

Life Journey

Veleka Michelle McLean the daughter of Mary Roseboro Smith, and the late Cal Eli McLean, Sr., was born on October 13, 1971, in Lincoln County, North Carolina. She transitioned on Saturday, April 26, 2025, at CaroMont Health in Gastonia, North Carolina.

Veleka graduated from Lincolnton High School, Class of 1989. She was an employee for Broadlight Health.

Veleka McLean, known to many simply as “Mama,” was a woman full of heart, strength, and unforgettable character. With a voice that blended Southern charm and proper grace, she had a way of making everyone feel at home. People naturally gravitated toward her for advice, comfort, or just a good laugh—many of which she gave without even trying, thanks to her unintentionally hilarious personality.

She was the kind of woman who stood firm in who she was. Real, honest, and sharp enough to see through anything fake, Veleka stayed true to herself and always spoke from the heart. She was deeply loyal, deeply loving, and deeply respected by all who knew her.

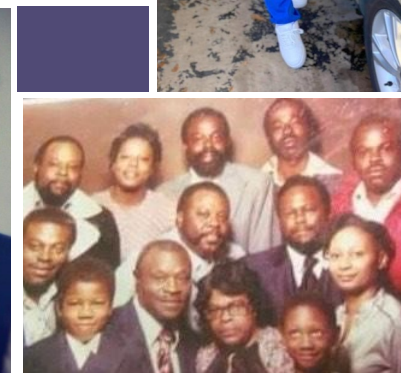
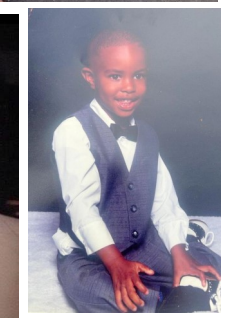
Veleka loved her Carolina Panthers, was a loyal fan of Sprite (you’d think she was sponsored), and had a special place in her heart for E & J Soul Food, KFC, fresh fruit, and movie nights. But more than anything, she loved her two sons—Eddie Rosa and Xavier McLean and dedicated her life to making sure they were cared for, protected, and loved.

She worked hard, never stopped hustling, and always found a way to lift others up—even when she had her own battles to fight. Her strength was unmatched, and her selflessness shined through in every part of her life.

To know Veleka was to love her. She was a mother to many, a friend to all, and the kind of person who left a lasting mark on your heart. Her memory continues to inspire love, laughter, and authenticity.

In addition to her father, she was preceded in death by her stepfather, Bobby Joe Smith, a brother, Cal Eli McLean, Jr. and a stepbrother, Bobby Smith.

She leaves to cherish fond and loving memories in the hearts of her sons, Xavier McLean, Eddie Rosa, III both of the home; her mother, Mary Smith of Lincolnton, NC; four sisters, Carlissa Patterson (Steffon) of Phenix City, AL; Artie Stover, Robin Littlejohn (Eddie) all of Lincolnton, NC; Mickie Smith of Denver, NC; two brothers, Gary Morrison (Ky) of Newton, NC; Apostle Preston Dean Smith (Sherry) of Iron Station, NC; two aunts, Phyllis Foster (Cliff) of Denver, NC; Betty Jo Whitworth of Lincolnton, NC; one great aunt, Petronia Abbott of Lincolnton, NC; sisters-in-love, Monica McLean, Sylvia Smith, a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.



Order of Service

Prophetess Debra Williams, Officiating Minister

Prelude	
Processional	Clergy and Family
Receiving of Family and Friends	1:30pm - 2:00pm
Call to Worship	Prophetess Debra Williams
Selection	"God Said He Would Make It Alright" Sarah Johnson & Combined Choirs
Old Testament Reading	Minister Wanda Cates
New Testament Reading	Dr. Donald Gray
Prayer of Comfort	Rev. Michael Hill
Selection	" You Know My Name" Combined Choirs
Remarks	Stephanie Witherspoon Lisa Lisa, Class of 1989 Prophetess Debra Williams
Resolution	
Selection	"Spirit" Evangelist Sherry Smith
Eulogy	Apostle Preston Dean Smith
Recessional	Combined Choirs

Committal/Interment
Hollybrook Cemetery
Lincolnton, North Carolina

Floral Bearers
Nieces and Classmates

Pall Bearers
Nephews and Classmates

WHEN I GO

When I go
don't learn to live without me
just learn to live with my love
in a different way.

And if you need to see me
close your eyes
or look in your shadow
when the sun shines

I'm there.

Sit with me in the quiet and you will know
that I did not leave.

There is no leaving when a soul is blended
with another.

When I go
don't learn to live without me
just learn to look for me in the moments.

I will be there.

—Donna Ashworth, from 'LOSS'

Acknowledgement

The family of Veleka Michelle McLean wishes to express our sincere thanks and gratitude for the many comfortable acts of kindness and sympathy shown during the passing of our loved one.

Service of Comfort Provided by:

Ebony & White's Funeral Service, Inc.

1139 E. Pine Street | Lincolnton, NC 28093 | Phone: 704-732-1041

"Dedicated To Those We Serve"

www.ebonyandwhitesfuneralserviceinc.com



Celebration of Life for Veleka Michelle McLean

October 13, 1971 – April 26, 2025

Saturday, May 3, 2025
2:00 PM

Providence Missionary Baptist Church
Lincolnton, North Carolina
Rev. Michael Hill, Pastor