



## Grandma

*With the gift of years  
Comes the treasure of knowing  
That there are many who love you dearly.*

*The memories you've made with us will last forever  
The tenderness you've shared with us will never fade.*

*The most wonderful gift you could ever give  
Is the special part of you  
That now lives in each of us.*

*And the truth your love has taught us  
Can only be strengthened by the gift of time.*

*For where roots grow deep  
memories grow forever.*

*We love you and will miss you Grandma,  
Love your Grandchildren & Great Grandchildren*



## Pallbearers

Cousins and Nephews

## Honorary Pallbearers

Thomas L. Braxton  
Reginald Webb  
Keonté Braxton  
Devion Braxton  
RaeKwon Braxton

Timothy L. Braxton, Sr.  
Jo'Vahn Braxton  
Dimeon Dunlap, Jr.  
Marty "Tre" Woods, III  
RaKim Braxton

## Flower Bearers

Deija Short  
Erica Bills  
Tamika Langston

Quanda Johnson  
Melinda Kallon  
Sister of Christ Temple Church

## Honorary Flower Bearers

Angela Moore  
RayShonda Caldwell  
Kierra Robinson  
Monique Braxton  
Ravien Porter

Rachel Jackson  
Daphne Webb  
Danuyelle Webb  
Amber Braxton  
Petrina Braxton

## Interment

Hillcrest Memory Gardens  
Spencer, Oklahoma

*Please drive with your lights on for safety and fasten your seat belts.*

## Acknowledgement

The family wishes to express it's sincere gratitude for all your prayers and loving acts and expressions of sympathy shown to us during the passing of our Queen. Please know it has not gone unnoticed. With grateful hearts we praise God for you. May God Bless you all.

- The Braxton Family

SERVICES UNDER THE DIRECTION OF  
TEMPLE AND SONS FUNERAL DIRECTORS, INC.  
2801 North Kelley Avenue  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73111  
Phone: 405-427-8321

"We Care"

Diamond Printing & Publishing, Inc.



*In Loving Memory*

*of  
First Lady Esther Braxton*



*Sunrise*

*April 28, 1950*

*Sunset*

*December 31, 2019*

*Services*

*Monday, January 6, 2020 - 11:00 a.m.*

*Temple & Sons Funeral Directors, Inc.*

*Earl M. Temple Memorial Chapel*

*2801 North Kelley Avenue*

*Oklahoma City, Oklahoma*

*Pastor Evelyn Anderson - Officiating*

## Obituary

First Lady Esther Deloris Braxton was born as Esta Delorse Terry to Willie Mae and Roosevelt Terry on April 28, 1950 in Harris, Oklahoma. She was the only child to this union. Sometime after Esther was born, the family moved to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Esther's grandmother Gertha Jones-Hall (Williams) whom she called Mama was very instrumental in her life. She helped raise her into the wonderful woman she was.

Esther met the love of her life Darryl W. Braxton, Sr. at her best friend Betty Craig's wedding. Betty married Darryl's brother Barry Braxton, Sr. Esther and Darryl fell in love and married on June 17, 1972. To this union were 6 children; 4 boys and 2 girls.

Esther graduated from Douglass High School in 1968. Upon graduation, she continued her studies at Langston Univeristy in 1968. Transferring to OU attending 1968-1970. She also attended Oklahoma Southern Christian University in 1980, where she received an Associates in Business. Esther continued her education from 1998-1999 at the University of Phoenix, receiving her Bachelor's in Instruction Information Tech. In 2005, she received a Master's Degree from Oklahoma University in Administration. Esther was big on education and pushed her children and grandchildren to follow suit.

Esther was employed with the State of Oklahoma serving 40 years. Starting with the University of Oklahoma in the records department from 1969-1970, the Oklahoma Tax Commission from 1978-1979, State Department of Education from 1981-2011, and her remaining years as an Computer Programmer for the State of Oklahoma 2011-2016. She also worked in the Office of the Management and Enterprise Services.

Esther's favorite quote was, *"Always live according to God's Word."* January 1965, Esther received the gift of the Holy Ghost and was baptized by Elder Arnett Bryant, Sr. She served the Lord faithfully, from Sunday School Teacher to First Lady. Everyone she met knew her heart for Christ. She was a Prayer Warrior. Her children and grandchildren would continually talk about how she served and carried herself. She was a perfect example of how to love, care, support and forgive.

Esther was preceded in death by her grandmother, Gertha Jones-Hall (Williams); her father, Roosevelt Terry; her mother, Willie Mae Carter; her 2 sons, Gregory W. Braxton and Darryl W. Braxton, Jr. (Edell); and a host of aunts and uncles.

Esther leaves to cherish her memories, her husband Darryl W. Braxton, Sr. of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; four children: Lola Braxton-Webb (Reginald) of Blue Springs, Missouri; Thomas (Ebony) Braxton; Timothy (Petrina) Braxton, Sr. and Nicola Braxton, all of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; 20 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren, and a great grandchild on the way. Ulysses MaGee her only living aunt; a host of brothers and sisters-in-law; cousins, that were like her siblings, nieces, nephews; and a tribe that called her mom and grandmother because she always filled the gap.

## Order of Service

- Prelude
- Processional ..... Clergy, Funeral Directors, Family
- Officiant ..... Pastor Evelyn Anderson
- Congregational Song ..... "When We All Get To Heaven"
- Opening Prayer ..... Reverend Pascal Townsend, Sr.
- Old Testament Scripture Reading ..... Psalm 107: 1-8
- New Testament Scripture Reading ..... Thessalonians 4: 13-18
- First Lady Esther's Favorite Song ... "I'm Free, Praise The Lord I'm Free"  
Na'Ron Hamilton
- Resolutions and Acknowledgements ..... Minister Charlotte Donahue
- Reading of the Obituary ..... Read Silently
- Special Remarks requested by First Lady Braxton ... Sister Audrey Gaines  
Sister Mary Carter
- Special Remarks ..... Jo'Vahn Braxton  
Grandchildren & Great Grandchildren
- Special Remarks ..... Her Children
- Special Remarks from her Honey ..... Card Read
- Words of Comfort by her Best Friend ..... Pastor Evelyn Anderson
- Video Tribute
- Parting View ..... Temple & Sons Funeral Directors
- Song ..... "Take Me To The King"
- Recessional ..... Clergy, Funeral Directors, Family



### Heaven Needed You Mom

*So many things of mom we will miss  
Her gentle hugs and her tender kiss  
We still can feel her warm embrace  
And picture yet her loving face*

*A mother's tasks are never done  
And our brothers in Heaven must have needed one  
For they came as Angels and took her hand  
And led her to God's promised land*

*She's surely kept quite busy there  
While catching up on everyone  
Making sure to see the sights  
She was so excited with the Bright City Lights*

*Although there's sadness, this we know  
She's waiting there, her face aglow  
Saying don't cry for me cause Heaven is my home  
You my children live right for Christ  
So you too can make Heaven your home*

*Her arms open wide for us  
With that beautiful smile  
Heaven needed you mom  
We will see you again*

Love -  
Lola, Tommy, Timmy, Nikki