



Mrs. Ida Ruth O'Neal

April 30, 1934 - April 21, 2025

Mrs. Ida R. O'Neal was born on April 30, 1934, in Forsyth, Georgia, to the late Mr. Ernest and

Georgia (Parsons) Gooden, Sr. As the eldest of eight children, she was preceded in death by her sisters,

Joyce Elder, Lizzie B. Gooden, and Janie L. Wright; her brothers, Ernest Gooden, Jr., Sylvester Gooden,

Justin Gooden, and Larry Gooden; as well as her eldest child, Agnes Walker.

She attended Hubbard High School in Forsyth, Georgia.

Ida's faith was a cornerstone of her life. She began her spiritual journey at Parker Chapel A.M.E. Church

in Culloden, Georgia, where she accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior. Upon moving to Atlanta,

she became a dedicated member of Lilly Hill Baptist Church in Decatur, Georgia, actively serving on

Usher Board #2. Her journey of faith continued as she joined Truth Evangelistic Ministries, Inc., and

later, she became a devoted member of Tabernacle of Faith Christian Church in Decatur, Georgia, where

she worshipped faithfully until her transition.

Ida exemplified a true spirit of service. Upon moving to Atlanta, she worked as a domestic worker and

hairstylist before embarking on her culinary journey at Catfish Inn, where she

spent several years. She later became the lead cook at Service of America. Ida held this position with dedication for over thirty years until her retirement. Her passion for cooking extended beyond her career, transforming her kitchen table into a welcoming hub for family and friends to gather and create lasting memories.

On Monday, April 21, 2025, the Lord welcomed Ida into her heavenly home. She leaves behind a legacy of love and cherished memories with: her ◀ve children, Hubert O'Neal, Jr. (Nan), Deborah Wiggins, William O'Neal, Sr. (Catherine), Michael O'Neal, and Kelvin O'Neal, Sr.; along with numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends.

Cemetery Details

Rest Haven Memorial Cemetery

Forsyth, GA 31029

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 2. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Rainbow Park Baptist Church
2941 Columbia Dr
Decatur, GA 30034

Funeral Service

MAY 3. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Rainbow Park Baptist Church
2941 Columbia Dr
Decatur, GA 30034

Tribute Wall

JD

“ Jayal Broner (Michael Grand Daughter) lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Ida Ruth O'Neal



Jayal Broner (Michael grand daughter) - May 01, 2025 at 02:38 PM

JS

“ JB, Jayla And Jamal(Michael's Son&grand lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Ida Ruth O'Neal



JB, Jayla and Jamal(Michael's son&grand - May 01, 2025 at 02:37 PM

WO

“ Wanda O'Neal lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Ida Ruth O'Neal



Wanda O'Neal - May 01, 2025 at 02:33 PM

VM

“ Happy Heavenly Birthday Mother Ida, we miss you dearly but you've answered God's call!



Vicie H Miller - April 30, 2025 at 11:31 AM



“ *Pink Rose Half Casket Cover was purchased for the family of Mrs. Ida Ruth O'Neal.* ”



April 28, 2025 at 09:57 AM



“ *"Our heart goes out to you and your family during this difficult time."
"Please accept our sincerest condolences."* ”

The Carter Girls (Memphis)

Vicky Carter - April 28, 2025 at 09:09 AM



“ *Shawn G Laws lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Ida Ruth O'Neal* ”



Shawn G Laws - April 27, 2025 at 10:27 PM



“ *Tammy Golden lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Ida Ruth O'Neal* ”



Tammy Golden - April 26, 2025 at 04:43 PM

TG

My Sincere Condolences to Debra and Family. May God keep you in His Loving arms for comfort during this time of breavement.

Tammy Golden - April 26, 2025 at 04:44 PM

GB

I am so sorry for your loss. I loved his lady. She was funny, encouraging and always positive, I will surely miss her. My heart is really sadden. I will miss our telephone talks and her sweet potato pies .Take comfort in knowing this lady was truly loved by others. I am sending love to the family.

Gayle Tolbert Beard - April 29, 2025 at 11:00 AM

CS

“ I am so sorry for your loss, and I am sending my prayers and love to your family. I know that is very hard for your family. My memory of Mrs. O'Neal is setting at her table and eating the best cooked cabbages that I ever had. She could cook everything well. Cheryl Knowles Scott



Cheryl Knowles Scott - April 24, 2025 at 08:54 AM