



Honorary Flower Attendants

Missionaries of Cordele Institutional COGIC

Pallbearers

Quan Clay
Lafayette Cantrell
Christian Tyler
Nigel Cantrell
Takeo Clay
Kameron Tyler

Acknowledgement

"It is during times of sorrow that the true meaning of community becomes clear. Because our beloved lived a life dedicated to helping others, it is no surprise that we're surrounded by so much love in return. We thank you for coming today to honor her memory. Our hope is that we can all find inspiration in the way she lived. May God bless and keep each of you."

The Irene Sias Cantrell Family

The service may be viewed on the
J. W. Williams Funeral Home Facebook Page
or the
J. W. Williams Funeral Home Youtube Channel.

J.W. Williams Funeral Home

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"Celebrating Over 100 Years of Service"





Arthur L. Parker
CEO/President
Graduate Mortician
Licensed Embalmer
Licensed Funeral Director
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J.W. Williams Funeral Home
Our Motto: "Service"
229.273.2683
www.jwwilliams.com
jwwilliamsfh@bellsouth.net
407 West 17th Avenue, Cordele, GA 31015, Fax: 229.273.5111

The Parker Family
Calandra Wilkerson Parker
Corporate Secretary/Treasurer

Jai' Wilkerson Parker
Junior-Crisp County High School



Celebrating the Journey from Grace to Glory



Missionary

Irene Sias Cantrell

***(Grace)* September 25,1951** ***(Glory)* September 17, 2026**

To Be Remembered...

Irene Sias Cantrell was born on September 25, 1951, in Cordele, Georgia to the parents of the late Clarence Sr. and Thelma Lee Everett Sias.

She was a lifelong resident of Cordele and was educated in the Crisp County School System. She was a 1969 graduate of A.S. Clark High School and later attended Brewton-Parker College before earning a degree in Accounting from Albany Technical College in Albany, Georgia.

In November 1970, Irene made history as the first full-time African American woman employed in the Business Office at Cordele City Hall. She began her career as an accountant with the Urban Renewal Department and faithfully served the City of Cordele for 54 years. In May 2025, she retired as the city's first African American Housing and Urban Advancement Director, and Community Development Director concluding a remarkable career of service to her community.

On February 14, 1989, she married the love of her life, L.C. Cantrell. Their union was blessed with two children, Lawrence Christopher and Lovelye Christina.

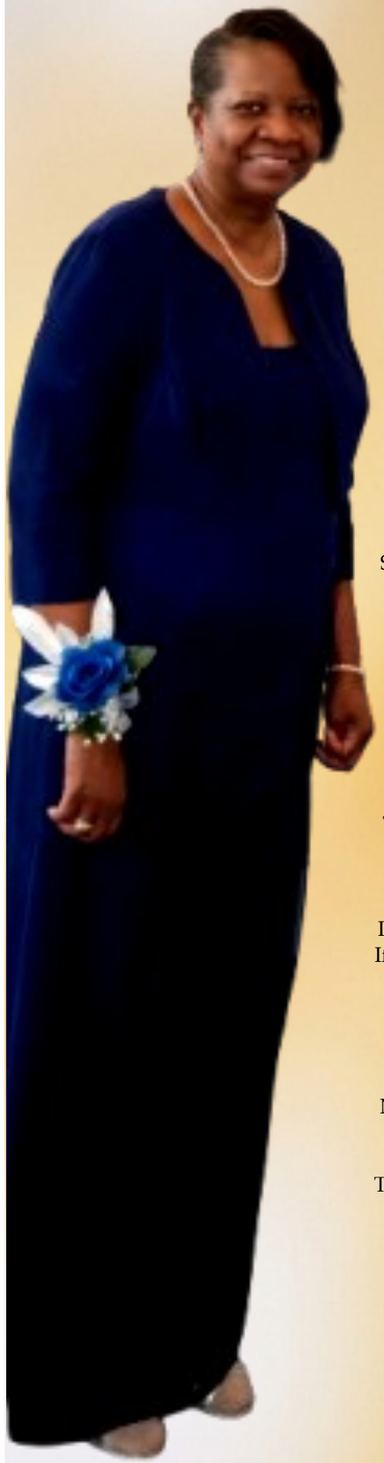
Irene loved the Lord her God and was a devoted, lifelong member of Cordele Church of God in Christ (formerly 12th Street COGIC). She faithfully served as a missionary, Sunday School teacher, and Bible Study teacher and was actively involved in numerous church auxiliaries throughout the years. Her sweet and gentle guidance, coupled with her powerful prayers, touched many lives as she faithfully shared the Word of God with generations.

