



Gloria Jean Witherspoon

December 1, 1942 - October 10, 2021

Gloria Jean Witherspoon was born in East St. Louis, IL on December 1, 1942 to Wesley B Witherspoon Sr. and Cleadith Mae Witherspoon. She was the third daughter of five children.

Gloria confessed her love for Christ at an early age and was baptized at Mt Zion Baptist Church where her long walk in faith began.

She graduated from Lincoln Sr. high School in 1961 and began her career in corporate America. Her first job was with Illinois Bell Telephone Co. and from there she went on to Laclede Gas Co. where she worked in customer relations for over 30 years before retiring. While at Laclede Gas Co. she made history as the first African-American to work in the downstairs business office. This was paramount during this era. She was dedicated and loyal worker who often bragged on the amount of correspondence, mail and email she answered per day. She was proud of her work ethic and how she opened doors for other people of color. She was also a member of the Urban League-St. Louis Chapter. While at Laclede Gas Co. she attended a local Jr college and received her associates degree.

Gloria was very active at First Baptist Church of Golden Garden, where she served on the adult usher board and supervised the junior usher board. She took her role very serious. She was always involved in activities where youth

were involved. She loved to mentor young girls and teach classes on etiquette and becoming Christlike women. She enjoyed commentating fashion shows and modeling. She was a true Diva in every sense of the word. Later she became a member at The Faith House where Rev. Willie D. Brown is pastor.

Gloria had a huge heart, although sometimes she tried hard to hide it. She was always looking for ways to give to those in need. She never had children of her own so she treated everyone like her children.

Gloria and her sister Sandra relocated to Atlanta to be closer to family. Here she found her new church home Salem Missionary Baptist Church. She faithfully attended Sunday service, bible study and senior activities.

Gloria joined ETA Sigma Philos (Sigma Gamma Rho, Inc) in 1983 in IL and served as National and Local President and Vice-President. She continued her service here in Atlanta.

Gloria delighted in shopping and traveling with friends. Europe was her most cherished vacation. She loved family gatherings and having fun talking and dancing. She could be the life of the party. She was never big on cooking, but dessert was her favorite food.

Gloria may have been the third born but she was always the boss, and everyone knew it. She made sure no one ever hurt or took advantage of a loved one. She started as a bit of a tomboy who would beat up her little brother's bullies, but she grew into one of the most beautiful and stylish women both inside and out. When her baby sister Mary Ann passed, she stepped right up to help out with her three young boys. She was always there to help and spend time with her nieces and nephews. She would sometimes put on a tough exterior, but everyone who knew her knew she was a marshmallow inside who loved hugs!

Gloria was diagnosed with Lewy Body Dementia (LBD) three years ago and fought to the very end until she received her beautiful wings on October 10, 2021.

She will be forever loved and missed by her sisters, Sandra Rule and Lenora Crockett; brother, Wesley B. Witherspoon Jr. (Rosie); Nieces/Nephews, Cheryl Gordon (Cornell), Keith Crockett, Kimberly Blow (Paul), Cynthia Phelps (Demone), Ronald Houston Jr. (Tammy), Joanna Witherspoon, Corey Houston (Janae), Doug Robbins (Murey), Wesley B. Witherspoon III (Frieda), Thaddeus "TJ" Houston and a host of cousins, great and great-great nieces and nephews; Friends, Barbara Carter, Haeju "CeCi" Abresch, Joan Doss and many, many, more!

Preceded her in death; parents, Wesley B Witherspoon Sr. and Cleadith Mae Witherspoon; brother, Edward Witherspoon; and sister, Mary Ann Houston all of IL.

Cemetery Details

Eternal Hill Cemetery

3594 Stone Mountain Highway
Snellville, GA 30039

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 17. 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Gregory B. Levett and Sons - Gwinnett Chapel
914 Scenic Hwy
Lawrenceville, GA 30045

Celebration of Life

OCT 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Salem Baptist Church
4700 Church Street
Lilburn, GA 30047

Tribute Wall

JJ

“ I went to school with Gloria beginning from Washington Elementary to Lincoln High, to S.I.U., then working together at Laclede Gas, then members of the Philos, an affiliate of Sigma Gamma Rho, Alpha Upsilon Sigma Chapter. We also attended Mt. Zion church together. I share with you wonderful memories of a kind, thoughtful and caring person and disciple of Christ. Rest in peace, dear Gloria.

Jackie Gandy Johnson - June 06, 2023 at 09:10 PM

EF

“ Sharing your sadness as you prepare to say goodbye to you love one. May the God of all comfort help to ease the pain of your grief. Thinking of you all.

Evans family - October 27, 2021 at 05:02 AM

AL

“ To my Dear friend Cynthia Phelps and her family I would like to express my deepest sympathy. May you guys find peace and try to remember all the great things about Gloria. Love you much

Alecia - October 19, 2021 at 03:48 PM

GC

“ To the Crockett and Witherspoon Family;

We express our deepest sympathy for the loss of your loved one. It is with great sadness that we will miss Gloria and her vibrant outlook on life, and the talks we had about flowers.

Gregory and Helen Crockett,

Gregory and Helen Crockett - October 17, 2021 at 03:30 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Gloria Jean Witherspoon.*



October 17, 2021 at 10:36 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Gloria Jean Witherspoon.*



October 17, 2021 at 05:12 AM



“ *On behalf of the Eta Sigma Philos of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc we will miss Philo Gloria Witherspoon! She will forever be in our hearts.*

Mimi Garrell

Mimi Garrell - October 17, 2021 at 01:00 AM



“ *Debra Houston Sakho lit a candle in memory of Gloria Jean Witherspoon*



Debra Houston Sakho - October 17, 2021 at 12:59 AM

BF

“ *Belle-Shead Family purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Gloria Jean Witherspoon.*



Belle-Shead Family - October 16, 2021 at 04:24 PM

JO

“ *Sending prayers of comfort and peace to the Witherspoon family. We the O’Neal family of Golden Garden love each and everyone of you. Gloria was loved and admired by her beauty and gracefulness. May God continue to strengthen you in the days ahead.*

*Love Always,
The O’Neal Family of Golden Garden
Centreville, IL*

Janette O’Neal-Sanders - October 16, 2021 at 01:48 PM

GT

To the Witherspoon and Crockett families, we express our deepest sympathy and pray that God will comfort you while you celebrate the legacy of Gloria that will live on in our hearts.

*Herman and Geraldine Thomas
Florissant, Missouri*

Geraldine Thomas - October 17, 2021 at 02:14 AM

HC

To the family of Gloria Witherspoon;

On behalf of the Alpha Upsilon Sigma Philo of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. East St. Louis, IL. This is where Gloria Witherspoon began her journey as a member of the Alpha Upsilon Sigma Philo affiliate in October 1983. Gloria served nationally, Regionally and locally in several offices. Gloria will be sadly missed forever by the Alpha Upsilon Sigma Philo Affiliate.

Members of Alpha Upsilon Sigma Philos,

Sent By Helen Crockett,

Helen Crockett - October 17, 2021 at 03:20 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gloria Jean Witherspoon.*



October 16, 2021 at 09:13 AM