



Ethel J. Coles

October 18, 1948 - March 22, 2024

In Loving Memory of Our Beloved

Ethel Jean (Baker) Coles was born on October 18, 1948 in Emporia, Virginia to the late Christine (Baker) Gray and the late Billie Pair, Sr. She departed this life Friday, March 22, 2024 at the beautiful Gilchrist Hospice home center with her family by her side.

Jean attended E. W. Wyatt High School in Emporia, Virginia where she graduated as Salutatorian in 1967. She moved to Richmond, Virginia after graduating and continued on with her education where she earned her key punch operations certification at Keys Business College. She would later continue her professional development with certifications in leadership where she advanced in her career in the retail industry in retail management sales, merchandising and customer service. Jean worked in retail for over 45 years and was committed and dedicated to her profession and to her clients. She began her career as a retail professional in Williamsburg, Virginia and retired in Maryland in 2019 from Macy's, Inc. Jean was a master in the retail profession, was highly sought after by her clients and enjoyed working with customers to make sure they were satisfied. Jean had established what they now call a Following throughout her career in retail. Jean continued to visit the Macy's Inc. store in her community from time to time after she retired just to check in with friends and visit previous management team colleagues. She

will truly be missed by all who knew her near and far.

Jean moved from Richmond to Williamsburg with her young daughter after marrying the late John Coles, January 26, 1971. They resided in Williamsburg where Jean became an active member in the town she loved. Jean joined St. John Baptist Church where she worked on various committees, served on the usher board and sang in the choir. In 2004 Jean moved to Maryland after the passing of her husband where she began her new life while living closer to her daughter Sonia, son-in-law, Jemahl and grandson, Na'im. She loved working in her new community where she lived and made new friends in Maryland. Ethel was a 'people enthusiasts' and enjoyed talking with people and helping anyone in time of need. She enjoyed conversations on topics ranging from life to sports. Most often she enjoyed watching basketball and football games. On any given game day Sunday she would cheer for her favorite professional athlete to win. Whenever she asked how you were doing, she genuinely wanted to know 'the truth' and would listen with kind hearted patience. She would brighten up when talking on the telephone with friends and family, as she always had a thought provoking idea or important update to share. She always wanted to learn more about how to do new things whenever possible and would share what she learned with others in detail much like an intellect, scholar or a professor, as she was very smart and insightful. Most of all she was passionate about helping others gain a positive perspective on troubling aspects of life whenever she was asked for assistance or advice. She was the matriarch, dedicated to her family. Jean will always be remembered for being a beautiful person and a loving mother and grandmother with a heart of gold. Friends and family remember Jean to be serious and determined, yet she was also fun-loving and had a great sense of humor. She loved to laugh and enjoyed good times spent with her family. Most recently, Jean discovered the joy of color painting, planting and arranging flowers at her home and word puzzles. Chair yoga, prayer and meditation had also become a part of her day.

Jean enjoyed her time spent with her grandchild, Na'im the most. She referred to him as her "Shining Star" in her final days. While she truly enjoyed and loved time shared with her daughter and son in law greatly, it was the time spent with her grandson that was a very special time in her life. Her grandson wrote in a message, "May grandma rest in heaven among the angels." Jean saw the good in all whom she knew and would pray for God's goodness and His blessings to be bestowed upon all of His children. May Our Beloved Ethel Jean (Baker) Coles, Mom, Grandmom, Momma Jean, Rest in peace forever leaving a legacy of positive thought provoking perspectives with her loved ones through the messages she shared with us.

The Beloved Ethel Jean (Baker) Coles was the oldest sibling of eleven children. She leaves to cherish her memory, a daughter, Sonia Nuriddin and a son-in-law Jemahl Nuriddin. A grandson, Na'im Nuriddin. Sisters, Bernice, Vanessa, Catherine, Ann and Sophia Gray; Brothers, Lloyd, Donnie, Bobbie, Ray, Jeffery Gray; Cousin Shirley Wiley and family, Cousins Joseph Hill Jr. and Josephine Brown and family. The Baker Family and the Pair Family and a host of other Nieces and Nephews, Aunts and Uncles, Cousins, Friends, Community Neighbors and Colleagues. She is predeceased by other Beloved family members, Grandmother, Bessie Baker Hall, Aunt Catherine Baker Ruffin, Aunt Vernell Hill and a Sister, Belinda Baker-Stores.

