



Life Reflections

We pause today to celebrate the life, legacy and transition of Mother Debra Elaine Love Grady from earth to glory on January 6, 2021.

She was born to the parentage of the late Bill Collins Clenon Gene and Clara Mae Love Carter on June 13, 1956 in Douglas, Georgia.

She graduated from Carver High School in 1974 and matriculated through South Georgia College and Ben Hill Irwin Tech in Master Cosmetology. She was the owner and operator of Debra's Beauty Salon for nearly 40 years.

Mrs. Debra Grady was employed by the Coffee County Board of Education, Eastside Elementary School, where she loved working with the staff and students who she affectionately called her babies. Many thought of her as a mother figure, because of her caring way and her concern for their spiritual well-being. She was known as a prayer warrior and one who sang the praises of the Lord even there.

"Laine" as she was affectionately called, was a lifelong member of Hightower Memorial Temple. As a small child, she sang in the Youth Choir and participated in all the Youth activities including: Sunday School, Vacation Bible School and traveling to the Youth Conventions. Minister Grady was consecrated a Church Mother at Hightower Memorial Temple on May 2, 2015 in a very elaborate ceremony under the leadership of Pastor Randolph Scott. As a Minister and Church Mother, she would often preside over the services. Her gift was to give good Godly advice and encouraging uplifting words to many. She was also a profound and prolific gospel singer and preacher. She also served as a Sunday School Teacher. She had an uncanny ability to reach people in a deep and positive way.

Debra was a fun-loving, caring person who organized Family Reunions for several years. She loved her Family deeply. Her own Mother would call her "Mama Laine", because of her nurturing and Motherly spirit. She was an exuberant person who met no strangers. She loved people.

She leaves cherished memories to her husband Donald Grady; two daughters, Yolanda (Kecha) Newton, and Latasa Washington; grandson Dontavius Gaskins of Fitzgerald, GA; two granddaughters: Lakendria and Darrian Newton of Midway, GA; Three sisters, Angela Carter, Sheila Carter, and Gail (Johnny) Jackson all of Douglas, GA; Four brothers, Eugene (Shirley) Carter of Decatur, GA, Conner (Kalista) Carter of Douglas, GA, Daryl (Andrea) Tyson of Waycross, GA, John Ira Watts of Douglas, GA, Two special aunts, Eunice Stewart of Douglas GA and Carolyn Lane of Bradenton, FL; Seven sisters-in-law, Martha (Pete) McNeair, Carolyn (Otis) Lott, Vernell Huff, Eloise King all of Douglas, GA, Winnie Mae Edwards of Broxton, GA, Roxie Diggs of Flint, MI, Ada Johnson of Albany, GA, and Rudene Stewart of Miami, FL; Three brothers in law, Bernie Lee (Roxie) Grady of Douglas, GA, Wilma (Marie) Grady of Philadelphia, PA, Alan (Lois) Grady of Savannah, GA, a host of nieces and nephews, a loving godmother, Mary Wilkerson and three special godchildren, Yentle Carter, Terrica Oates and Kristie Boyd. Special Love to the many special cousins, friends, co-workers and classmates of the Class of 1974.

