



Celebrating
THE *life* AND *legacy* OF

PALLBEARERS

Family and Friends

FLOWER LADIES

Class of 1968

FINAL RESTING PLACE

Crestwood Memorial Cemetery
2209 E. Broad Street | Gadsden, AL 35903

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Words cannot express our sincere appreciation and gratitude for your prayers, acts of kindness, words of encouragement, phone calls and text messages during the time of sickness and loss of our loved one.

Special Thanks: Amedysis Hospice,
Butterfly In-Home Care, Family and Friends
| The Family |

GOD'S GARDEN

God looked around His garden and found an empty space; He then looked down upon the Earth and saw your smiling face.

God's Garden must be beautiful. He only takes the best; He put His arm around you, and lifted you to rest.

It broke our hearts to lose you
but you didn't go alone.

For part of us went with you the
day God called you home.

Etvy K. Carter

SUNRISE: NOVEMBER 29, 1949 - SUNSET: JULY 8, 2025

TUESDAY | JULY 14, 2025 | 1:00 PM

UNITED CHRISTIAN CHURCH
2818 SANSON AVE. | GADSDEN, ALABAMA 35904

BISHOP WALTER SMITH | OFFICIANT

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO
Gadsden MEMORIAL GARDENS FUNERAL HOME

1318 E BROAD ST. | GADSDEN, AL 35903
P} 256-492-4366 | W} www.gadsdenmemorialfuneralhome.com
ELITE DESIGNS & PRINTING | 404.360.4271



LIFE REFLECTIONS

Precious Memories

In God's special garden, two seedlings grew and blossomed: eventually joining together. From their stem grew fifteen variegated blossoms. One special camellia blossomed on November 29, 1949. The keeper of the garden called this beautiful, brilliant flower, Elvy Kerley. The camellia grew into a sturdy, mature flower enhancing the garden

with her love, guidance, service and support of others. Family, friends and loved ones plucked the petals of gentleness, compassion, humility, quiet strength, generosity, loving nurturing spirit for others from the camellia.

Elvy loved God with all her heart and lived a life that was definitely a reflection of his character. She was baptized into the Catholic faith at St. Martin de Porres Church. In 1991, under the leadership of Apostle Maurice K. Wright, she became a member of United Christian Church. It was here (at United Christian Church - UCC) where she blossomed in her faith and service to God.

Elvy attended Carver High School and Jacksonville State University. She was an Elementary Education School Teacher with Gadsden City Schools System for many years. She had a passion for education and teaching the youth.

Elvy was united in marriage to Nathan Lewis Carter in 1968 and from this union three seedlings sprouted: Dana Nicole Carter, Jennifer Lynn Carter and Nathan Thomas Carter; grandchildren, Ariel Williams, Sydnie Williams, Maleah Carter and Mallory Carter; and great-grandchildren, Noah Harvey, Bryan Gauthier, Brynlee Gauthier and Adaleya Steward.

Elvy loved her family, cooking (making her famous vegetable soup and special crackers), entertaining, and spending time with her sisters on Sista-days. She also loved teaching and serving the youth both in Education and in Ministry. She also had a special love caring for the people through prayer and the ministry of encouragement.

Elvy, "The Camellia", graciously began to fade. She bowed her petals in a humble adoration to God on Tuesday evening, July 8, 2025. With a silent, sweet ingress, God sent an angel to claim His Camellia. Slowly and gently death gave way to victory, and she took her place in God's heavenly garden.

Elvy was preceded in death by her parents, Horace and Grace Kerley. God has chosen ten other blossoms from the garden: Juanita K. Wilson, Horace Kerley, Jr., Annie R. Fears, Emma D. Kerley, William F. Kerley, Charles Kerley, Ernest Ralph Kerley, Lorraine DeRamus, James W. Kerley and Virginia D. Clark. There are other beautiful blossoms left on the stem: Helen Kerley, John (Annie) Kerley, Angela Kerley-Reid, and Josephine E. Kerley.

She leaves to mourn her husband, Nathan Carter; sisters-in-law, Lurene Kerley and Helen Kerley, Helen Carter, Luella Wright, Mattie (Anthony) Smith, Gail (Jimmie) Ammons and brother-in-law, Billy Ray Carter; special cousins; Jackie (Xavier) Davis, Melecia Pointer, Kathy Tuck, and Syliva Craig and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and other relatives.



ORDER OF SERVICE

Bishop Walter Smith | Officiant

Processional.....Soft Music

Musical Selection.....Epiphany Cherry

Scriptures:

Old Testament.....Minister Stanley Williams

New Testament.....Apostle Diane Cylar

Prayer.....Pastor John Kerley

Musical Selection.....Epiphany Cherry & Rodney Johnson

Words of Encouragement.....Pastor Steve Smith

Expressions (Two Minutes)Family & Friend

Solo..... Rodney Johnson

Eulogy.....Pastor Walter Smith

Recessional