Cemetery Details

Inurnment at Riverview Cemetery

1401 S. Randolph St.
RICHMOND, VA 23220

Previous Events

Memorial Service with live streaming

APR **12**. 2:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home -Laburnum Chapel
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.
Richmond, VA 23222

Tribute Wall



“ *March Funeral Homes created a To View the Webcast of the Funeral for Ethel J. Coles, Please Click the Link below. in memory of Ethel J. Coles*



March Funeral Homes - March 27, 2024 at 10:00 AM

MH

I will truly miss Mrs Jean I learned alot from her she was a inspiration in my life rest in peace my friend Love You Michelle Hairston

Michelle Hairston - April 12, 2024 at 11:37 AM

SN

“ *We would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who supported us and offered their condolences during our time of loss. We are very grateful for your love and prayers during this difficult time. May God bless you all. Love, The Nuriddin Family*

Sonia, Jemahl and Na'im - April 19, 2024 at 10:42 PM

RC

“ *Soror Sonia and Family, I pray for strength and perseverance as you continue to heal through this difficult time. Love, Soror Rosie*

Rosetta Coates - April 12, 2024 at 01:40 PM

LM

“ Love, Uncle Marty & Aunt Ingrid Morrow purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Ethel J. Coles.



Love, Uncle Marty & Aunt Ingrid Morrow - April 11, 2024 at 04:51 PM

LM

“ Love, Uncle Marty & Aunt Ingrid Morrow planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ethel J. Coles.

Love, Uncle Marty & Aunt Ingrid Morrow - April 11, 2024 at 04:51 PM

BD

“ Jean's warm personality had a way of drawing you to her. I will always remember her smile, laughter and our chat times together. She has entered God's Garden of Eternal Life. May you rest in peace, until it is time for us to join you. Your loving friend, Barbara

Barbara Dyson - April 09, 2024 at 11:38 AM

MO

“ Marlene Owens purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Ethel J. Coles.

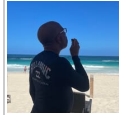


Marlene Owens - April 04, 2024 at 03:23 PM

MS

“ *Cousin Jean's smile was comforting, her words were uplifting, and her love of family will truly be missed. Rest in paradise. Peace and blessings to Sonia and family.*
Love Cousin Mary Smith & Family

Mary Smith - April 03, 2024 at 07:41 PM



Sonia,

Myself, and Jennifer share are sincere condolences on the passing of your Mom. You, and your family are in our deep thoughts and prayers.

Love, Fred and Jennifer Smith

Frederick Smith Jr. - April 07, 2024 at 08:56 AM

JD

“ *5 files added to the album Ethel JEAN Coles*



Jackie and Tano Davis - April 03, 2024 at 09:38 AM

JD

“ TRIBUTE TO ETHEL JEAN COLES
October 18, 1948 – March 22, 2024

*Extraordinary mother, relative and doting grandmother
True friendship like none other
Honesty she did genuinely portray
Enthusiastically worked night and day
Loyal Macy's employee for many a year*

*Jovial to customers with whom she served most sincere
Embraced life with a positive outlook
Admired for wisdom from God's Good Book
Neatly attired and well-coordinated*

*Colorful decorations were brightly illuminated
Out-going loving personality
Loved life for its practical reality
Endured a brief bout of ill health
Sonia, Jamahl & Na'im were her treasures of wealth*

*ETHEL JEAN COLES has departed this earthly life, no more
sickness, pain nor strife! She is joyously with Jesus Christ, her Lord
& Savior! Do her a favor! One day become her Heavenly neighbor!
Just confess your sins, accept Jesus to rule within for your win/win
of Heaven's eternal home and you will never be alone! Don't delay,
for tomorrow may be too late for your death date! Choose eternal
Heavenly salvation or hell's eternal damnation!*

*Lovingly Submitted,
Jackie & Tano Davis, Sonia's Surrogate Aunt & Uncle
April 2, 2024*

Jackie & Tano Davis - April 03, 2024 at 09:25 AM

NT

“ *Nina, Joyce & Tomika planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ethel J. Coles.*

Nina, Joyce & Tomika - March 28, 2024 at 12:24 AM



“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Ethel J. Coles.*



March 28, 2024 at 12:24 AM



“ *We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.*

March Funeral Homes - March 27, 2024 at 09:55 AM