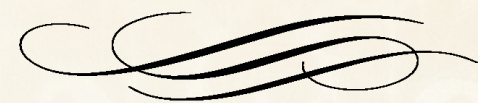


Statement of Appreciation

The family thanks all of you for your condolences, words of peace, understanding and encouragement. The outpouring of positivity and love is not taken for granted and will never be forgotten.

The Family



ACTIVE PALLBEARERS

Uriah Lampkin • Ruben Walker • Micheal Satchell
Manuel Roberts • Frederick Sirls

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Relatives and friends of the Family

FLORAL BEARERS

Antioch Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church Usher Ministry

FINAL RESTING PLACE

New Zion Cemetery
Fairfield, Texas

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."
-Matthew 5:4

FINAL ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO



Pleasant Grove Mortuary

7800 Lake June Road
Dallas, Texas 75217
(214) 398-8301

www.PleasantGroveMortuary.com

THE HOMEGOING CELEBRATION

— for —

Linda Gayle Watson Tillis



MARCH 4, 1952 - MARCH 25, 2023

Friday, April 7, 2023

11:00 am

Antioch Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church

7550 S. Hampton Road • Dallas, Texas 75232

Reverend Chris Wesley, Senior Pastor

Life Reflections

Linda Gayle Watson Tillis, 71, of Dallas, Texas passed away on Saturday, March 25, 2023. She was born in Dallas, TX on March 4, 1952, to Gaston and Lillian Watson.

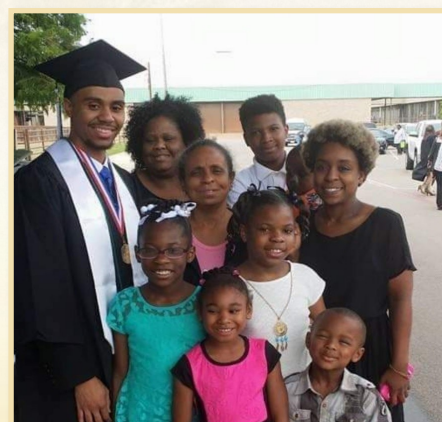
Linda Gayle Watson Tillis graduated from L.G. Pinkston High School in 1970. She then attended Southern Methodist University, graduating with a bachelor's degree in 1973. Immediately upon graduation, Linda Gayle began a 40-year career in teaching, in both the Dallas and Houston areas. These schools included O.W. Holmes, Crosby Middle School, David W. Carter High School, South Oak Cliff High School, and W. T. White High School.

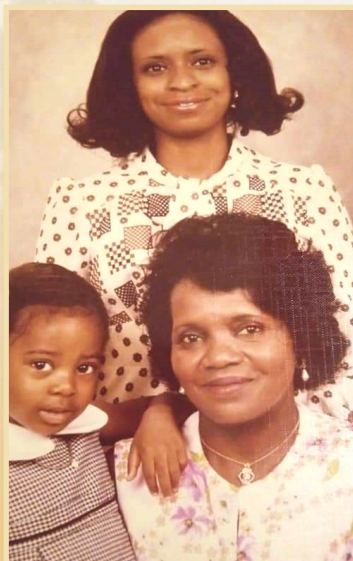
During her career, Linda Gayle Watson Tillis also earned a master's degree from Texas Southern University.

Linda Gayle Watson Tillis was a former member of Black Women's Awareness Club of Baytown, Texas, and an active member of L.G. Pinkston's Alumni.

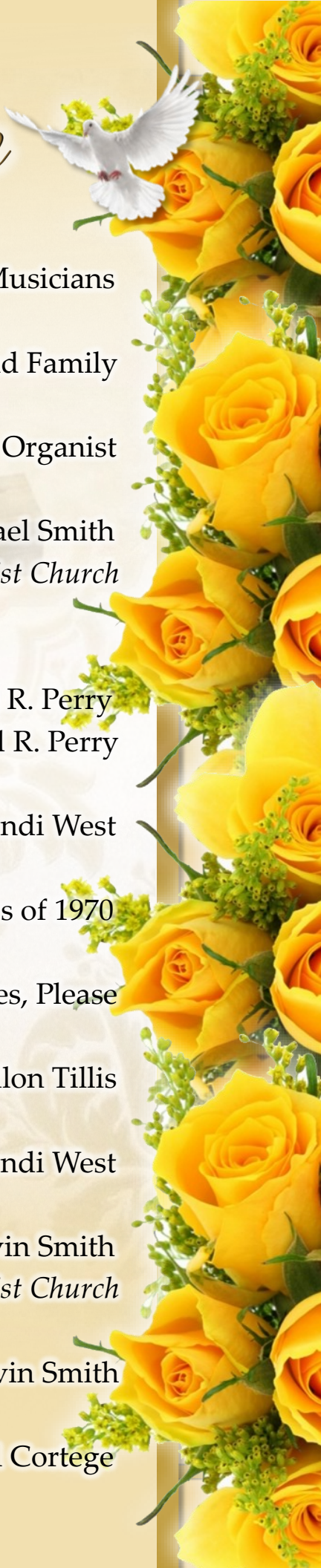
Linda Gayle Watson Tillis was preceded in death by her parents, Gaston Watson and Lillian Watson Murphy.

