



Naomi Lee McCray

March 1, 1949 - February 15, 2025

Psalm 23:4: Even though I through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil,
for you are with me; thy rod and staff, they comfort me.

Deacon Naomi L. McCray, “affectionately known as GiGi” a cherished mother and beacon of strength, peacefully transitioned from this life at the age of 75 on Wednesday, February 13, 2025.

She is reunited in spirit with her parents, James and Jane McArthur; her beloved grandmother, Mattie Epps-Cousins; her caring uncle, Waren Epps; and the influential James and Francis Taylor, who shaped her early years. Kenneth Rudd and her dear friend, Deacon Catherine Mankin.

Born on March 1, 1949, in Midlothian, Virginia, Naomi embraced her faith at First Baptist Church, where the seeds of compassion and community were planted within her. Later, as a dedicated member of Saint Paul’s Baptist Church, her unwavering commitment was honored when she was ordained as a deacon on October 24, 1999. For over 30 years, she illuminated kindness and guidance.

Naomi excelled academically at Carver High School in Chester, Virginia, before pursuing her true calling of nursing at St. Mary’s School of Nursing. Her

passion for healing propelled her remarkable career, where she made a difference in the Chesterfield County School Board and at the Virginia State Penitentiary. Naomi engaged her loved ones with riveting tales of her experiences, sharing the complex narratives surrounding the infamous Briley brothers and the weight of witnessing their executions. Naomi also worked at Saint Paul's Baptist Church and with Dr. Lerla A. Joseph at the Imani Wholeness Center in Richmond, VA. Her devotion to nursing brought her back to her passion as the Senior Administrator of Winthrop Hall in Richmond, where she provided comforting and dignified care to her senior residents for 20 years. Naomi's spirit of compassion and her dedication to service left a legacy within her community.

During her health decline, she was lovingly cared for by her daughter, Erica, her granddaughter, Ke'Yonna, and her son, Ernest Jr., embodying the love she instilled in her family.

Her four loving children survive Naomi: Yolanda (Gregory Sanders) and Erica McCray; Ernest III and Alvin McCray. Her legacy flourishes through her twelve grandchildren: Marika, Letia, Ceydria, Danica, Kenneth Jr., Ernest IV, Brandon, Ni'Asia, Ke'Yonna, Asia, Deja, and Ethan; and twelve great-grandchildren: Aubrie, Xavier Jr., Jaheim, Kamari, Noel, Kimiya, London, Giovanni, Amora, Ernest V, Alikai, and Xamora. Her memory is cherished by cousins Anthony (cousin/baby brother), Thomas Jr, Lamzy, Everett, Karl, Lester Minor, Sheryl Simmons, Jaynob Lee, Steve Burford, and Alison Taylor, along with devoted friends Ethel Scruggs, Sandra Dandridge, Deacon Doris Mosley, and Linda Taylor, Gerald Ward Jr.

Join Us on February 27, 2025 at 11:00am, Saint Paul's Baptist Church 4247 Creighton Road, 23223.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB 27. 11:00 AM (ET)

The Saint Paul's Baptist Church, Creighton Campus
4247 Creighton Rd
Richmond, VA 23223-2251
(804) 643-4000

Tribute Wall

YS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Yolanda Sanders - May 17, 2025 at 11:19 AM

YS

“ Mother's Day wasn't the same , because of missing you!



Yolanda Sanders - May 17, 2025 at 11:17 AM

YS

“ 2 files added to the album Mom



Yolanda D Sanders - April 15, 2025 at 11:20 PM

YS

“ Yolanda D Sanders lit a candle in memory of Naomi Lee McCray



Yolanda D Sanders - April 15, 2025 at 11:08 PM

YS

Mom, it's incredible to think that two months have already slipped by since you left us. My heart feels so heavy, and the pain of your absence is still deeply felt. I had the privilege of sharing 56 wonderful years with you, and I realize now that my longing to keep you with me is simply an expression of my love. Mom, words fail to capture the depth of my emotions every time I think of you. Just the other day, I found myself reaching for the phone to dial your number, completely unaware of what I was doing until it was too late. Your memory remains so vivid, and I miss and love you more than words can say

