



Jerry Elizabeth Tatum

AUG 17, 1943 - MAR 23, 2024



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*Taylor Funeral Home
of Chattanooga, Inc.*

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Jerry Elizabeth Tatum

AUG 17, 1943 - MAR 23, 2024

Jerry Elizabeth Tatum peacefully passed away in her home on March 23, 2024, at 3:30 p.m. with her loving husband by her side after courageously battling illness for over a year. Jerry was born August 17, 1943, to Lula Pearl Jones and was the oldest of five children. She attended Chattanooga public school system. Shortly after graduating Howard High School in 1961, she was joined in holy matrimony with her high school sweetheart, Gueron Coker, and to this union four children were born. As life moved on, she met and married Robert Tatum Sr., her loving and devoted husband of 45 years. He was the ying to her yang, and throughout their marriage they enjoyed traveling and spending time with family. She was an avid exerciser until her illness rendered her unable, and until then he fancied himself as trainer and motivator. Early on, Jerry found employment in the public school system as a teacher's assistant because she wanted to be close to her children as they started school. She went on to work for TVA and afterwards found a special calling when she became a caretaker, then supervised a number of group homes for adults with special needs. She eventually became an administrative assistant before retiring in 2006. She dedicated her life to Christ at an early age. Her faith, while holding to God's unwavering hand throughout her illness, provided her with strength which sustained her until God declared job well done, my good and faithful servant. Jerry developed into a social butterfly as a child when her grandmother (Elizabeth) taught her to play the piano as a way of entertaining guests in their home. The essence of this woman of God exuded class, style, and elegance. As a devoted wife and mother not only did she humbly sacrifice for the good of the family, she fervently prayed and interceded on their behalf as well as others. God fearing, loving, dedicated, thoughtful, protective, tireless provider are just some of the core attributes which laid the foundation for this wonderfully loving woman we called wife, mother, sister, aunt, and friend. The indelible impact that her presence made in our lives will live on



Obituary

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through everyone she touched. She will forever be in our hearts. Preceding Mrs. Tatum in death include her grandparents, Jerry and Elizabeth Jones; mother, Lula Pearl Austin; brother, Rudolph Austin; sisters, Beverly Banks and Ruby Diamond. Those left to cherish her memory include her husband, Robert Tatum Sr., of Chattanooga, TN; sons, Anthony Coker of Savannah, GA, Minister Alan (Felicia) Coker, and Derek Coker of San Francisco, CA; daughter, Kristi (Favorite son-in-law Roderick) Milner of Chattanooga; stepson, Robert Tatum Jr., of Chattanooga; stepdaughter, Nicole Kendricks of Chattanooga; grandchildren, Courtney Benton, Lekeura Coker, Bria Coker, Jacanna Boozer, Maloni and Kelon Kendricks, Robert III and Randy Tatum, all of Chattanooga, Shakara Coker, of Pittsburg, CA, Mia Coker, of Trinity, NC, Antonio Coker, of Madison, WI; great-grandchildren, Jekhai, Peighton, Novah, Mia, Malachi, Courtney Jr., and Zoe; sister, Clara Williams, of Milwaukee, WI; supportive sister-in-law, Dora Coker, of Chattanooga; a host of other supportive in-laws, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Mrs. Tatum will lie-in-state on Saturday, April 6, 2024, from 9-11 a.m. at Taylor Funeral Home. Funeral service will follow at 1:00 p.m. at Antioch Missionary Baptist Church. Burial in Greenwood Cemetery.



Events

Jerry Elizabeth Tatum

AUG 17, 1943 - MAR 23, 2024

Lie-In-State

Saturday, April 6, 2024

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET

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



Service

Saturday, April 6, 2024

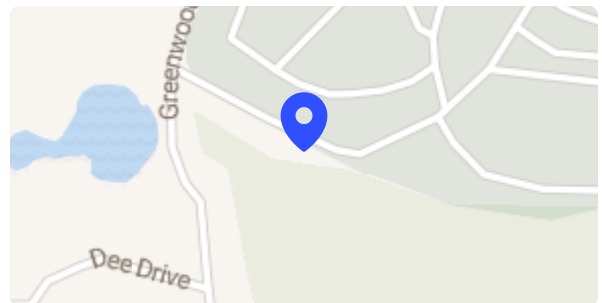
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM ET

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church
901 GW Davis Drive, Chattanooga TN 37411



Cemetery Details

Greenwood Cemetery
1954 Greenwood Road, Chattanooga TN 37406





Tribute Wall

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MK

Maryray L Katsuma posted:

Jerry was my MIL for a short time. We were in Wisc and Jerry in Tenn, but long distance didn't become between us. She loved me even the divorce from her son. She sweet, kind and welcoming to me. The world lost a wonderful woman.

July 9 at 2:13 PM

EL

Earl Lowman lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

My thoughts and prayers are with the family. Earl Lowman, Jacksonville,Florida

April 6 at 2:12 PM



LM

Lois Elder-Mathews posted:

To the family of Sister Tatum, PEACE unto each of you, as Christians, you know that she's in a better place . BLESSINGS LOIS ELDERLois Elder..

