

## *I am Free*

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,  
I'm following paths God made for me  
I took his hand I heard him call  
Then turned, and bid farewell to all*

*I could not stay another day  
To laugh, to love, to sing, to play  
Tasks left undone must stay that way  
I found my peace... at close of play*

*And if my parting left a void  
Then fill it with remembered joy  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss  
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.*

*Be not burdened... deep with sorrow  
I wish you sunshine of tomorrow  
My life's been full I've savoured much  
Good friends, good times  
A loved one's touch*

*Perhaps my time seemed all too brief  
Don't lengthen it now with grief  
Lift up your hearts and share with me,  
God wants me now...He set me free.*

## *Pallbearers*

Friends of the Family

## *Flower Attendants*

Friends of the Family

## *Interment*

Restlawn South Memorial Park  
3201 Moncrief Road West  
Jacksonville, Florida 32208

## *An Offering of Thanks*

We, the family of Wonda Dorese Gordon, extend our heartfelt gratitude from the depths of our shared sorrow and the heights of our enduring love. Thank you for every whispered prayer, every held hand, every sacred memory spoken aloud. In the tender ache of goodbye, you have been our strength.

In the celebration of her life, you have been our joy. She walked with grace, spoke with light, and loved with a fire that does not flicker in death. Today, as we rise to remember her, we are lifted by the outpouring of your love. May God bless you for blessing us. May her spirit meet you in the sunlight, in laughter and in peace.

*With Unwavering Thanks,  
The Family*

**Q.L. DOUGLAS**  
FUNERAL HOME

QUINTON L. DOUGLAS, L.F.D.I.C.

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CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF



**WONDA**  
DORESE  
*Gordon*

SUNRISE  
MAY 28, 1968

SUNSET  
APRIL 17, 2025

**Saturday | April 26, 2025 | 11:00AM**

**Gateway to Heaven Christian Church**

7700 North Pearl Street | Jacksonville, Florida 32208

Pastor Carlton Jones, Presiding | Pastor Walter Johnson, Officiating



Wonda Dorese Gordon was born in Jacksonville, Florida on May 28, 1968, to the parents of Walter Gordon and Doris Jean Johnson. There are some lives so richly lived, so deeply loved, and so profoundly impactful that even in their earthly goodbye, they continue to speak in spirit, in strength and in joy. Such was the life of Wonda Dorese Gordon, a woman of true grace, grit and purpose.

A proud graduate of Andrew Jackson Senior High School, Class of 1986, Wonda walked boldly into the world as a leader. Her career spanned decades, where she rose through the ranks as a trusted management professional and supervisor, guiding teams across the First Coast with integrity, determination and an unflinching belief in the dignity of hard work. Wonda didn't just manage; she led with her heart and wisdom.

Her life was one of resilience and restoration, a testament to triumph even in the face of tragedy. She carried loss with quiet grace, never dimming her light. She turned pain into purpose and sadness into service, always keeping her family close, her faith strong and her spirit gentle.

Baptized at Greater Israel United Missionary Baptist Church, Wonda held fast to her belief in God. Her faith wasn't performative, it was powerful, it was the quiet prayer in the storm, the soft smile of encouragement or the kind word to the stranger. It was how she loved, fully, freely and without condition.

Whether gathered at reunions, birthdays, or just everyday moments that made life sweet, Wonda's family was her crown. She was a grounding force and the heartbeat of her family, making sure everyone felt seen, loved and connected.

To know Wonda was to know her unconditional love and support despite adversity. Her laughter and presence lifted spirits while her kindness calmed storms. Her memory will live on, in every laugh around the dinner table, every word of wisdom passed down and every act of love done in her name.

Today, we do not mourn without hope, but we celebrate a life that meant something. A life that mattered and a life that reminded us that no matter the trial, we can always rise. She is now reunited in heaven with her mother: Doris Jean “Nell” Johnson; father: Walter “Ted” Gordon; beloved daughter: Ashley Nicole Gordon and her devoted grandmother: Berthola Ross-Johnson and we know heaven saw a joyful reunion.

Wonda leaves behind a legacy of love in her children: Jamal Shabazz and John Beasley; cherished grandchildren: Jamal Shabazz, Jr., Carnell Gordon, Ar'mya Gordon and Paris Beasley; devoted siblings: Brenda Johnson, Rebecca Thornton (Tyrone), Scarlett Johnson (Anthony) and Tony F. Gordon; uncles: Louis Johnson (Alethia), Elmer Johnson (Arlis), Frank Johnson (Enola), Hayden Tukes and Gregory Gordon and special aunt: Willena Williams and many nieces, nephews, cousins and dear friends.



## Processional

## Musical Selection

## Prayer of Comfort

Pastor Carlton Jones

## Scripture Reading

Old Testament: Ecclesiastes 3: 9-13

Pastor of GTHCC

New Testament: 2 Corinthians 4: 16-18

Pastor of GTHCC

## Expressions

### As a Family Member

Dr. Rahman Johnson

## As a Classmate

Helen Head

## As a Friend

## Acknowledgments & Resolutions

## Sister Iris Jones

## Solo

Donesha Veira

## Words of Comfort

Pastor Walter Johnson

## Recessional

*Rest well, Wonda. You've run your race.  
You've kept the faith. You've earned your crown.*