



Odell Gaines, Jr

MAR 12, 1939 - OCT 2, 2025



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*Taylor Funeral Home
of Chattanooga, Inc.*

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Odell Gaines, Jr

MAR 12, 1939 - OCT 2, 2025

Odell "Jit" Gaines, Jr., took his final bow on October 2, 2025, at the age of 86. He was born March 12, 1939, in Chattanooga, Tennessee. As a Chattanooga youngster, he hit all the high notes at Howard High School, where his tenor voice dazzled in a talent show, almost snagging a record deal! Known for his fancy footwork and great sense of humor, he earned the nickname "Jitterbug" or "Jit" for those in the groove, always making others laugh around him.

After school, he welded his way through life at Ross Mahan Foundry and later US Pipe Foundry, before taking a detour as a delivery driver for Moore and King Pharmacy via Erlanger Hospital.

Preceding him in the grand dance of life were his father, Odell Gaines Sr.; mother, Lina Taylor; grandparents, Andrew and Ida Brown; aunt, Andra Bell Culberson; sister, Billie Jo Gaines; son, Benjamin Gaines; grandson, Robert Eaton.

Carrying on his legacy are Monica (LuFrederick) Lyons of Scottsboro, AL, Odell Gaines III of Kissimmee, FL, Byron (Tiffany) Gaines, Rickey (Sherunda) Davis, Olain (Eunice) Jones, and Mary (Pastor Ronald) Tucker, all of Chattanooga, TN; bonus children, Anthony Warren, R. Michelle White, C. Deborah Collins, and C. Adam Collins III, along with a vibrant crew of grandkids, great-grandsons, cousins, and friends.

Odell will lie-in-state on Thursday, October 16, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at Taylor Funeral Home. Funeral service will follow at 12 noon in the Chapel. Burial in Forest Hills Cemetery.

DIRECTIONS TO LIVESTREAM: Click on the link below.

<https://view.oneroomstreaming.com/index.php?data=MTc2MDM3NDQ2NDE3NzE1NzAmb25lcm9vbS1hZG1pbiZjb3B5X2xpbm91bnQ=>



Events

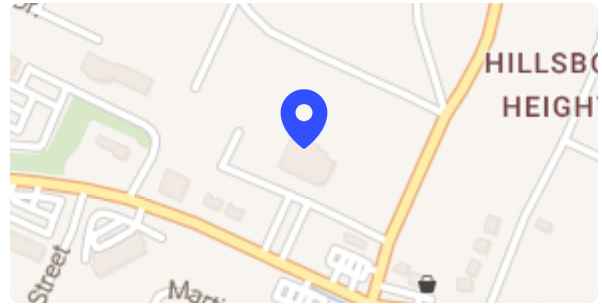
Odell Gaines, Jr
MAR 12, 1939 - OCT 2, 2025

