



## Jesola E. Jones

April 21, 1941 - July 27, 2016

Jesola Ernest Jones was born on April 21, 1941 in Wisner, Louisiana to Jesse and Zola Ernest. The middle daughter of loving parents, she and her sisters, Zola the eldest and Frankie the baby girl moved with her parents to the town of Grambling, Louisiana, the site of Grambling State College at a young age. After a lengthy illness, which she endured like the champion of strength and grace that she was, she departed this life to be with her Savior on July 27, 2016.

Growing up in Grambling, Louisiana, the value of education was inculcated in her and she invested in its pursuit. She matriculated in the public schools in her hometown and graduated from Grambling Elementary, Middle, and High Schools. Her beloved father was a renowned principal at the public school in Wisner and her beautiful mother taught at Grambling College. A devout Catholic, she began her bond with Catholicism at the little church in Grambling, St. Benedicts. She made her First Holy Communion, Confirmation, and would ultimately fulfill her sacrament of marriage to the love of her life, Ralph Waldo Emerson Jones, Jr. in a memorable ceremony in that very church.

Continuing her pursuit of education, she chose the University of Iowa to obtain her undergraduate degree in English and Drama and graduated from the University of Iowa in 1962. Not satisfied with her bachelor's, she enrolled at Louisiana Tech and received a Master's degree in Counseling in 1965. Counseling would be her entry into the Baltimore City School System but it

was neither her professional or final destination. She later became an administrator, vice-principal, and ultimately was promoted to principal of one of the largest middle schools in the Baltimore City public school system - Pimlico Middle School. Throughout her career in education, she impacted people with her serious but compassionate style, her pursuit for excellence in children's educational success and her genuine and pronounced leadership ability.

Education, counseling and leading was what Jesola did, but who she was far exceeded those tasks. She was foremost a wife to the love of her life, Ralph Waldo Emerson Jones, Jr., whose life ended too abruptly when he was just 50 years old. Just prior to Ralph's sudden and shocking death, they were blessed to celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary at a fabulous party in the Law School of the University of Baltimore where Ralph was administrator of a thriving graduate program. She was an exceptional mother to three fine sons that she and Ralph had during the intervening years of moving to Baltimore in 1962 and her counseling days in the school system. Those sons were Ralph Eldridge, Ernest Emerson, and Warren Waldo who all share a part of Ralph's name because Jesola said that they together added up to the totality of Ralph. Jesola's overarching commitment was to her family and her desire to love, nurture, guide, and enjoy all the pleasures that a family brings. Her strength and grace allowed her to endure both the pain and joy of her life.

Jesola retired from the Baltimore School System in 1988 subsequent to Ralph's death. However, she did not retire from life. She enjoyed regular luncheons with her two sisters, Zola and Frankie, who had located to Baltimore and raised their families here as well. She enjoyed friends, was elected as the second President of the Baltimore Harbor City Chapter of Links, Incorporated., and was an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority attending conventions and local chapter meetings. She was very much involved in the New All Saints Church and served on the Food Pantry Committee and was a fixture at Father Sterling's 4pm Mass on Saturdays. Parishioners had become accustomed to her sweet smile and beautiful face.

Jesola is survived by her sons and daughter-in-laws: Ralph Eldridge & Nicole; Ernest Emerson & Ann Marie, Warren Waldo & Tamera, Grandsons Noah and Elijah (Ralph) and Cristian and Connor (Ernest); sisters Zola Ernest Boone and Frankie Ernest Martin; and a host of nephews, nieces, cousins, and lifelong friends.

Ever the consummate teacher, administrator, mother, grandmother, sister, friend and beautiful human being, Jesola left instructions for this obituary. But she also left a message for all -- "One does not know when "That Day" will come or in what condition, but for me, I am a fairly happy person, not wanting much. I say to my friends, enjoyed the massage outings and the lunches we shared. To my sisters, love each of you, will miss our grumbling about this and that. Hope to see you in the next world. To my sons and their families, you can't begin to know how much happiness you have brought into my life. Remember to keep God in your life and enjoy the little things. Don't take anything for granted. I love you very, very, much and will plan to see you in the hereafter. Love and so long, Granny, Ma, Jesola, Jess, Sister, Friend. I will miss you." Jesola

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

JUL 31. 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

March Life Tribute Center, P.A. - Randallstown  
5616 Old Court Road  
Windsor Mill, MD 21244  
(410) 655-0110  
<https://www.marchlifetributecenter.com>

## Family Hour

JUL 31. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

March Life Tribute Center, P.A. - Randallstown  
5616 Old Court Road  
Windsor Mill, MD 21244  
(410) 655-0110  
<https://www.marchlifetributecenter.com>

## Wake

AUG 1. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

New All Saints Church  
4408 Liberty Heights Ave.

## Service

AUG 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

New All Saints Church  
4408 Liberty Heights Ave.



# Tribute Wall

JA

“ I am late in seeing this announcement of Jesola's meaningful life. I remember her as a college student at Iowa. I worked with her on a campaign to have her elected Homecoming Queen one year. She was so beautiful She should have won.

Joan M. Anderson - March 26, 2024 at 01:18 PM



“ Jesola E. Jones

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM

SL

“ With deepest sympathies to Ernest Jones and his family at time when their fondest memories of his most special Mother will forever be a source of daily inspiration and consolation.  
Sincerely, Stan Luniewicz



Stan Luniewicz - July 31, 2016 at 12:26 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Jesola E. Jones.



July 30, 2016 at 03:44 PM

KW

“ Ketha Weston lit a candle in memory of Jesola E. Jones



Ketha Weston - July 30, 2016 at 01:45 PM

JW

“ Jesola will remain in our hearts forever. From Sandra Ernest sister and family in Louisiana. Pastors Maurice, Marlin & Missionary Ketha Weston purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Jesola E. Jones.



Jesola will remain in our hearts forever. From Sandra Ernest sister and family in Louisiana. Pastors Maurice, Marlin & Missionary Ketha Weston - July 30, 2016 at 12:31 PM

PL

“ I am offering my condolences to the family and close friends of Jesola E Jones. When a loved one has fallen asleep in death, GOD's own words in the Bible offers comfort. Please read in your Bibles 2 Cor 1:3-4.

Peggy Land - July 30, 2016 at 08:11 AM

MM

“ Mark McInnis, Chris , Cory, and Mary purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Jesola E. Jones.



Mark McInnis, Chris , Cory, and Mary - July 29, 2016 at 02:38 PM



“ 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.

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**March Funeral Homes** - July 29, 2016 at 09:20 AM