



Mrs. Dorothy Thomas

August 8, 1942 - May 11, 2021

Mrs. Dorothy Thomas, age 78, a resident of Montgomery, Alabama passed on May 11, 2021. Funeral services will held Tues. May 18, 2021 @ 1pm. At the Lighthouse Baptist Church in Millbrook, Alabama. Hillside Memorial and Gardens directing.

On the beautiful day of August 8, 1942, in Walker Springs, Alabama, Dorothy Louise Portis was born...the fifth of nine siblings born to Vivian and Mamie King Portis. Dorothy was affectionately known as "Dot" to her family and friends. Her infectious smile and kind spirit were experienced by all touched by her life. On Tuesday May 11th, 2021, she was called to her heavenly home. Confessing Christ at an early age, Dorothy was baptized at St. Luke Baptist Church in Walker Springs, AL. Her loyalty continued as she was instrumental in raising revenue for the new addition of the church. Later she became a member of Southlawn Baptist Church in Montgomery, AL. Dorothy's early education began at St. Luke School in Walker Springs, AL, and Harper High School in Jackson, AL. Matriculating at Alabama State University, both Mobile and Montgomery campuses, she received her Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education. Her Master's degree was conferred by Troy University.

As the loving and devoted wife of Willie Thomas, and adoring mother of Waldron Jared Thomas, Dorothy embarked upon the working world. She

returned to her Alma Mater Harper High as a physical education teacher, where she had the unique experience of working with teachers that had taught her. Upon moving to Montgomery, AL, she taught physical education at Cloverdale Jr. High School. Dorothy taught and coached various sports at Jefferson Davis High School in Montgomery, AL. until her retirement. She was named Coach of the Year and was admired and respected by her students and fellow teachers as a winning coach. Dorothy was a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, and served as undergraduate Advisor of the Auburn University Chapter. She enjoyed traveling, cooking, sewing, exercising, dressing in-style, dancing, and she made the most menial task look glamorous. Daughter, wife, mother, sister, aunt, teacher, friend...in any role she undertook, she gave her all. Preceded in death are her parents, Vivian and Mamie King Portis, a sister, Betty Hosey, a brother, Oliver Spears, nephews Ernest Spears, Oliver Spears, Jr., Darryl Hosey, and a great-nephew Oliver Harris. Fond and loving memories of Dorothy are cherished by husband Willie Thomas and son Waldron Jared Thomas of Montgomery, AL; sisters Kathryn (Clifton) Anderson of Tuscaloosa, AL; Rose (Ervin) Kinsey of Gardena, CA; Sylvia (Troy) Collins of Rancho Cucamonga, CA; and brothers Robert (Ruth) Spears of Oakland, CA; Vivian (Bonita) Portis, Jr. of Montgomery, AL; Ronnie (Diane) Portis of Fort Wayne, IN; sister-in-law Helen Spears of Grand Rapids, MI; sister-in-law Lois (Mike) Waters of Elmore, AL; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Cemetery Details

Wetumpka City Cemetary

North Bridge st
Wetumpka, AL 36092

Previous Events

Funeral Service

MAY 18. 1:00 PM (CT)

Lighthouse Baptist Church
2281 main st
millbrook, AL 36092

Burial

MAY 18. 2:00 PM (CT)

Wetumpka City Cemetary
North Bridge st
Wetumpka, AL 36092

Tribute Wall

LW

“ *Mrs Thomas was my third grade science teacher at Tallassee Elementary School in Tallassee. I loved her dearly. She was sweet and fun and interesting. I've never forgotten her. I'm so sorry to hear she passed away.*



Lisa Wilson - January 20, 2023 at 01:26 AM

HS

“ *Hattie Sampson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dorothy Thomas*



Hattie Sampson - May 23, 2021 at 11:16 PM

HS

My condolence to the family. Hattie Andrews Sampson (Sister Dear Jackson, AL.)

Hattie Sampson - May 23, 2021 at 11:18 PM

LG

“ Coach Thomas I am forever grateful for all the love and support you gave me! As you get laid to rest today my heart is broken but I know you are safe in his arms... I have so many fond memories of you on and off the court... this pic was the last time that I saw you... You said Kesha Green I'm still shocked you pledged Delta I taught you better than that 😭 Coach Thomas had me in every pageant there was to be in... She told well at least you got the school right ASU but you will always be my favorite Delta now ❤️ I could go on and on... Coach you taught me how to lead and be a lady on and off the court... I love you and until we meet again Rest In Peace Coach Dorothy Thomas the first AKA I ever loved ❤️💔

Lakesha green - May 18, 2021 at 10:48 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Dorothy Thomas.



May 18, 2021 at 04:01 PM

JS

“ Love you Auntie you will always be in my heart.

Juan Spears - May 18, 2021 at 02:11 PM

ML

“ If it were not for Coach Thomas I never would have chosen to attend Tuskegee University. She saw something in us that no other coach in my life saw in me prior to this decision. I thank her dearly for her guidance and her shine. She's a legend and will be sorely missed! Sending love and condolences to DT and the rest of the family...

Michael Landrum

Michael Landrum - May 18, 2021 at 02:00 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Dorothy Thomas.



