



Ruby Mae Holliday Dees

MAY 22, 1925 - AUG 27, 2021



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*Taylor Funeral Home
of Chattanooga, Inc.*

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Ruby Mae Holliday Dees

MAY 22, 1925 - AUG 27, 2021

Ruby Mae Holliday Dees, 96, of Chattanooga, passed away Friday, August 27, 2021, at her residence. She was born May 22, 1925 in Sulligent, Alabama. She was the only daughter of Knox Holliday and Isabelle Henry Holliday. Ruby and her three brothers were raised by their widowed father. She graduated from Alabama A&M University receiving a BS in Secondary Education. She married Bennon Dees on November 26, 1953. They made their home first in Huntsville, AL and later moved to Chattanooga. Their marriage produced three children. Ruby had 10 grandchildren, 21 great grandchildren, and a beloved goddaughter. Ruby taught in the Chattanooga Public School System for 29 years. Majority of those years were at Howard School teaching at the High School, Junior High, and Elementary levels. The last three years were spent at Eastlake Elementary School. While teaching at Howard School Ruby was a Girl Scout leader, devoting several years to helping girls in the school and the community. Outside the school environment, she continued to be active in the lives of her young students. She raised her own three children, and several others were welcomed into her home as if they were her own. Ruby was often recognized by former students who stopped to greet her with fond memories of how she affected their lives. Until declining health, Ruby attended Phillips Temple CME Church where she was a faithful and active member for many years. She was also a lifetime member of the local chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority. She was active in the Senior Neighbor's Program, the Glenwood Community Center and in neighborhood activities. She taught ceramic classes at Carver Community Center. Ruby is preceded in death by both parents, Knox and Isabella; husband, Bennon; brothers, Henry Lee and Alvertis Holliday. Survivors include her children, Gwendolyn (Clyde) Senviel of Knoxville, TN, Lawrence (Sylvia) Dees, and Secondra Meadows, both of Chattanooga; brother, Oscar (Totsie) Holliday, Sr. of Dayton, OH; Goddaughter, Roberta Moon, her grandchildren and great-grandchildren; a host of



Obituary

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other relatives and friends. Reverend Robert Henry of Phillips Temple CME Church will be officiating. Memorials may be given to Hospice of Chattanooga.

Directions to Live Stream: 1 - Go to your Facebook page 2 - Type: [taylorfuneralhomeofchattanooga](#) 3. Click 'Like' Thumbs Up 4. Scroll down at 12 noon to view the service.




Events


Ruby Mae Holliday Dees

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Lie-In-State

 **Friday**, September 3, 2021


 9:00 AM ET


 **Taylor Funeral Home of Chattanooga, Inc**
3417 Wilcox Boulevard, Chattanooga TN 37411

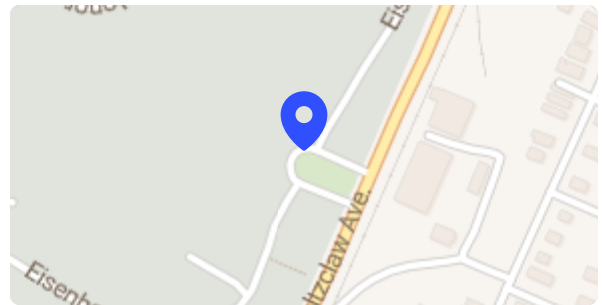


Graveside Service

 **Friday**, September 3, 2021

 2:00 PM ET

 **Chattanooga National Cemetery**
1200 Bailey Ave, Chattanooga TN 37404





Tribute Wall

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Marva Smith posted:

Ms. Dee's was my 5th grade teacher at Howard Elementary. She recognized something special in me and four other students and separated us from the class to do advanced math projects. As a result I gained a love for math and went on to obtain my BS in Actuarial Mathematics. Thank you Mrs. Dees.

September 24 at 5:00 AM



Cynthia Catlin posted:

We are praying for the entire family of Aunt Ruby. May God continue to comfort you. Thank you for a beautiful homegoing service. Cynthia Holliday Catlin and family

September 5 at 7:59 PM



Clinton And Bettie P Johnson lit a candle in honor of Ruby.



September 4 at 8:49 AM



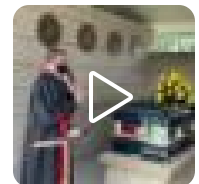
Rev. Robert G Henry, Jr. posted:

We are praying for hope, comfort and peace. The Phillips Temple CME Church

September 4 at 8:46 AM



Taylor Funeral Home Of Chattanooga, Inc. shared an album called **GravesideService-RubyDees.**



September 3 at 8:24 PM



Veronica Pearson lit a candle in honor of Ruby.



