

HOMEGOING CELEBRATION

ELLA LOU SULLIVAN RIDLEY

PALLBEARERS

Gregory H. Dennis

Paul Miller

Richard A. Miller

Andra' D. Sullivan

James M. Sullivan

Reginald L. Sullivan, Sr.

FLOWER ATTENDANTS

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Maximum Capacity, Spring 2003

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We, the family of the late Ella Lou Sullivan Ridley wish to acknowledge with gratitude the many expressions of kindness that you have shown to us during our time of bereavement. The prayers, cards, calls, flowers, and other gestures are deeply appreciated and we sincerely thank you. May God bless each of you.

~The Family

ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO EDWARDS SMALL MORTUARY



"Committed to Excellence"

1011 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive
Fort Valley, GA 31030
(478) 825-8700

<https://www.edwardssmallmortuary.com/>

REPAST

St. Peter AME Church
State University Drive
Fort Valley, GA 31030

INTERMENT

Willow Lake Memorial Gardens
1854 Willow Lake Road
Fort Valley, GA 31030



OCTOBER 22, 1954 ~ MAY 15, 2025

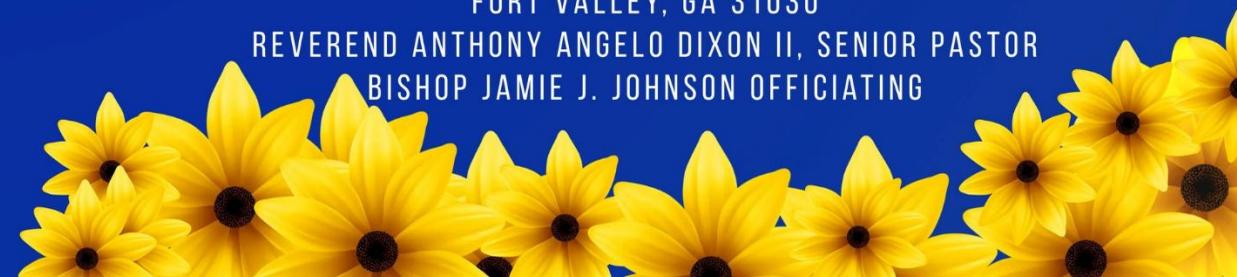
SATURDAY, MAY 24, 2025

10:00 AM

Saint Peter A.M.E. Church

502 STATE UNIVERSITY DRIVE
FORT VALLEY, GA 31030

REVEREND ANTHONY ANGELO DIXON II, SENIOR PASTOR
BISHOP JAMIE J. JOHNSON OFFICIATING



Remembering Ella

Ella Lou Sullivan Ridley was born October 22, 1954 to Gordon Sullivan, Sr. and Laura Mae Dewberry Sullivan Dixon in Fort Valley, GA. She attended the public schools of Peach County, Georgia and graduated from Peach County High School in 1972 as a Governor's Honor Scholar.

Ella worked at the Bibb Company (Dan River, Inc.) as a Quilting Machine Operator for over 28 years, Thompson Hospitality, Fort Valley State University as a Food Service Worker for three years, and lastly as a Cashier at Fred's Discount Store for over four years until she retired in 2015 due to her declining health. Ella was known for her warm, bright smile. She was easy going, mild-mannered, kind and welcoming to all who met her. She was affectionally called "Mama" by many family friends, to include her "Delta Girls" and students she met while working at FVSU. She was an avid lover of music, enjoyed spending time with family, and her photo collection is a true staple and display of the genuine love she carried for all the people whose lives she touched.

Thursday morning, May 15, 2025, Ella Lou Sullivan Ridley peacefully transitioned to take her eternal rest after a brave fight against a lengthy illness. She was proceeded in death by her parents: Gordon Sullivan Sr. and Laura M. Dixon; her siblings: Hattie Mae Sullivan, Albert Sullivan and Gordon Sullivan, Jr.

Ella's beautiful life will forever be cherished in the hearts of her loving daughter, Jennifer E. Ridley (Terance); Grandchildren: Jayla A. Knight and Jace L. E. Johnson; five sisters: Betty J. Sullivan, Janie S. Dennis, JoAnne S. Miller, Shirley A. Drake (Calvin), & Cora M. Sullivan; four brothers: Robert L. Sullivan (Betty), Ronnie Sullivan, John L. Dixon, and Keith A. Dixon; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

A PLACE CALLED PEACE

By Shirley Ann Drake

I want to go to a place called peace
Where everything is still,
A place where time is the only thing to
kill.

I want to go to a place called peace
Where people stop to hold hands,
A place where togetherness keeps us
Marching on as a band.

I want to go to a place called peace
Where thoughts cannot be confused,
A place where minds are not abused.

I want to go to a place called peace
Where love is found in each and every
heart,
A place where life is putting God at the
start.

I want to go to a place called peace
Where tomorrow is shining on
everybody's face,
A place where hate is hating to ever
leave
Such a place.

PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL

MUSICAL SELECTION

Min. Dexter Davis

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old & New Testament

Mr. Michael Zellner

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Mrs. Curlandra L. Smith

REFLECTIONS

(Two minutes please)

POEM

Mrs. Shirley A. Drake

MUSICAL SELECTION

Min. Dexter Davis

WORDS OF COMFORT

Bishop Jamie J. Johnson

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Edwards-Small Funeral Home Staff

RECESSIONAL

POSTLUDE

ORDER OF SERVICE