Lie-In-State

Thursday, October 16, 2025

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM ET

Taylor Funeral Home
3417 Wilcox Boulevard, Chattanooga TN 37411-1076

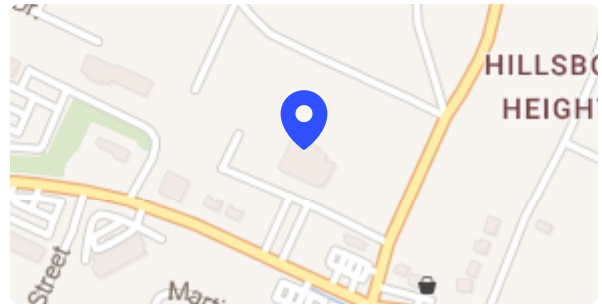


Funeral Service

Thursday, October 16, 2025

12:00 PM ET

Taylor Funeral Home
3417 Wilcox Boulevard, Chattanooga TN 37411-1076

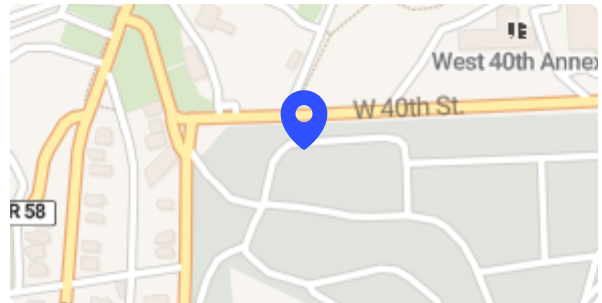


Burial

Thursday, October 16, 2025

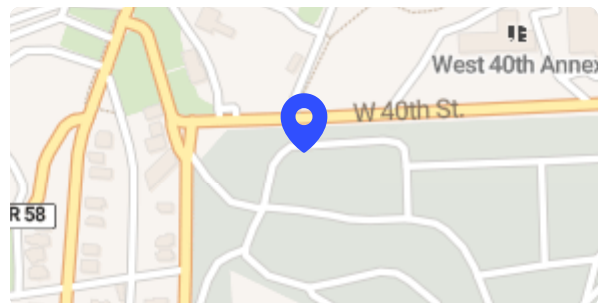
2:00 PM ET

Forest Hills Cemetery
4016 Tennessee Avenue, Chattanooga TN 37409



Cemetery Details

Forest Hills Cemetery
4016 Tennessee Avenue, Chattanooga TN 37409





Tribute Wall

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Katherine Gibbs Garth posted:

I remember Odell Gaines, Jit, working at Erlanger Hospital. Yes, he could hit those high notes, he was known for the James Brown dance (slide), a friendly person and a NEAT dresser. I will remember the family in prayer. Katherine Gibbs Garth

October 11 at 3:39 AM



Julia Smisth lit a candle in honor of Odell.



October 10 at 6:22 AM



Henrietta Erskine posted:

Praying that God will continue to strengthen and keep you all during this difficult season of bereavement. Rev. Henrietta Erskine-SMBC

October 9 at 8:10 AM



Barbara Miller lit a candle in honor of Odell.



October 9 at 8:09 AM



Vickie Fielder lit a candle in honor of Odell.



October 8 at 4:29 PM



Ben And Glenda Morgan lit a candle in honor of Odell.

We are praying and send our condolences to his entire family!



October 8 at 11:25 AM



Tribute Wall

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Connie Gates lit a candle in honor of Odell.



October 8 at 10:27 AM



Hilda Harris Hardaway lit a candle in honor of Odell.



October 7 at 4:37 AM



Cynthia (Mark)Garrett posted:

To The family of Mr. Odell Gaines Lee Garrett (Roommate at NHC) and family will be praying for you. You all have our deepest sympathy. The Garrett family

October 6 at 7:27 AM



M Feefe Johnson October 8 at 12:31 PM
FAMILY, OWR PRAYERS ARE WITH you HOWARD HIGH class 57



Emanuel Turney lit a candle in honor of Odell.



October 5 at 3:57 PM



Angela W Bush lit a candle in honor of Odell.



October 5 at 12:05 PM



Jacqueline Miller Jones lit a candle in honor of Odell.



October 4 at 10:42 AM



Tribute Wall

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LR

L.C. & Pat Reynolds lit a candle in honor of Odell.

October 4 at 5:28 AM



NC

New Horizon Church lit a candle in honor of Odell.

October 4 at 5:10 AM



NF

New Horizon Church Family lit a candle in honor of Odell.

October 4 at 5:09 AM



SS

Sylvia A. Stamper lit a candle in honor of Odell.

October 3 at 9:29 PM



MJ

Michael Jackson lit a candle in honor of Odell.

October 3 at 7:08 PM





Tribute Wall

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Ben And Glenda Morgan lit a candle in honor of Odell.

Prayers and condolences to the entire family. Ben and Glenda Morgan

October 3 at 12:48 PM



M Feefe Johnson October 9 at 6:16 AM

OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH THE FAMILY HOWARD HIGH SCHOOL CLASS 1957



Nettle Wright October 8 at 10:06 AM

Condolences of peace and comfort to the family. Prayers going out to the family.



Memories only last if you share them

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



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