On Thursday, September 17, 2026, surrounded by her loving family, Irene answered the Lord's call and went home to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for all eternity.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Clarence Sr. and Thelma Everett Sias; her brother, Obadiah Sias; her beloved sister, Mary Ellen Sias Whitfield; her beloved great-niece, Da'Ja Christophe; her grandson Lawrence Christopher, Jr. and her "sweetie pie" beloved daughter, Lovelye Christina Cantrell.

She leaves to cherish her loving memory her husband, L.C. Cantrell of Cordele; her son, Lawrence Christopher Cantrell of Texas; stepdaughter, Alana Mobley Cantrell of Savannah, Georgia; stepsons, Nigel Cantrell of Cordele and Derrick Cantrell of Colorado; her aunt, Bettye (Henry) Rainge; her brothers, Clarence (Gloria) Sias, Jr. of Miami, Florida, Alex (Dora) Sias of South Carolina, and Sammie (Trina) Sias of Augusta, Georgia; her brothers-in-law, Sam (Diane) Cantrell of New Jersey and John (Shelia) Cantrell of Sarasota, Florida; her sisters-in-law, Audrey Cantrell of Jacksonville, Florida, Lavonna Cantrell of Port St. Lucie, Florida; a host of nieces and nephews, whom she lovingly embraced as her "baby girls," "sons," and "grandbabies," as well as many cousins, extended family members, and dear friends who will forever cherish her memory.

The Love She Gave



"I love you,"
she would always say,
Three simple words,
yet filled with grace.
And those who had
the joy to know her
Saw God's love reflected
in her face.

She walked this earth
both meek and mild
With modesty in all her ways.
She never needed recognition,
She simply lived a life of praise.

A missionary with
a servant's heart,
A teacher of God's precious Word,
She planted seeds in little hearts
And made certain
His truth was heard.

She taught the children about Jesus
Of His mercy, His love, His care.
And more than lessons
taught on Sundays
She showed them
Christ was everywhere.

To her children, nieces, nephews,
cousins, and more,
She gave a mother's kind of love.
There was always room within her
heart
A gift surely sent from above.

If someone needed, she would give.
If someone hurt, she would be there.
With gentle hands and
a tender spirit,
She made another's
burden hers to bear.

Now the teacher has met the Savior
Whose Word she faithfully
shared for years.
The missionary's journey is finished,
And faith has carried her
beyond our tears.

Though we'll miss her
gentle presence,
Her quiet smile and loving way,
She left us something
that cannot be taken
The love she gave us every day.

~Kreceda Tyler, niece

The Celebration of Life Service

Saturday | September 26, 2026 | 10:00 AM

Cordele Institutional Church of God In Christ

214 East 17th Avenue | Cordele, Georgia

Pastor Darrell Leggett | Officiant

Musical Prelude | The Everett Family
Sister Robin Jones, Organist

Processional | The Everett Family |
Led by Pastor Darrell Leggett

The Final Viewing
The Final Sealing of the Batesville M39 Carnation Casket

Prayer of Comfort
Deacon Wallace Relaford

Scripture Readings
Old Testament | Pastor Diane Dean
New Testament (Hebrews 6:10) | Missionary Gwen Jackson

Selection
The Cantrell Family

The Two Minute Expressions of Love
Mother Geraldine Perry (Church Member)
Sister Doris Sias Leach (Family Member)
Sister Genivieve Mumphery (Co-Worker)

Resolutions
Cordele Institutional COGIC | Pastor Darrell Leggett
The City of Cordele | Mayor Pro-Tem Vesta Beal Shepherd

Poem
Sister Adrienne Relaford

Selection
Everett Family Choir

Eulogy
Pastor Darrell Leggett

Acknowledgements, Heirloom Bible and Memorial Blanket Presentation
J. W. Williams Funeral Home Staff

Recessional & Postlude

The Committal Service

Bethel Cemetery

Joe Wright Drive | Cordele, Georgia

REPAST
Clara Scott Community Center
East 13th Avenue | Cordele, Georgia