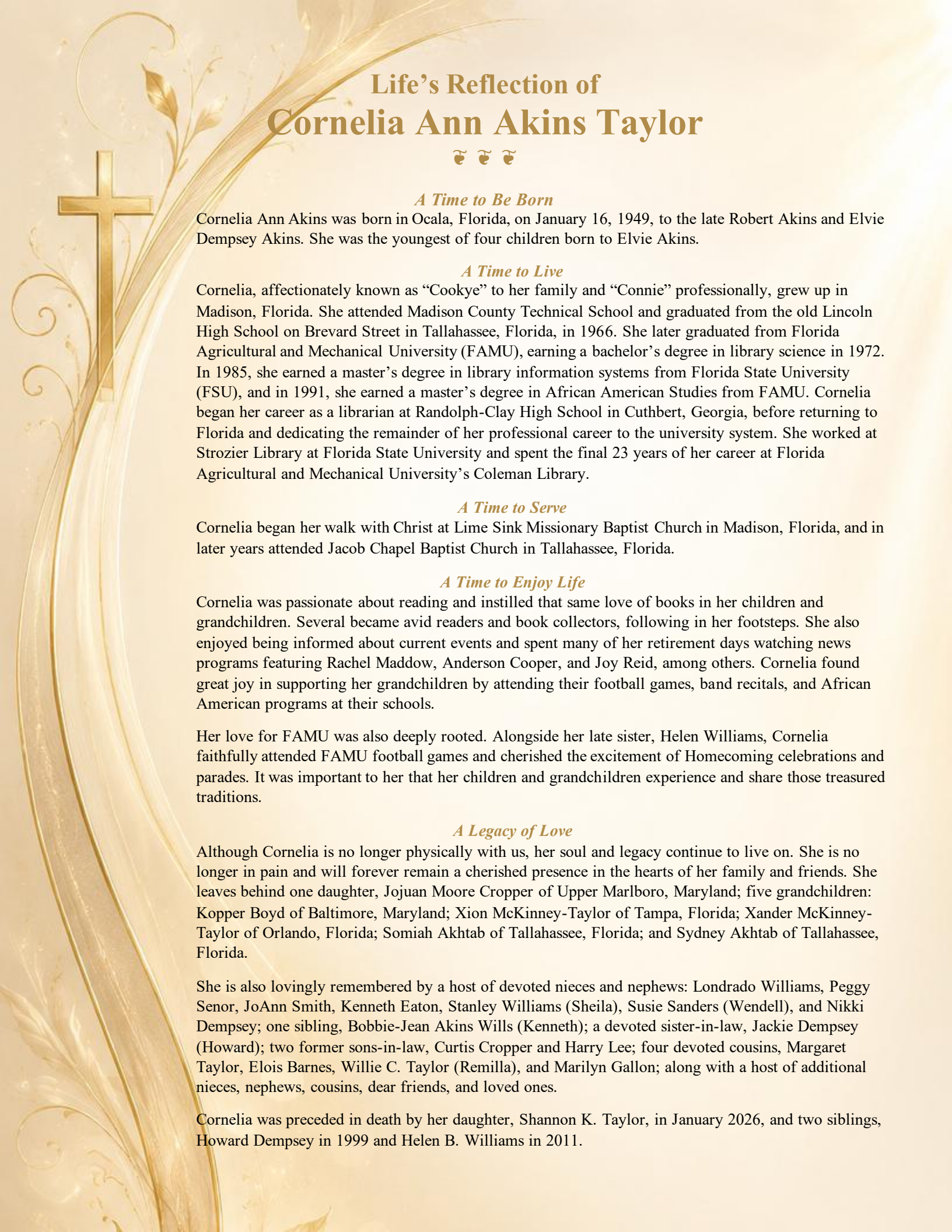


Sunset
August 25, 2026

*A loving heart, a gentle spirit,
a beautiful soul that will be
remembered forever.*



FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS



Life's Reflection of Cornelia Ann Akins Taylor



A Time to Be Born

Cornelia Ann Akins was born in Ocala, Florida, on January 16, 1949, to the late Robert Akins and Elvie Dempsey Akins. She was the youngest of four children born to Elvie Akins.

A Time to Live

Cornelia, affectionately known as “Cookye” to her family and “Connie” professionally, grew up in Madison, Florida. She attended Madison County Technical School and graduated from the old Lincoln High School on Brevard Street in Tallahassee, Florida, in 1966. She later graduated from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU), earning a bachelor’s degree in library science in 1972. In 1985, she earned a master’s degree in library information systems from Florida State University (FSU), and in 1991, she earned a master’s degree in African American Studies from FAMU. Cornelia began her career as a librarian at Randolph-Clay High School in Cuthbert, Georgia, before returning to Florida and dedicating the remainder of her professional career to the university system. She worked at Strozier Library at Florida State University and spent the final 23 years of her career at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University’s Coleman Library.

