Dessie Ree Boyd was born November 27, 1927 to the union of the late Mabel Anderson Burton and Sid Burton, Sr. in Kemper County, Mississippi. Dessie was one of twelve children, and she played a major role in the upbringing of her younger siblings. She confessed Christ at an early age and was baptized. She attended church regularly and served on the mother board at Mt. Cephus Primitive Baptist Church faithfully. Dessie married the late Lang Boyd on December 22, 1945. Dessie worked as a nanny and housekeeper for more than thirty years. She departed this life on May 11, 2023 peacefully in her home. She was preceded in death by her husband, parents, seven brothers, four sisters, and two grandchildren.

She leaves to cherish her memories: three daughters, Georgia (Alfonso) Larde of Atlanta, GA, Elyondia (Danny) Jones of Macon, MS, and Geraldine (Walter) Loyd of Meridian, MS; one sister-in-law, Christine Burton of Cleveland, OH; nine grandchildren, Dewayne, Pamela, Marco (Danielle), Deena, Alondra, Joslyn (Keosha), Brandi, Kenny (Caroline), and David (Jennifer); a host of great grandchildren, great-great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, great-great nieces and nephews, and other family and friends; a special granddaughter-in-law, Keosha; a special niece, Jackie Castleberry; and a dear friend, Rosie Lee Hopson.