

I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took his hand when I heard his call,
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work, to play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I've found that peace
at the close of the day.

If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My Life's been full, I savored much,
Good friends, good times,
a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free.



Pallbearers

Clark Yates	Petoria Yates
John Yates	Anthony J. Yates
Napoleon Yates, III	Arlenada Yates

Flower Bearers

Opal Johnson	Diana Brown
Lyrica Watt	Florene Yates

Interment

Pleasant Grove Cemetery
Gore Spring, Mississippi

Repast

Willis and Hankins Community Center
Gore Spring, Mississippi

Acknowledgements

The family of **R A Yates** would like to extend our sincere and deepest appreciation of support during this difficult time. A Special Thanks to Legacy Hospice Care. We are most grateful and we say THANK YOU! We ask that you continue to pray for our family! "May God continue to bless each and every one of you."



Professional Services Entrusted to:
Clark-Williams Funeral Home, Inc.

602 Cherry Street • 662-226-3451

Grenada, Mississippi 38901

"We Serve to Console With Consoling Services"


Programs by
Sweet Syreeta's Creations
662-688-0996
sycamos@gmail.com

Life Celebration of **R A (RAY) YATES**



SUNRISE:
OCTOBER 17, 1948

SUNSET:
APRIL 19, 2018

Saturday, April 28, 2018

1:00 p.m.

Pleasant Grove 1st Baptist Church
Gore Spring, Mississippi

Reverend Greg Henderson, Pastor
Rev. John E. Cooley,
Officiating Pastor

Reflection of R A (Ray) Yates

For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.
2 Timothy 4:6-8 KJV

R A Yates was born October 17, 1948 in Grenada, Mississippi to the union of the late Napoleon and Audie I. Yates. He was the oldest of thirteen children.

R A accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior at Burning Bush Missionary Baptist Church in Grenada, Mississippi under the leadership of Rev. S. L. Blake.

R A educational journey began in Grenada County Public School System. RA attend Carrie Dotson High School.

R A relocated to Chicago in 1968 where he lived for several years before he moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan where he worked as a tool and die machinist until retirement after 26 years.

R A loved being around family and friends. He loved gardening and breeding dogs. He loved outside activities.

R A made his transition to eternity on April 19, 2018 at 11:05 p.m. surrounded by loved ones.

R A was preceded in death by his father Napoleon Yates, Sr. and one brother Alexander Yates.

R A leaves to mourn a mother Audie I. Yates of Grenada, Mississippi; two children, one daughter Angela (AL) Vasser of Grand Rapids, Michigan, one son Ralston Anthony Yates of Hattiesburg, Mississippi; seven brothers, Clark Yates, Petoria (Cathy) Yates of Grenada, Mississippi, Anthony Jerome (Mary) Yates of Jackson, Mississippi, John Henry (Sandra) Yates of Grand Rapids, Michigan, Napoleon (Gloria) Yates, Jr. of Blackstone, Virginia, Gayla (Cynthia) Yates, Arlenada (Mary) Yates of San Antonio, Texas; four sisters Alma Betts, Barbara Yates of Grand Rapids, Michigan, Annie Taylor of Yonkers, New York, Caprice (Keith) Walker of Indianapolis, Indiana; three grandchildren, Maleak, Jasmine, and Darrius James of Grand Rapids, Michigan; one great granddaughter, a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, uncles, aunts, and two special friends, Jacob Watt and Tavonna Jones.

Order of Service

Master of Ceremony-Reverend Lester Watt

Processional Reverend John E. Cooley
(Chicago, Illinois)

Scripture Reading:
Old Testament Reverend S. L. Blakes
(Burning Bush M. B. Church Grenada)
New Testament Brother Matthew Miles
(Church of Christ Illinois)

Prayer Reverend Greg Henderson
(Pleasant Grove 1st Baptist Church)

Solo Reverend Greg Henderson

Acknowledgements Sister Opal Johnson
(Dallas, Texas)

Obituary Sister Agina Nelson

Solo Far West Church of Christ

Eulogy Reverend John E. Cooley

Funeral Directors in Charge Clark-Williams
Funeral Home

Recessional Reverend John E. Cooley



*Sleep on and take your rest;
We love you, but GOD loves you best
Remember always that you were just a
visitor here, a traveler passing through,
your stay is but short and the moment of
your departure unknown.*

***We Love You
Your Family***

