

# Services Entrusted to



**Edwards Small Mortuary**

*"Committed to Excellence"*

1011 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive

(478) 825-8700

## Repast

FVSU Agricultural Technology Conference Center

46 Camp John Hope Rd. Fort Valley, GA 31030

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

With heartfelt thanks, the family of the late Dr. Yvonne B. Oliver wishes to express our deep appreciation for all acts of kindness shown during our time of bereavement. We truly thank the Lord for your support. May God's richest blessings be showered upon you as you continue to let your light shine for Him. Please keep us in your prayers, and may God bless and keep you always.

*The Family*



CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF



SUNRISE

APRIL 23, 1947

SUNSET

DECEMBER 29, 2022

*Dr. Yvonne B. Oliver*

Wednesday, January 11, 2023

11:00AM

TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH  
507 STATE UNIVERSITY DRIVE  
FORT VALLEY, GA 31030

Rev. Gregory Moore, Officiant

# Celebration of Life

**Yvonne Oliver**, affectionately known as Von, was born on April 23, 1947 in Fort Valley, Georgia. She was the oldest of four children born to the late Sam Beauford and Evelyn Hollis Beauford Billups. She grew up in a Christian home and joined Trinity Baptist Church at an early age.

Yvonne excelled academically and attended H.A. Hunt High School. During her years at Hunt High she participated in many extracurricular activities: Editor in Chief of the yearbook, clarinet player in the band, a member of the Glee Club, and was President of the National Honors Society. She was Valedictorian of the Hunt High class of 1965.

After graduating from Hunt High, she chose to enroll at Spelman College. While a student at Spelman, Yvonne participated in a student exchange program at Cedar Crest College in Allentown, Pennsylvania during her sophomore year. She graduated from Spelman in 1969. Her post graduate studies were completed at Atlanta University, Atlanta, Georgia where she earned a Master's degree in Sociology and a Ph. D. in Sociology from the University of Georgia. Her professional career began in 1972, but in 1976, she began her illustrious career at Fort Valley State University where she served in different roles within the Agriculture Research Station including Professor of Sociology and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs. She retired after 32 years of service and she established the Yvonne B. Oliver Scholarship for students majoring in the Agriculture or Business Department.

Dr. Yvonne Oliver received many honors and awards. Her research focused on the social and economic well-being of Black and nonmetropolitan populations in the rural South.





The LOVE of  
*a Family*  
is LIFE'S  
GREATEST BLESSING.

Family  
*is a gift*  
That Lasts  
*forever*

*Family*  
A LINK TO THE PAST  
A BRIDGE TO OUR FUTURE

She published many journal articles, bulletins and her research is cited in numerous books. Her professional affiliations included: Rural Sociological Society, Southern Rural Sociological Association, Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists, USDA Social Science Committee, Southern Rural Development Center and National Academic Advising Association.

She was also a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Yvonne was also instrumental in getting H. A. Hunt High added to the Georgia Register of Historic Places.

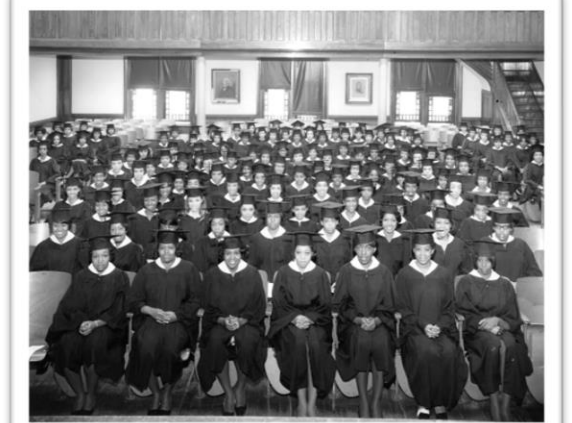
Yvonne was preceded in death by: Father, Sam Beauford (1984); Mother, Evelyn Hollis Beauford Billups (2015) and Sister, Cynthia Gail Ford (2006).

Left behind to cherish special memories of her include: her sister, Harriett Walden (Joe), Thomasville, GA; brother, Samuel W. Beauford, Fort Valley, GA; three nieces: Daphanie McKinney (Marcus), Cypress, TX; Stephanie Sherrod (Ven), Plainfield, IL; Andrea Wilkerson (Jerry), Cincinnati, OH; two nephews; James Ford, Jr., Athens, GA; Joseph Walden (Kristin), Seattle, WA; three great nieces; seven great nephews; her beloved three cats; Finn, Parker & Coco; a host of cousins, friends and her Spelman sisterhood.

## *Spelman Hymn*

*by Eddye Money Shivery, Spelman Class of C'34*

*Undaunted by the fight;  
And when life's race is won,  
Thy noble work is done,  
Oh God, forever bind  
Our hearts to thine.*



# Order of Service

Reverend Gregory Moore, Officiant

Musical Prelude

The Processional

Opening Prayer.....Deacon Ronald McCrary

Musical Selection.....Mr. Jared McCants

Scripture of Comfort.....Deacon Alfred Conteh

The Old & New Testament

## Reflections and Resolutions

Ms. Sharon Pierro.....H.A. Hunt Class of '65 and  
Spelman College Class of '69

Dr. Charles Magee.....Professor of Biological Systems Engineering  
Florida A&M University

Proclamation from the President of Alabama A&M University.....Presidential Designee

Proclamation from Spelman College.....Andrea Yvonne Ford Wilkerson  
Spelman College Class of '96

Dr. Isaac Crumbly.....Associate Vice President  
Fort Valley State University

## Celebration of Life

(Read Silently)

Musical Selection.....Mr. Jared McCants

Words of Comfort.....Reverend Gregory Moore  
Trinity Baptist Church

Acknowledgements.....Edwards Small Mortuary Staff

Benediction.....Reverend Gregory Moore  
Trinity Baptist Church

Recessional