September 3 at 1:40 PM



Tribute Wall

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NW

Nell M Willis lit a candle in honor of Ruby.

Nell M Willis & Family

September 3 at 5:11 AM



RS

Regina Kelley-Starr lit a candle in honor of Ruby.

September 3 at 4:00 AM



VP

Vetonica Pearson September 3 at 1:26 PM

May your legacy live on my beautiful Cousin. Gone from our sight, but not from our heart. Rest in peace. Veronica Pierce Pearson

LT

Lysa Rowe Tulloss lit a candle in honor of Ruby.

September 2 at 7:31 PM



ES

Eddie (Wadley) Starkey lit a candle in honor of Ruby.

September 2 at 9:37 AM



AA

Andrea Meadows Anderson September 2 at 10:37 AM

Ms. Ruby Mae Holiday Dees will be truly missed. She had such a beautiful kind loving spirit. As a child it appeared to be so welcoming. Sending my condolences to the entire family ❤️



ES

Eddie (Wadley) Starkey September 2 at 9:38 AM

May God ABOVE Bless this FAMILY



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RW

R Annette White posted:

I had the pleasure of getting acquainted with Mrs. Ruby Dees while she was a volunteer with Girl Scouting at Howard Schools. I was a staff member with the local Girl Scout council. I am sure that anyone who ever met Ruby Dees would realize they had met a special gift from God. Sincerely, Annette White

September 2 at 4:48 AM



Melisa Lambright posted:

It was an honor to meet her, learn her history and help you.Melisa

September 2 at 2:09 AM

JR

Jackie Robinson lit a candle in honor of Ruby.



September 1 at 4:37 PM

CM

Charlesetta Mcdaniel posted:

When I was a child, Ms. Ruby and my mother were close friends. I remember her as being soft spoken and very kind. After high school, she encouraged me to continue my education and helped me complete my college applications. When I decided to become a classroom educator, Ms. Ruby worked with me for hours...sharing examples of lesson plans and discipline strategies. She was one of the sweetest and generous persons I have ever known. C. McDaniel

September 1 at 3:49 PM

PR

Patricia Reynolds lit a candle in honor of Ruby.



September 1 at 1:54 PM



Tribute Wall

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Veronica Sanders posted:

Mrs. Dee's was as sweet as they come. She would always help us young ladies if we had situations. I grew up in the neighborhood when she lived by Howard High School. Take your rest Mrs. Dees. You are resting in your Heavenly Home and will never be forgotten.

September 1 at 1:21 PM



Tracy Clark posted:

Thank you Ms. Dee's!!! Ms. Dee's was my sixth grade teacher at Howard Elementary. I could remember when my mom could not afford my graduation dress and Ms. Dee's had me and my cousin dress made. She also taught us ceramics at her house. I love Ms. Dee's and I would occasionally go by her home when I was in town and she welcome me. I'm so sorry for your loss but God has gained one of his best angels.

August 31 at 4:42 AM



Ethel Jones posted:

To the Dees Family: Mrs. Dees will surely be missed. She was a lovely lady and always wore a beautiful smile. I enjoyed many years with her as our Advisor of the Gamma Theta Sigma Philo Affiliate of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. She loved Sigma Gamma Rho and the Philos. May God comfort the family at this time. Ethel Jones

August 30 at 1:45 PM



Jennifer Thompsonmalone posted:

I loved Ms Dees she was my 5th grade teacher and s ok sweet with beautiful smile. Prayers for the family.

August 30 at 1:38 PM



Derothera Carter posted:

I'm sorry for your loss she meant a lot to me she was my teacher/mother in elementary.

August 30 at 10:15 AM

 **Derothera Carter** August 30 at 10:19 AM
I love Mrs Dee



Tribute Wall

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NC

Natalie Carter lit a candle in honor of Ruby.

To my sixth grade teacher and her family, Mrs. Dees was a wonderful teacher!, Thank you and sorry for your loss.

August 29 at 7:14 AM



HM

Helen Manns posted:

My favorite teacher; she made a poor little girl, in Howard elementary feel smart and special. Sincere thoughts and prayers are with the family. D. Helen Manns

August 29 at 4:53 AM

JR

Jackie Robinson August 30 at 10:56 AM

Mrs Dees used to take me to her home in Huntsville when I was in her class. Sweet memories of her will linger forever 🙏 Jackie Robinson

AH

Angela Hampton August 29 at 4:55 PM

I'm si sorry to hear of Mrs. Dees passing a wonderful person and teacher. She meant a lot to me and my family prayers are for the family she lived a good life!!!



Media

Ruby Mae Holliday Dees

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Taylor Funeral Home Of Chattanooga, Inc. shared a video to the GravesideService-RubyDees album.

September 3 at 8:24 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Ruby by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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