May 18, 2021 at 01:25 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Dorothy Thomas.



May 17, 2021 at 11:33 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mrs. Dorothy Thomas.



May 17, 2021 at 08:08 PM

LH

“ Coach Thomas was one of the sweetest women I've known and she walked a mile about as fast as speedy Gonzalez! She told me if I can still walk I can always maintain my figure lol... God has definitely called a sweet sweet spirit home. Sending my most sincere love and condolences to the family... hopefully I made someone smile 🌸💚💖



LaDarrian Hayles - May 17, 2021 at 06:22 PM

LG

Coach Thomas I am forever grateful for all the love and support you gave me! As you get laid to rest today my heart is broken but I know you are safe in his arms... I have so many fond memories of you on and off the court... this pic was the last time that I saw you... You said Kesha Green I'm still shocked you pledged Delta I taught you better than that 😭 Coach Thomas had me in every pageant there was to be in... She told well at least you got the school right ASU but you will always be my favorite Delta now ❤️ I could go on and on... Coach you taught me how to lead and be a lady on and off the court... I love you and until we meet again Rest In Peace Coach Dorothy Thomas the first AKA I ever loved ❤️💔

Lakesha green - May 18, 2021 at 10:05 PM

LG

Coach Thomas I am forever grateful for all the love and support you gave me! As you get laid to rest today my heart is broken but I know you are safe in his arms... I have so many fond memories of you on and off the court... this pic was the last time that I saw you... You said Kesha Green I'm still shocked you pledged Delta I taught you better than that 😭 Coach Thomas had me in every pageant there was to be in... She told well at least you got the school right ASU but you will always be my favorite Delta now ❤️ I could go on and on... Coach you taught me how to lead and be a lady on and off the court... I love you and until we meet again Rest In Peace Coach Dorothy Thomas the first AKA I ever loved ❤️💔

Lakesha green - May 18, 2021 at 10:06 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Dorothy Thomas.*



May 17, 2021 at 05:09 PM



“ *Condolences to the family of Mrs. Dorothy Thomas. My heart is broken. I truly loved her. I would like to thank her husband and son for sharing their wife and mother with me. Mrs. Thomas was more than a "teacher" she was an "Educator". She really cared about her students. She was loving, and kind. God blessed her with a talent of teaching, and she used her talents that God gave her to be a positive role model to all of her students under her guidance. She was encouraging, uplifting and inspiring. I thank God for allowing me to have had the opportunity to had Mrs. Thomas at Cloverdale and Jeff Davis.*



DEBORAH LEWIS - May 17, 2021 at 01:24 PM



“ *Lee Dobyne and Family purchased the Pretty Pleasure for the family of Mrs. Dorothy Thomas.*



Lee Dobyne and Family - May 17, 2021 at 10:55 AM

JK

“ *A wonderful neighbor and beautiful person.
Dot will be missed and our heartfelt prayers
go out to Willie and Jared.
The Knights
Jackie, Tammy and Tee*



Jackie Knight - May 17, 2021 at 10:31 AM

PM

*Dot was a beautiful neighbor and Soror. She had an infectious smile
and laugh. She will be missed by her Woodcrest neighbors.
Condolences to Jared and Willie.*

Paulette Moncrief - May 17, 2021 at 10:59 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the
family of Mrs. Dorothy Thomas.*



May 17, 2021 at 10:01 AM

 Daneta
Parker

“ *Prayers for the family, Coach Thomas was a valuable asset when I
attended JD. Her smile and personality was one of a kind.
#WeAreJD C/O 99*

Daneta Parker - May 17, 2021 at 09:38 AM



“ *Aunt Dot was always a bright light on our visits. We will miss her. Love always Marti, Ariana, and Amaya*



Martinique Waters - May 17, 2021 at 07:48 AM



“ *Rest in peace..best volleyball coach ever! C/O 94. She was such a sweet lady! My condolences to the family.*

Keshay Edwards - May 17, 2021 at 01:07 AM



“ *Rip Coach Thomas #weareJD*



jasonjohnson - May 16, 2021 at 11:24 PM



“ *My condolences and prayers are with the family. Coach Thomas was a Sweet and Beautiful woman may her Smile light up Heaven Shankena Johnson C/O '94*

Shankena - May 16, 2021 at 10:22 PM

IJ

“ I never ever seen Mrs. Thomas without a smile. She was one most loving people ever. I loved Mrs. Thomas . She was another Woodcrest mom who loved all of us dearly. She will be dearly missed .

isaac James - May 16, 2021 at 08:15 PM

EW

“ Ethelyn Williams lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dorothy Thomas



Ethelyn Williams - May 16, 2021 at 07:02 PM

EW

Praying for the Thomas Family. 🙏

Ethelyn Williams - May 16, 2021 at 07:03 PM

RB

“ Rosetta Benson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dorothy Thomas



Rosetta Benson - May 16, 2021 at 05:57 PM

PD

“ *Such a wonderful volleyball coach and Woodcrest neighbor..Rest in Peace*



Pamela D.Johnson - May 16, 2021 at 05:56 PM

CW

“ *Coach Thomas, you're truly going to be missed. Thank you for all the wonderful memories playing volleyball at Jeff Davis.*