A Time to Serve

Cornelia began her walk with Christ at Lime Sink Missionary Baptist Church in Madison, Florida, and in later years attended Jacob Chapel Baptist Church in Tallahassee, Florida.

A Time to Enjoy Life

Cornelia was passionate about reading and instilled that same love of books in her children and grandchildren. Several became avid readers and book collectors, following in her footsteps. She also enjoyed being informed about current events and spent many of her retirement days watching news programs featuring Rachel Maddow, Anderson Cooper, and Joy Reid, among others. Cornelia found great joy in supporting her grandchildren by attending their football games, band recitals, and African American programs at their schools.

Her love for FAMU was also deeply rooted. Alongside her late sister, Helen Williams, Cornelia faithfully attended FAMU football games and cherished the excitement of Homecoming celebrations and parades. It was important to her that her children and grandchildren experience and share those treasured traditions.

A Legacy of Love

Although Cornelia is no longer physically with us, her soul and legacy continue to live on. She is no longer in pain and will forever remain a cherished presence in the hearts of her family and friends. She leaves behind one daughter, Jojuan Moore Cropper of Upper Marlboro, Maryland; five grandchildren: Kopper Boyd of Baltimore, Maryland; Xion McKinney-Taylor of Tampa, Florida; Xander McKinney-Taylor of Orlando, Florida; Somiah Akhtab of Tallahassee, Florida; and Sydney Akhtab of Tallahassee, Florida.

She is also lovingly remembered by a host of devoted nieces and nephews: Londrado Williams, Peggy Senor, JoAnn Smith, Kenneth Eaton, Stanley Williams (Sheila), Susie Sanders (Wendell), and Nikki Dempsey; one sibling, Bobbie-Jean Akins Wills (Kenneth); a devoted sister-in-law, Jackie Dempsey (Howard); two former sons-in-law, Curtis Cropper and Harry Lee; four devoted cousins, Margaret Taylor, Elois Barnes, Willie C. Taylor (Remilla), and Marilyn Gallon; along with a host of additional nieces, nephews, cousins, dear friends, and loved ones.

Cornelia was preceded in death by her daughter, Shannon K. Taylor, in January 2026, and two siblings, Howard Dempsey in 1999 and Helen B. Williams in 2011.

The Divine Order of Service



Prelude

Processional

Parting Glance & Seating of the Family

SELECTION

The Prayer of Consolation

Rev. O. Jermaine Simmons, Sr.

The Holy Scriptures

Old Testament — Londrado Williams

New Testament — Khrystal Davis

SELECTION

Reflections & Tribute

Family & Friends

(two minutes each)

Margaret Taylor

(Cousin)

Kenneth Eaton

(Nephew)

Acknowledgements & Resolutions

SELECTION

Words of Comfort

Rev. O. Jermaine Simmons, Sr.

Mortician's Brief

Recessional



In Loving Memory



*Though you're gone,
Your love remains,
In tender winds and gentle rain.*

*In every smile,
In every tear,
You're with us still,
You're always near.*

*Though we grieve,
We won't despair,
Your love surrounds us
Everywhere.*

*Rest in peace,
Your soul flies free,
In our hearts,
You'll always be.*



With love

Jojuan, Kopper, Xion, Xander, Somiah and Sydney



Forever in our Hearts!!!!



"Though I may no longer be by your side, my love will forever live in your hearts. My children, grandchildren and family, carry me with you in every smile, every memory, and every step you take. A mother's love never dies—it lives on in you."



Honoring a Beautiful Life



Pallbearers

Stanley Williams • Marcus Williams • Victor Sanders
Wendell Sanders • Eugene Arnold • Dale Smith

Flower Attendants

Friends and Family

Acknowledgements

Perhaps you sang a touching song or came and just sat in a chair. Perhaps you sent flowers; if so, we saw them there. Perhaps you sent or spoke comforting words or helped us pray. Perhaps you prepared some tasty food, assisted with doctor's appointments, donated money toward medicine, purchased clothing, or maybe furnished a car. Perhaps you rendered a service unseen, right here or from afar. Whatever you did to console our hearts, we thank you sincerely, whatever the part. The family's heartfelt gratitude is extended to each of you. May God continue to bless you all!

Special Thanks to

Big Bend Hospice

Interment

Southside Cemetery
3484 Capital Circle Southwest
Tallahassee, FL 32310

Repast

J.P. Moore Mortuary & Cremation Services
2555 North Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Program By

Susie Williams Sanders

Services Entrusted to

J.P. Moore Mortuary & Cremation Services
2555 North Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32303
850-669-6673