April 5 at 8:02 PM

LR

Luella Reed lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

April 5 at 2:54 PM



CS

Catherine Smith lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

My Aunt Jerry was Always an encourager and supporter of family and young people. As a child I was mean and would fight anybody. Jerry use to always tell me I was too sweet and too beautiful to act so ugly. Her words, along with my Mom's switches made a lasting positive impact !!! I will always keep you in my heart!❤️

April 5 at 1:22 PM



AH

Angela Hampton posted:

She was such a gorgeous and beautiful spirit inside out will be missed greatly prayers are with her family with comfort and love always!!!

April 5 at 8:17 AM



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Kelli Darden lit a candle in honor of Jerry.



April 5 at 5:19 AM



Kelli Darden April 5 at 5:22 AM

My prayers and thoughts go to the family especially my classmate and friend Derek May God continue to keep His loving arms around you forever! The journey is real and God will keep you in His care.



Anonymous sent a Serenity Wreath to the Tatum family.



April 4 at 2:17 PM



Ler planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Jerry.



April 4 at 2:17 PM



Love, Yolanda Rayford And Family sent a Lavender Reflections Spray to the Tatum family.



April 4 at 11:04 AM



Patricia Gray lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

"There are no words to relieve the depth of pain and grief that the death of Mrs. Tatum brings. Cherish her memory and the joy she brought to your life. May you gain strength and understanding as the loving memories of her life continue to shine through you and your family." Love, Pat & Herbert Gray



April 4 at 7:55 AM



Tribute Wall

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RU

Reginald Underwood sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Tatum family.

April 4 at 12:51 AM



RU

Reginald Underwood planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Jerry.

April 4 at 12:51 AM



MA

Montez Austin Sr lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

April 3 at 6:39 PM



TK

Tawanna Knowell lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

To my aunt Jerry I love you so much I will miss your voice when i call you and you say heyyy precious that smile only you have even when you didn't have the energy you still would smile I know you're in a better place in your new body no more suffering up there with your mother, father, brother and sisters we my have lost you here on earth but heaven gained another AngelLove Tawanna

April 3 at 6:00 PM



WM

With Much Love, Monica & Mia planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Jerry.

April 3 at 4:50 PM



Anonymous sent an Enchanted Cottage to the Tatum family.

April 3 at 4:50 PM





Tribute Wall

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DS

Debra Sullivan lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

April 3 at 11:24 AM



MC

Mia Coker lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

I love you grandma. I'll cherish every memory we had and hold it dear to my heart.
Miss you

April 3 at 8:42 AM



SC

Shakara Coker lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

I love you forever and more grandma. I'm going to keep our talks and memories forever im grateful to have experienced a love like yours.

April 3 at 8:01 AM



DM

Diane Winston Manley lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

April 3 at 7:16 AM



DC

Derek Coker lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

I will continue to carry thoughts and memories of you with me daily as I've always done. The marathon continues. I love you Eternally.Baby-Son / Derek Coker

April 3 at 6:01 AM



PS

Pastor Herman And Dot Saunders lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

She was such a beautiful, loving and kind Spirit. Definitely an Angel while on earth.
She has earned her Heavenly Wings.

April 2 at 10:02 PM





Tribute Wall

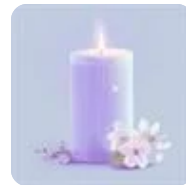
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FL

Felicia Lansden lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

April 2 at 7:19 PM

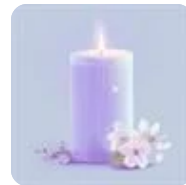


RM

Roderick Milner lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

Love you so much. I am really going to miss you!

April 2 at 3:17 PM

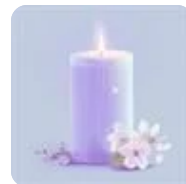


BC

Bria Coker lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

We will always Love You Mudo Always and Forever 🥹

April 2 at 3:15 PM

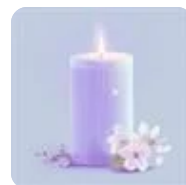


MJ

Monica Jacoby lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

Rest in peace miss Jerry. I thank God that He reconnected us and I got to hug you again. I will miss you. 🙏💜✝️🤝

April 2 at 3:06 PM

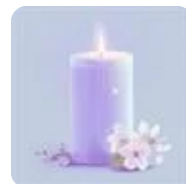


AC

Alan V. Coker lit a candle in honor of Jerry.



April 2 at 2:19 PM



FC

Felicia S. Coker lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

I will miss those talks we have love you Mudo

April 2 at 2:17 PM





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LC

Le'keura Coker lit a candle in honor of Jerry.



April 2 at 2:14 PM



CC

Cardella F Cummings lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

April 2 at 1:18 PM



LM

Lisa Milner lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

April 2 at 6:06 AM



NT

Neva Thurman lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

Praying for the family. Mrs. Jerri was a dear friend. She and her words of wisdom will be missed. Love Neva Hunter Thurman

April 1 at 6:27 PM



KM

Kristi Milner lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

April 1 at 10:32 AM



BS

Brenda F Sims lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

Sincere condolences to the family.

March 31 at 6:14 PM





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Betty Garth lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

March 27 at 7:29 PM



Vincent Robinson lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

March 25 at 8:21 PM



Diane Ellison & Family lit a candle in honor of Jerry.

March 24 at 6:40 PM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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