Carolyn Smith Williams - May 16, 2021 at 05:44 PM

CH

“ *Carla Herbert-Lewis lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dorothy Thomas*



Carla Herbert-Lewis - May 16, 2021 at 05:42 PM

JP

“ *My prayers and condolences to the family and she will be well missed. My favorite teacher that I had*

James "Jimmy " Perry - May 16, 2021 at 05:37 PM

DW

“ Condolences to the Thomas and Portis families. You are in my heart and thoughts at this time. I hope you always hold onto the warm and wonderful memories you shared together, and that they continue to bring you comfort and peace. Dot will be missed by her sorority sisters and remain in our hearts. 💕💕
Much Love!💕 Debra Burroughs Whitfield (Your Twin)



Debra Burroughs Whitfield - May 16, 2021 at 02:06 PM

LB

“ Lin and Mary Bailey purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mrs. Dorothy Thomas.



Lin and Mary Bailey - May 16, 2021 at 12:40 PM

PM

“ I remember being flower girl at your wedding and I think of your beauty and grace. I was blessed to have you as a cousin. When I think of you I will think of the unconditional love you showed me. Rest in paradise.

Phyllis Martin - May 15, 2021 at 01:54 PM

LT

“ My heart is so heavy today. My sister-in-law, Dot, who was like a sister to me, received her angel wings on Tuesday. Her smile was infectious, one of those smiles that you didn't forget once you met her. Please keep the loves of her life, Husband, Willie, son, Jared, and her family in prayer.

Lois Thomas-Waters - May 15, 2021 at 11:29 AM

DS

“ You were always so kind and generous to me everytime I came to visit!! You are going to truly be missed and words can't express the sorrow and pain that I'm feeling in my heart truly going to miss u!!
Love you, cousin Dallas



Dallas Portis Sr. - May 14, 2021 at 06:58 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Dorothy Thomas.



May 14, 2021 at 06:46 PM

KH

“ Condolences to the family. Sorry to hear of my friend Dot P's demise. Will always cherish our friendship and precious memories. You made an everlasting, positive impact on all you encountered. You will be greatly missed by your sorority sisters and forever in our hearts. “Keep Dancing.” Katrina Howard

Katrina Howard - May 14, 2021 at 06:07 PM

SJ

“ I am sending my condolences to my Uncle Willie and Jared for the lost of my Auntie Dot this beautiful sole is welcome to heaven with her grand smile and hugs. RIH queen.



Sheila M Jackson - May 14, 2021 at 05:49 PM

MF

“ With deepest sympathy to the Thomas and Portis families, may the Lord comfort you in this time of sorrow.

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Dinkins and family

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Dinkins and family - May 14, 2021 at 05:01 PM



“ Benetta Eutsey lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dorothy Thomas



Benetta Eutsey - May 14, 2021 at 03:40 PM

BR

“ Bonita Robinson-Portis lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dorothy Thomas



Bonita Robinson-Portis - May 14, 2021 at 03:02 PM

FT

“ My dear Aunt Dot may your soul rest in peace. Thanks for all the LOVE Laughter, and JOY you shared with so many through your smile, sprit, and personality. You will be truly missed LOVE YOU ALWAYS. Much love to you Uncle Willie, Jared and the rest of the family. May God Bless.

Love, Fred Jr.

Frederick Thomas - May 13, 2021 at 01:24 PM

JL

My sincere condolences to the family.

Jessye Marye Bettis Law

Jessye Law - May 13, 2021 at 08:26 PM

CW

Auntie Dot was one of the sweetest people in the world. She was such a genuine, sincere, and passionate soul, among many things. She was truly a beautiful person inside and out. I will miss that million dollar smile, her big hugs, & her warmth above all. Saying goodbye is always hard to do but I'm thankful she's at peace and in a better place. I love you Auntie and I'm sending all my love and condolences to Uncle Willie and the family. God bless y'all!

-Cameron Washington

Cameron Washington - May 13, 2021 at 08:46 PM

AR

My Aunt Dot was so loving. She loved her family and she showed it by spending time with her family. She was also loved at the school where she coached. I remember her being strong spirited, tough, and gentle at the same time.... The time she made for her family sticks out to me the most, she took time just for me too, made me feel special. I am happy she is no longer suffering. To ALL my family, my sympathy and empathy is with you, so is my love, and so is the love Aunt Dot leaves with us all. I will never forget that beautiful smile of hers either.

Adria Reynolds - May 14, 2021 at 02:22 AM

CK

We lift the family up in prayer as we mourn the loss of our beloved family member, Dot.

We love you and we will miss you and your wonderful personality

Your cousin

Charles (Denise) King

Charles H King - May 15, 2021 at 01:54 PM

JE

Coach Thomas was my high school coach and a wonderful person with a huge smile. She helped get volleyball and basketball started for the girls at Jeff Davis High School. What great memories I have of her. We are lifting all her family in prayer. Jaci Chambers Eckell (Class of 1976)

Jaci Chambers Eckell - May 17, 2021 at 01:13 PM