



Her Final Resting Place

Monday, June 1, 2026
12:00pm
Green Lawn Cemetery
1000 Greenlawn Ave., Columbus, OH

Pallbearers

Cheikh Fall
Lloyd Hathcock
Amani Hathcock
Tyreese Howard
Armara Hathcock
Tyrelle Howard

Honorary Pallbearers

Reginald Cain
William Gardner
James Gardner
Ernest Levert, Sr.
Melvin Gardner
Davon Norris, Jr.

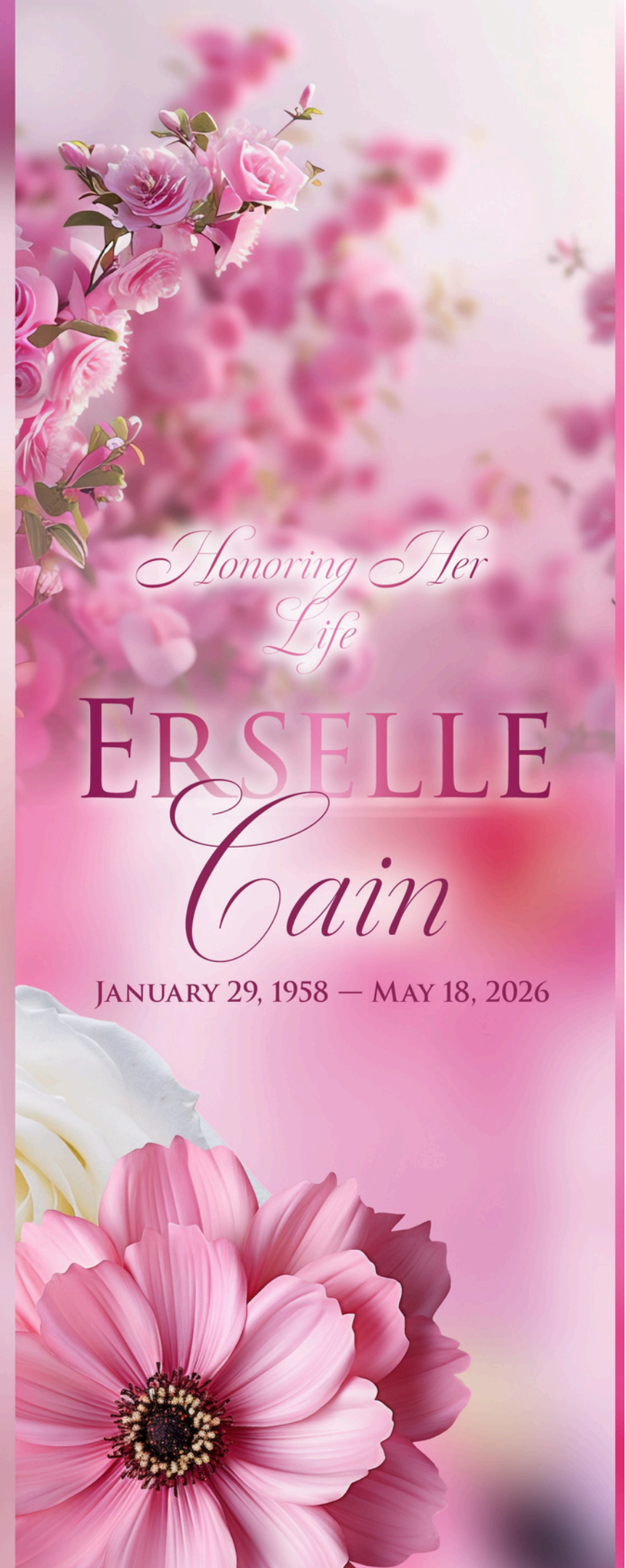
Repast for Family and Friends will be held at the Cherry Blossom Senior Living Activity Center, 79 Blossom Field Blvd, Columbus, OH 43213.

In lieu of flowers the family ask that you donate to the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio, 510 E N Broadway St Suite 401, Columbus, OH 43214.

A Word Of Thanks

The family of Erselle Cain would like to thank everyone for their prayers, support and kindness during this difficult time. May God continue to bless every one of you.

Special thanks to all the nurses and doctors who cared for Erselle and special thanks to nurse Amie Pohling from the Ohio State University Complex Care program for her diligent care and advocacy on behalf of Erselle and Hazel Cain. Special thanks to the staff at the Rapha Home Health Care(Theresa Boakye), especially Rebecca Serwah; and, special thanks to the staff at the Sunrise agency (Bornwell Mulenga) who both took exceptional care of Erselle; special thanks to cousins Ava Johnson and Mia Moorehead for their care and compassion over the last several years towards Erselle; and special thanks to the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio. We also thank the Marlan Gary Funeral Home, The Chapel Of Peace for their assistance during this difficult time.



