



## Bernice Viola Whitsett

October 7, 1940 - May 18, 2025

### Celebration of Life and Legacy of Bernice Viola Whitsett

Bernice Viola Coles Whitsett, born on October 7, 1940, in Hopewell, Virginia, peacefully passed away on Sunday, May 18, 2025, in Decatur, Georgia, after a short illness. She was the youngest of five children born to the late Rufus Dennis Coles and Florence Briggs Coles. Preceding her in death were all her siblings: Theodore Franklin Coles, Thelma Coles Lee, Juanita Coles Chambers, and Margaret Ree Coles Dennis, and a host of cousins.

Bernice accepted Christ at an early age. Relocating to Georgia, she became a member of Greenforest Community Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. George O. McCalep Jr. Bernice was a member of the Keenagers and was a part of her daughter's PraiseMoves class.

Bernice was married to Richard Manual Whitsett in 1965. They had one daughter, Revenda Lynn Bannerman.

Bernice graduated from Carter G. Woodson High School in Hopewell, VA. After moving to Washington, D.C., she was a dedicated and hardworking woman who devoted over a decade to the United States Post Office. Bernice managed several convenience stores, where she became a familiar and kind presence in her community. She was known for her generosity, warmth, and unwavering spirit. She found joy in reading and valued family, faith, and friendship above all else.

Bernice leaves to cherish her memory: her devoted daughter, Revenda Lynn Bannerman, and her beloved grandson, Harrison Bannerman Jr.(Mya Dion);

nieces, Wanda Lee Jiggetts, Karen D. Maynard (Jerry), Karen Ausby; nephews, Vincent A. Lee, Jr., John J. Dennis, Jr. (Jewel), Rufus Coles (Maria), Rodney E. Coles, Sr. (Joan) and David E. Coles Sr.; and many grand and great-grand nieces and nephews.

Her life will be celebrated on Saturday, June 14, 2025 @ 11:00 AM EST located at Greenforest Community Baptist Church.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all those who supported and cherished Bernice throughout her life. She will forever be remembered for her kindness, generosity, and the deep love she shared with her family and friends.

"Church, Family, Friends" the three words that best sum up Bernice's life and legacy.

The link for the "LIVE Streaming" at Greenforest.

This link can be shared with family and friends: <https://bit.ly/BerniceViolaWhitsett>.

Services entrusted to Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Home, 4347 Flat Shoals Parkway, Decatur, Georgia 30034.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 13. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Rainbow Park Baptist Church  
2941 Columbia Dr  
Decatur, GA 30034-4146  
(404) 288-1910

## Family Hour

JUN 13. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Rainbow Park Baptist Church  
2941 Columbia Dr  
Decatur, GA 30034-4146  
(404) 288-1910

## Celebration of Life Service - Attend Live or via Livestream

JUN 14. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Greenforest Community Baptist Church  
3250 Rainbow Drive  
Decatur, GA 30034

*Here's the link for the "LIVE Streaming" at Greenforest. <https://bit.ly/BerniceViolaWhitsett>.*

# Tribute Wall

MB

“ Mary Oliver and daughter Angela Benson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bernice Viola Whitsett.

Mary Oliver and daughter Angela Benson - June 12, 2025 at 01:34 PM

MB

“ Mary Oliver and daughter Angela Benson purchased the Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Lavender and White for the family of Bernice Viola Whitsett.



Mary Oliver and daughter Angela Benson - June 12, 2025 at 01:34 PM



“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Bernice Viola Whitsett.

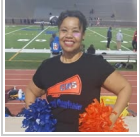


June 08, 2025 at 11:16 AM

AG

“ Andrea G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bernice Viola Whitsett.

Andrea G. - June 06, 2025 at 09:06 AM



“ 10 files added to the album *Bernice V. Whitsett*



Revenda Bannerman - May 23, 2025 at 10:39 AM



“ *Pink Mixed Half Casket Cover was purchased for the family of Bernice Viola Whitsett.*



May 21, 2025 at 11:38 AM



“ *Aunt Bernice you will never be forgotten. You have been chosen to be in the rose garden of the Lord and you are a special flower in heavens garden. I love you and I will keep you in my heart until we meet again my sweet Aunt Bernice. To the rest of my family be strong she's so happy now. This is from Tony I love you forever*

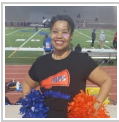
Tony Baskerville - May 20, 2025 at 05:36 PM



*Ms. Whitsett had such a sweet spirit. The first time I met her, she welcomed me with so much love & made me feel at home. She really knew how to cook like or better than professional chefs. She even plated the food the way chefs are trained. I will always remember after church one Sunday. I washed my hands for dinner, & sat there ready!!! I said my blessing & starting eating, & I said, "what is this?" They said lamb. It was super delicious. I will always remember that beautiful sweet lady who showed nothing but love. With my deepest sympathy,  
P. Lynette (Greenforest Baptist Church)*

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**Lynette** - May 26, 2025 at 11:59 AM



*Thank you and Love you. Revenda*

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**Revenda Bannerman** - June 10, 2025 at 06:42 PM