Yolanda D Sanders - April 15, 2025 at 11:15 PM

YS

“ Yolanda D Sanders lit a candle in memory of Naomi Lee McCray



Yolanda D Sanders - April 03, 2025 at 06:00 PM

YS

When I tell people that you have passed on, they often respond with, "Oh, I'm so sorry to hear about your loss." I pause, smile, and remind them that you're not lost; I know exactly where you are: 7968 Bonemarrow Drive. lol

My healing has begun, as I no longer feel pain—I simply miss talking to you, sharing my day, and hearing your laughter. Your spirit remains with me, guiding my journey forward. I love you Mom

Yolanda D Sanders - April 03, 2025 at 06:04 PM

YS

“ *Yolanda D Sanders lit a candle in memory of Naomi Lee McCray*



Yolanda D Sanders - March 26, 2025 at 12:14 PM

YS

Mom, it has been a month now, yet it feels like yesterday when I had to say goodbye to you. You will always be a part of my everyday life, inspiring me to carry your spirit with me wherever I go. I love and miss you so much.
Yolanda

Yolanda D Sanders - March 26, 2025 at 12:18 PM

YS

“ *Yolanda Sanders lit a candle in memory of Naomi Lee McCray*



Yolanda Sanders - March 20, 2025 at 03:04 PM

YS

“ *Missing you!*



Yolanda Sanders - March 18, 2025 at 12:58 PM

YS

“ Forever 75!



Yolanda Sanders - March 02, 2025 at 10:01 AM

EB

“ Although I have not seen Naomi since high school graduation, how can I not love a family with so many individuals with the name of Ernest. Rest in peace Naomi .

Ernest Branch

Ernest Branch - February 27, 2025 at 11:27 AM

GA

“ Naomi grew up in my neighborhood. We graduated together. Praying for the family. Gloria Reynolds Armstead

Gloria Armstead - February 25, 2025 at 09:09 PM

DB

“ I love you, Grandma. Until we meet again... ☐

Deja Byrd - February 24, 2025 at 03:19 PM

CJ

“ Carolyn Jefferson-Street sent a virtual gift in memory of Naomi Lee McCray



Carolyn Jefferson-Street - February 22, 2025 at 07:31 PM

CJ

Rest in peace, dear classmate 🙏

Carolyn Jefferson-Street - February 22, 2025 at 07:49 PM

RS

Keeping your family close in thought and praying that memories will bring you peace and comfort.

Rose West Smith
Carver High school
Class of 1967

Rose w Smith - February 25, 2025 at 11:15 AM

YS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Yolanda Sanders - February 21, 2025 at 01:15 PM

EE

Love you Grandma

Ethan Eppes - February 23, 2025 at 06:19 PM

CS

“ Co-workers Of Yolanda Sanders lit a candle
in memory of Naomi Lee McCray



Co-workers of Yolanda Sanders - February 21, 2025 at 10:08 AM

RM

Yolanda just wanted to let you know that we are truly sadden by the
passing of your mother. We're here if you anything . Bobby, Wendy,
Ernesto and Dwight and Johnnie

Robert Mercet - February 23, 2025 at 06:23 PM

CM

“ You are someone so special. The light in my darkness and the
peace in my heart. I love you ma. Forever



Ceydria Mccray - February 21, 2025 at 12:40 AM

AL

“ In loving memory of Ms. Naomi McCray.
Alesha & Darryl and Donna



Alesha - February 20, 2025 at 02:56 PM

YS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Yolanda Sanders - February 19, 2025 at 07:17 PM

YS

“ Yolanda Sanders sent a virtual gift in memory of Naomi Lee McCray



Yolanda Sanders - February 19, 2025 at 07:13 PM

YS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Yolanda Sanders - February 19, 2025 at 07:10 PM

YS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Yolanda Sanders - February 19, 2025 at 05:47 PM

YS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Yolanda Sanders - February 19, 2025 at 05:40 PM

YS

“ Yolanda Sanders lit a candle in memory of Naomi Lee McCray



Yolanda Sanders - February 19, 2025 at 05:38 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.

March Funeral Homes - February 18, 2025 at 03:39 PM

YS

Forever 75!

Yolanda Sanders - February 19, 2025 at 05:44 PM

YS

Forever 75!

Yolanda Sanders - February 19, 2025 at 07:11 PM



No more pain...God is good, sleep well
Lawrence & Delores McCray

Delores Dowden McCray - February 22, 2025 at 01:36 PM