



















Flower Attendants

Cedar Grove Baptist Church

Pall Bearers

Cedar Grove Baptist Church

Acknowledgment

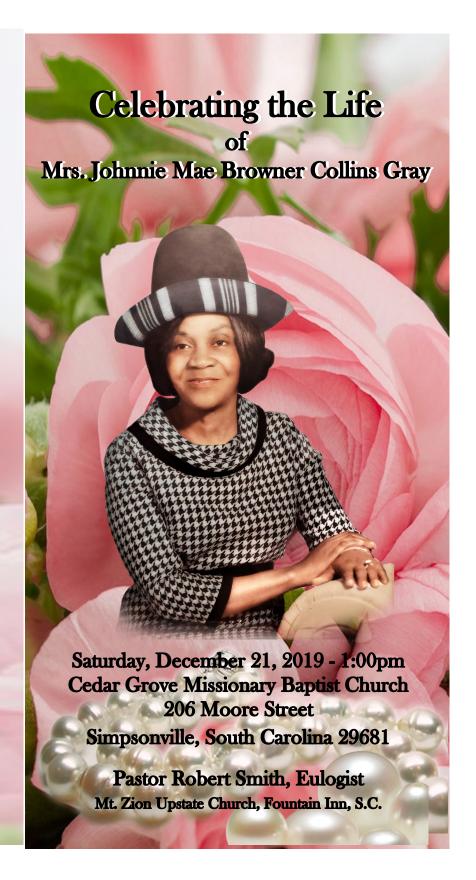
Our family sincerely would like to thank the Cedar Grove Baptist Church family, our many friends and family, Kindred at Home Healthcare, St. Francis Home Healthcare, Open Arms in home Hospice, for your prayers, acts of kindness and support shown to us during our mother's illness and passing. We will be eternally blessed by all of your love. 1Corinthians 13:13 and now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Interment

Resthaven Memorial Gardens 1655 Piedmont Highway Piedmont, South Carolina 29673

Please be advised that the Greenville County Sheriff's Department and the City of Greenville Police Department no longer provide escort services for funeral processions. Therefore, all drivers should obey traffic signals. Persons who are not riding in the funeral home limousines should meet the family at the cemetery.

Services Entrusted to
Watkins, Garrett & Woods Mortuary, Inc.
1011 Augusta Street
Greenville, SC 29605
(864) 242-1144



Order of Service

Minister Renee LaFrance Ladson, Presiding Cedar Grove Baptist Church

Prelude
ProcessionalClergy, Family and Friends
Selection What a Friend We Have in Jesus Cedar Grove Choir
Scripture Readings: Old TestamentRev. Zachery Brewster Interim Pastor, Cedar Grove Baptist Church New TestamentElder James Brown Nicholtown Baptist Church (The Love Center)
Prayer of ComfortPastor James W. Nesbitt, Sr. Beulah Christian Fellowship
SelectionBeulah Christian Fellowship Praise Team
Reflections (Please limit to 3 minutes.) Deacon Prince Brown (Church) Minister Jeanie Smith (Senior Women Sunday School) Brother Kenneth Durham (Church Van Driver)
SoloDeacon Jerry Samuel
Reflections (Please limit to 3 minutes.) Mrs. Marvis Williams (Neighbor) Ms. Nivia S. Collins (Granddaughter) Mr. Darrell Sims (Grandson)
SelectionBeulah Christian Fellowship Praise Team
Special Presentation and ResolutionSis. Alice London
SoloDeaconess Mildred Madden
Words of Comfort & Closing PrayerPastor Robert Smith
Closing HymnCedar Grove Choir Recessional

Obituary

Mrs. Johnnie Mae Browner Collins Gray was born on February 16, 1922, and departed this life at her home on December 10, 2019. Our mother was the eldest of three daughters. She was born to the late Stephen and Cleo Morrison Browner in Toccoa, Georgia.

As a young child her family moved to Statesville, North Carolina where they lived and worked on a large dairy farm. After living in Statesville for a number of years, the family moved to Greenville, South Carolina. Mrs. Gray was blessed with a long and wonderful life of 97 years.

She attended the public schools of Greenville County and was a graduate of Fuller Normal School in Greenville. The highest level at that time was the eleventh grade. Mrs. Gray was a former member of Bruton Temple Baptist Church where she served as church clerk and held various positions. She was also a former member of Evangelistic Temple, serving in many capacities including being one of the mothers of the church. She was currently a member of Cedar Grove Baptist Church until her health declined. She was a faithful member, active in the Senior Ministry and the Senior Women's Sunday School Class.

Our mother was a devout Christian and a woman of faith. Visitors to her home often found her singing praises to God. She was employed as a domestic worker in the private sector for years and also worked for several businesses.

Mrs. Gray was also dedicated and committed in caring for her family. She was preceded in death by her husband, Leo Collins, Sr., her second husband, Cornell Alfred Gray; sons, Leo Collins, Jr., Stephen Collins, John Lee Collins; sister and brother-in-law, Rose and Robert Thomas of Cleveland, OH; and a son-in-law, Benny J. Harris. She leaves to cherish precious memories two daughters, Rose C. Harris and Linda L. Collins, both of Greenville, SC; two sons, Charles E. Collins of Greenville, SC, and Leroy Collins of Atlanta, GA; one sister, Lois Fields of Columbus, OH; granddaughters, Nivia Sharrise Collins of North Charleston, SC, and Sandra Renee Collins; grandsons, Darrell Sims of Atlanta, GA, Derold Owens of Greenville, SC, and Stephen Anthony Collins; and a host of great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, other relatives and friends.

From My Heart to Hers

G-grace to love others

R-respect for our Heavenly Father

A-admired by many

N-neatly dressed

D-dedicated spirit

M-mother of seven

A-ageless beauty

Love, your Granddaughter, Nivia Sharrise Collins