







Where.
Did..
The...
Times....
Go.....?









Honorary Pallbearers

Freddy Grady Sr. and Luther Riley Jr.

Pallbearers

Freddy Grady Jr.	*Gavin Grady*
Dolonte Riley	*Rodrick Riley*
Lekeistan Tisdale	*Jordan Burge*

Flower girls

Andrea Hunt	*Sharonda Cunningham*
Natalie Woodward	*Shemecca Ducksworth*
Erica Golden	*Shalanda Hathorne*
Shandrea Moore	

Acknowledgments

Perhaps you sang a lovely song, or offered a silent prayer. Perhaps you sent flowers, as your way of saying "I Care". Perhaps you sent a card or a text. Perhaps you came and sat with us, to console our aching hearts. Flowers, kind words, calls, or cards, we thank you so much, whatever the part.

With Love,
The Family of Odessa "Dess" Lee Banks

Arrangements Entrusted To:

Beck Funeral Home, Inc.
10460 Road 561
Philadelphia, Mississippi 39350
(601) 656-1191
website: www.beckfuneralhomeinc.com

Programs
Davis Life & Legacy Printing
Celebrating a Life,
Preserving a Legacy

Celebrating the Life of



Odessa L Banks

Sunrise:
July 1, 1931

Sunset:
September 10, 2026

October 10, 2026
2:00 p.m.
Mount Zion Methodist Church
11191 Road 747
Philadelphia, Mississippi 39350
Pastor Eddie Hinton, Sr., Eulogy

Order of Service

Mistress of Ceremonies…….....Sis. Ayanna Whitlock

Musical Processional:

Scripture.....

Prayer……..…..

Selection…….....Sis. Gail and Sis. Ayana Whitlock

Words of Remembrance.....The Family/Friends
(3 min or less)

Acknowledgements.....

Selection……..Sis. Gail and Sis. Ayana Whitlock

The Eulogy ……..…….....Pastor Eddie Hinton, Sr.

The Recessional:

Obituary

Odessa "Dess" Lee Banks, *the daughter of Rev. Melvin Kirkland and Stella Jones, was born July 1st, 1931, in Philadelphia, MS (Neshoba County). At an early age, she accepted Christ and joined Mount Zion Methodist Church. She attended Popular Spring's School.*

Odessa was united in holy matrimony to Willie "Sunnyman" Banks on December 20th, 1971. They were married for twenty-one years. They joined the Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Chicago, Illinois on June 2nd, 1973. Willie preceded her in death on June 2nd, 1992.

Odessa "Aunt Dess" was the center of attention at family gatherings, bringing laughter and fun to every event.

Odessa was preceded in death by her 4 siblings: three sisters: Antonio Anita Gladney, Burline Riley, and Dorthy Kirkland and one brother El Nathan Kirkland.

Although she had no children of her own, she treated her nieces and nephews as her own. She is preceded in death by her "children" Bobbie Gladney, Tommy Lewis (Burnette), Thelma Kirkland, Dorthy Hunter, Marvin Grady, Leemon Riley (Emma), Obbie Riley (Julia), and Jennifer Hathorne. She leaves to cherish her loving memory Mary Boston (Andrew), Edna Hunt (Henry), Freddie Grady Sr. (Ruby), Luther Riley Jr. (Lisa), Sandra Hampton, Connie Hayes, and a host of great nieces, nephews and cousins.

God Saw

God saw you getting tired,
After 95yrs of serving him.
So He wrapped his arms around you,
and whispered, "come to me."
He saw your breathing was labored,
So He gave you rest.
God's garden must be beautiful,
He only takes the best
And when I saw you sleeping,
So peaceful and free from labored breath
I could not wish you back
To suffer that again.