*Honoring Her
Life*

ERSELLE Cain

JANUARY 29, 1958 — MAY 18, 2026

Saturday, May 30, 2026 | 2:00PM
Marlan Gary Funeral Home
The Chapel of Peace, East
5456 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus, OH 43232



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

Obituary



Erselle Cain was born on January 29, 1958, in Columbus, Ohio at The Ohio State University Hospital. She was the beloved daughter of Floyd and Hazel Cain. Erselle grew up in Columbus and began attending Oakland Park Center in 1961 at the age of 3. At Oakland Park she enjoyed being around other children while building the educational foundation that guided her early development. Her grandfather, parents, and extended family all helped support and care for her throughout her school years. During her early childhood, Erselle and her family attended Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church under Pastor Dr. Robert F. Hairston, Jr. During that time the family lived on North Cassady Avenue in East Columbus near many relatives, including Aunt Beverly, Uncle Clarence, and Cousin Waverly.

Erselle enjoyed visiting The American Addition to spend time with grandpa and grandma Gardner and other near-by family. She especially liked going to the park, swinging, and visiting the zoo. She enjoyed socializing and being around people; she touched many lives. At age 9, Erselle moved with her parents to East St. Louis, Illinois where her father was employed at Scott Air Force Base, Belleville, IL. In 1973, at age 15, Erselle moved again with her family to Arlington, Virginia and later settled in Temple Hills, MD. Erselle continued her education at Hillcrest Heights Center in Prince George's County, MD where she graduated. At this school Erselle learned more important life skills.

Throughout her life, Erselle enjoyed many activities including movies, skating, swimming, traveling, camping, and visiting relatives in various states. She also participated in Special Olympics track events, where she enjoyed running and earning medals. During her young adult years, she also experienced living independently in a group home for a short period of time.

Erselle enjoyed music of all genres and loved dancing. She liked attending parties, social gatherings, and spending time with people. Erselle's favorite holiday was Christmas. She enjoyed the Christmas tree and all the festivities, especially the music. She had a strong memory of lyrics and music. Erselle loved talented musicians. She loved the song, "Happy" by Pharrell and "This Girl is On Fire" by Alicia Keyes. Happy was what she made others feel so often when they were around her. Erselle was also a fashionista. She loved looking good. She enjoyed shopping for clothes and dressing up, looking through fashion magazines, getting her hair done, and expressing herself creatively. Erselle loved the creativity of arts and crafts. She loved working with stickers and doing drawings. She filled up numerous notebooks with her art. She admired the beauty of balloons, flowers, and stuffed animals.

In 1995, at age 37, Erselle returned to Columbus with her parents. She worked and retired from ARC Industries East, where she assembled products through contract work. Erselle even appeared in an ARC commercial promoting the work of the industry. Erselle enjoyed visiting nursing homes with her mother and was known for being kind to others, especially people with disabilities. Many people remember her infectious smile and her wonderful hugs. During her stay at The Ohio State University Hospital, nurses and staff often stopped by to greet her looking for that smile which would brighten up their day. She would not let anyone leave without letting them know that she wanted a soda! Before Erselle's transition she expressed her love for her beloved mother, Hazel. In the hospital room even though she was getting top rated care and she was loved on by cousins, nurses and doctors, there was no one like her mom, Hazel. If her mom was not in the hospital room, Erselle knew it. She would say where's mommy or where's Hazel? When she talked to her mom, she would say, "where you been"? She was instinctively aware of her mom's presence or lack thereof. Before taking her last breath, it was like she was thanking her mom for the excellent care she had provided over the years and not giving up on her by saying, "I love you mommy, I love you mommy, I love you mommy."

Erselle is preceded in death by her loving father, Floyd Cain; brothers, Gregory Cain and Willis Lloyd Cain; grandparents (Gardner), William and Carrie Gardner; grandparents (Cain), Willie and Marie Cain; aunts and uncles (Gardner), Louisa Jones (Carroll), William Gardner (Willa Mae), Geraldine Hagey (James), Betty Moorehead (Alphonso), Beverly Hill (Clarence); aunts and uncles (Cain), Gladys Gayle (Buck), Geraldine Jefferson (J.), Willis Cain, Allie Barnes Cain (Patty), and Wilford Cain (Gloria). Erselle leaves to cherish her memory with her dear mother, Hazel Cain; brothers, Reginald Cain, Middletown, OH, and James Clea Washinton, DC; uncles Melvin Gardner, Columbus, OH and James Gardner (Marian), Los Angeles, CA; along with many other cousins, relatives, friends, caregivers, and all who knew and loved her.

Order Of Service

Organ Prelude
Chapel of Peace Music Ministry

Parting View
Immediate Family

Scripture Reading
Clergy
Old Testament
Psalms 139:13-17 (NIV)

New Testament
John 14:27 (NIV)

Prayer
Clergy

Selection
Chapel of Peace Music Ministry
"Blessed Assurance and It is Well"

Acknowledgement/Condolences

Remarks
Amie Pohling, Nurse Care Manager, MSN, Ed., RN, Complex Care Program at the Ohio State University Hospital; Bornwell Mulenga, Owner, Sunrise Agency, LLC; Theresa Boakey, Owner, Rapha Home Health Agency; Ava Johnson, Family

Reading of Obituary
Silent Reading

Selection
Chapel of Peace Music Ministry

The Eulogy
Minister Roderick Cheatham

Benediction
Clergy

Recessional
Clergy, Family, and Friends
"I'll Fly Away"