

We Will Miss You

We will miss you—
more than words can say.
Not just today, but every day
your light is not in the room,
and your voice isn't guiding the way.

We'll miss the way you loved out loud,
quiet strength beneath your crown.
The meals you made, the care you gave,
the countless lives you helped to raise.

We'll miss your laugh, your favorite mug,
the way you gave a mother's hug.
Whether we were family or just passed through,
you made room, you made us new.

You worked with hands that never tired,
a heart that healed, a soul inspired.
You walked with God, and now you rest—
but your love still beats within our chest.

We'll miss your presence, soft but bold,
the stories shared, the wisdom told.

But most of all, we'll miss the you
that made us better—stronger, too.
Though heaven called and you obeyed,
your legacy will never fade.

Acknowledgement and Thank You

The family of Annie Ruth Goforth would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude for the many acts of love, kindness, and support shown to us during this time of loss. Your prayers, visits, calls, meals, and comforting words have uplifted our spirits more than words can express.

We especially thank all the ministers who shared words of comfort and those who offered songs of praise that filled the atmosphere with love and reverence. Your presence and participation made this celebration of life truly special. May God continue to bless each of you richly for your compassion and support.

With love,
The Family of Annie Ruth Goforth



“Sympathetic and Efficient Service Since 1922”

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Celebrating the Life of Annie Ruth Byrd Goforth

“MawMaw” and “Wee”



Saturday, September 20, 2025
4:00 p.m.

Lawndale First Baptist Church
129 Douglas Street
Lawndale, North Carolina

Pastor Nicole Pryor, Officiating
White Oak Springs Baptist Church



ORDER OF SERVICE



Prelude	
Processional	
Officiating Minister.....	Pastor Nicole Pryor
Receiving of Friends.....	3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Selection	White Oak Springs International Church Ministries Choir
Scripture Reading	
Old Testament.....	Rev. Albert Hillman
New Testament.....	Pastor Georgiana Hartgrove
Prayer of Comfort.....	Rev. Shannon Wright
Solo.....	Mrs. Mae Dawkins
Selection	White Oak Springs International Church Ministries Choir
Reading of Obituary (silently)	
Remarks (Two Minutes).....	Mrs. Ruth Pryor
	Ms. Dianna Wilson
	Minister Allen Byrd
Church Resolution.....	Ms. Kim Pryor
Words of Comfort.....	Pastor Nicole Pryor
Recessional Selection	

—Interment—
Sunset Cemetery
Shelby, North Carolina

Flower Bearers, Granddaughters
Yaskisha Brantley, Monque Woods, Shonda Thompson,
Chiquita Goforth, Ashley Linder, Shimoda Goforth, Talisha Littlejohn
Alexis Jefferies, Kadaji Goforth

Pall Bearers, Grandsons
Spencer Goforth, Dawson Odoms, Larry Lamar Beam,
Rayshun McDowell, Ryan Thompson, Armani Littlejohn

MRS. ANNIE RUTH GOFORTH

Mrs. Annie Ruth Goforth, affectionately known to her family as "MawMaw" and "Wee", transitioned peacefully at her home in Kingstown, North Carolina on Monday, September 15, 2025. Born on January 1, 1935. She was the daughter of the late Fred Byrd and Louise Blair Byrd.

She received her early education at Douglas School and went on to build a life marked by service, strength, and spiritual devotion. Mother Goforth was a long-standing and faithful member of White Oak Springs Baptist Church, where she served under the late Rev. Bennie Gene Pryor and continued her walk with God under Pastor Nicole Pryor. She retired as a furniture maker from Century Furniture Company, where her hard work and dedication left an imprint—just like her life did in the hearts of so many.

Mother Goforth had a gift for making everyone feel like family. Even if she only had a little, she shared it. And as you prepared to leave, you'd always hear her say, "Come back to see me—don't make it your last time." She loved her coffee—and it had to be in her favorite mug. She could never sit still; always on her feet, always doing something. And if you came home from school and saw her with a rake in her hand, you already knew—you were about to rake some leaves. We may not have liked it back then, but those moments shaped us. She taught her daughters how to cook, how to carry themselves with dignity, and how to love with action, not just words. She poured herself into her family and her community with unwavering love and grace. Her strength was quiet, her love was loud, and her presence was unforgettable.

She was the beloved wife of the late Roy Goforth Sr.. Annie was preceded in death by her children Roylene Goforth, Virginia Hillman, Roy Goforth Jr.; her cherished grandson Markell Littlejohn. She was also preceded in death by her siblings, Fred "Pete" Byrd Jr, Lucille Petty, and Jeanette Grimes of Hickory, NC.

Mother Goforth leaves behind four devoted daughters who carry her strength forward; Deborah Beam of Shelby, NC; Emma Odums of Kingstown, NC; Sarah Linder of Kingstown, NC; and Valesa Littlejohn of Lawndale, NC. She also leaves behind her loving siblings, Frank Byrd of Hickory, NC and Martha Shade of Kingstown, NC, along with a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, church family, neighbors, and friends who were blessed to know her. We will carry your spirit with us. You were truly a woman of God and a blessing to all who knew you, and you will be sorely missed!