She is survived by her daughters: LaTrena Lampkin of Dallas, Texas; Phallon Tillis of Dallas, Texas; Jhillian Tillis of Missouri City, Texas and Brittani Tillis of Rockwall, Texas. Linda Gayle Watson Tillis was a bonus mom to many, including Monique Tillis, Felicia Clark-Portley and Felicia Tillis-Bates. She is also survived by a crew of grandchildren and great-grandchildren, who lovingly called her "Nana".





Order of Celebration



Prelude The Service Musicians

Processional Clergy, Pallbearers, and Family

Hymn of Comfort DeAndre Williams, Organist

Prayer Pastor Michael Smith
Pastor of Redeemer Baptist Church

Scripture Readings:
Old Testament Reverend Donald R. Perry
New Testament Reverend Donald R. Perry

Solo Malyndi West

Resolution L.G. Pinkston, Class of 1970

Expressions of Love..... Limit 2 Minutes, Please

Special Remarks Phallon Tillis

Solo Malyndi West

Eulogy Dr. Johnny Calvin Smith
Pastor, Mount Moriah Baptist Church

Closing Prayer Dr. Johnny Calvin Smith

Recessional Funeral Cortege

Expressions of Love

Mama, you were always you. Unapologetically you. And, you loved people. Over and over again. No word or action will ever be enough to say or show how much I love you. Thank you for everything you did to show your love. You cooked, babysat, showed up at all kinds of events for your grandkids, you gave your last penny. I know you were so happy to see everyone when you got to heaven. Even though I didn't want your race to end, God said it was time for you to cross the finish line. Now rest, Mama. There will never be a need to run again. I'll always love and think of you.

P.S. Langston and Harper pray for you and miss you so much. They know God is taking care of you now.

-Phallon (Your Pretty Chocolate)

*If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord.
So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. Romans 14:8*

Mama, I honestly don't know if there will be enough words to express how much I love and miss you. Your heart was so big and you were always there to help the ones you loved. You were the best Nana to all of your grandchildren and their love for you showed. I know that you are up there in heaven smiling big and giving all the hugs to your mom and dad. I wasn't ready for you to leave mama and I just knew I had so much more time with you. But heaven couldn't wait for you. I will think about you always. I love you mama.

Your Daughter, Jhill

Dear Nana, in all true honesty, I don't know where to start. I would never in a million years think that there would be a day without you. You have been there for literally every walk of life. Being there for my first day of school to my last. You were there for every single one of my firsts. You were always there to comfort me and will always be the woman in my life. You loved me as your only son and took me in with no hesitation, when I had nobody else. I couldn't write down all of our memories even if I wanted to. From going to school with you to taking trips all around the world. You taught me everything it meant about being a loving and caring person. Even though I was a little hard headed, you never gave up on me. We fight and we argued but nobody could tell us about each other. We had each other's backs. You wanted the best for me and sacrificed so much for me when you didn't have to. You believed in me when nobody else would. I gave you the name NANA but always in my heart you will be my MAMA. I love you, MAMA.

-Uriah

To my sisters, Trena, Phallon, Jhillian, and Brittani. May the Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace. I wish you all the peace in these tough days and weeks to come. Please know that you all are in my thoughts and prayers. I love you dearly.

Love Always, Your Sister Felicia

Mommy, I just want to call out your name and you answer! I am a BIG Girl now. I have to stand strong on my 10 toes like you taught me. I have that hard skin that you gave me. Lizard skin as they say, for a reason built for resilience. You wouldn't blink an eye at giving someone the shirt off your back and for that I Thank You. I literally was taught by you to just let it roll off my back. Being made fun of was a rough time in my life but you said, "Been There, Done That! Now let's move on". I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN MOVE ON. Even though sometimes I stray, I need you Mommy. I love you so dearly. The softest skin I will ever feel. A smell that I will never forget. You brought home both of my kids. I couldn't have done any of it without you. You are the ROCK! There was never a waking moment that you weren't here for me and my babies. Even when I strayed. You knew I was coming back. Now the roles are reversed and you aren't coming back. I love you, Mommy. You were the best thing that a daughter and her sons could ask for, You are Nana Forever. You Are A World Class Mom. Thank You for the approval on our ceremony and I know you will be there. I will make sure that we see great places. We were just going to travel the world together and now you can see this world from miles away.. You were just talking about little faith and I am glad you had enough. I pray that you watch over your grands and also US your girls. I will think of you every time, all the time. Turn your handle to your pot in so you don't burn yourself. Make sure that the cow comes before the milk. I could go on and on. I am your Baby girl. But, I have to be a Big Girl now! I love you forever, Queen. Wyatt Tillis Bush says he loves and misses you. Bryce Tills says he loves you. Until we meet again. Rest Easy Queen.

Your Gymnast, Bootay

From her... You feed someone long enough that you may not have done the 9 months of pregnancy, BUT she is still yours. Felicia Suzanne Clark-Portley. The love and cared child of Linda Gayle Watson Tillis for all her childhood.

To her... Even though my words will never do enough in thanking you for the great contribution you made in my life, I want you to know I am deeply grateful for you. You have supported me and encouraged me throughout my entire life. You are the best among the rest!

Love, Lisa

I was a little girl when you came into my life at the age of 8 and you made an impact until the day you closed your eyes to rest. I thank you for treating me like your biological daughter, you never treated me differently. You were always willing to listen and give advice. I thank God for the privilege of having you in my life because you were there every step of the way. We had a bond and a relationship like no other. I will love you always and forever, Stormye.

-Monique

