



Johnnie Mae Thornton

February 6, 1926 - November 6, 2025

Mrs. Johnnie Mae Thornton, affectionately known as “Coot” and lovingly called “Aunt

Yang-Yang” by family and friends, passed away peacefully on November 6, 2025, in

Lawrenceville, Georgia. She was born on February 6, 1926, in Oakfield, Georgia, to the late

Alberta Miller Lenton and John Lenton.

Johnnie Mae was the third of eight children. She was preceded in death by her siblings Mildred,

Sallie Mae, Thomas, Charles, and James, and is survived by her two loving sisters Ruby and

Dorothy.

At an early age, Johnnie Mae moved to Miami, Florida, where she pursued a long and fulfilling

career as a private duty caregiver. Her compassionate spirit and strong work ethic touched

countless lives, and she took great pride in caring for others with the same dedication and love

she showed her own family.

Johnnie Mae lived a long, full life marked by strength, love, and authenticity.

She was known for

her toughness and her tenderness — a woman who always spoke her mind

but carried a heart
full of compassion. Her loyalty was unwavering, her generosity unmatched,
and her spirit
genuine and true. To know her was to love her, and to be loved by her was a
blessing.

She was first united in marriage to Dewitt Lewis, and from that union came
two children: the
late John Henry Lewis and the late Melba Laverne Lewis-Allen (the late
Nathaniel Allen).

Later, she married Willie Milton Thornton, and together they were blessed with
Edward Milton
Thornton, Yvette Michelle Thornton-Daniels (Timothy J. Daniels), and
stepdaughter
Demetria Ann Thornton-Walker.

Mrs. Thornton was a devoted Mother, Grandmother, Great-Grandmother,
Aunt, Mother in Law,
and friend. She leaves behind a host of beloved grandchildren, great-
grandchildren, nieces and
nephews who will continue to carry her legacy of love, honesty, and strength.
Throughout her 99 years, Johnnie Mae embodied what it meant to live with
purpose and grace.

She was tough when life demanded it, gentle when others needed comfort,
and always true to
herself. Her presence lit up every room, and her words, sometimes sharp,
always sincere left a
lasting mark on those who heard them.

Though she has transitioned from this life, her memory will live on in the
hearts of those who
loved her deeply. Her family takes comfort in knowing that she is reunited with
her loved ones
who went before her and that her spirit will forever guide and protect them.

Rest well, Mrs. Johnnie Mae “Coot / Aunt Yang-Yang” Thornton.
Your work here is done, and your love lives on.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **21.** 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

Celebration of Life

NOV **22.** 9:00 AM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall

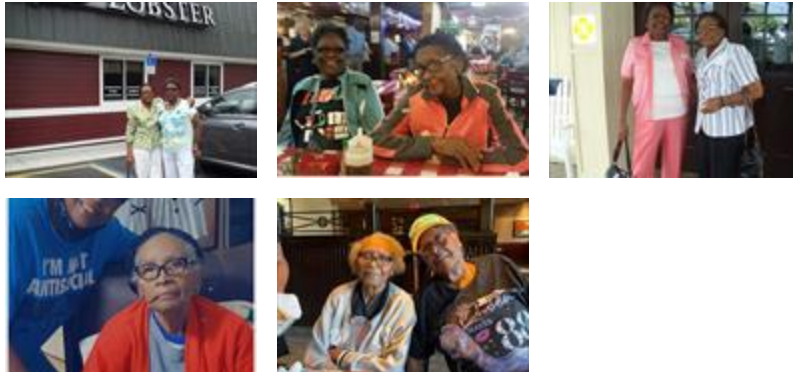
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“ Edward Thornton and Yvette Thornton Daniels, your family is keeping you in our prayers during this time of bereavement and grieving. Aunt Johnnie will surely be missed. Her personality, strength, and toughness is to be admired. Love Delores Wade Thornton, Kimball Fitzgerald Thornton, and Sheila Thornton - Lipscomb and family.

Kimball Fitzgerald Thornton - November 22, 2025 at 10:34 AM

LC

“ Aunt, Ma is truly going to miss you tremendously. Continue to soar high above and watch over Us. Love you Aunt Yang-Yang, Ms. Coot, Mrs. Johnnie Mae Thornton 💖❤️💖💖



Lisa M Clark - November 17, 2025 at 12:37 PM



“ I have so many fond memories of my grandma Mrs. Johnnie Mae Thornton. To know her was to love her. And to be loved and blessed by her was amazing. Thank you God for the many years you blessed her to live on Earth with us. You will be missed. 🥂 I love you forever Mamma.



Joyce Allen - November 16, 2025 at 05:12 PM