



Carolyn Ayres

October 21, 1949 - February 22, 2018

Reflection of Life

Carolyn Louise Collins was born to the late Louise Carrie Collins (Bailey) and John William Floyd on October 21, 1949 in Painter, VA. She transitioned from this life on Thursday, February 22, 2018, at her home in Richmond, Virginia. She was born the eldest of eight children and was raised by her grandparents, Omer and Romelia Collins, who she always referred to as Mama and Daddy. Carolyn loved her grandparents immensely until their passing. Although she was raised with her uncles, Foster Collins, Sr. (Al) and James Collins, they considered themselves siblings.

Carolyn was educated in the public schools of Accomack County and graduated high school in 1967. From high school, she went on to complete cosmetology school. She worked at the Clam House in Willis Wharf for 12 years, where she met many lifelong friends. Soon after the closing of the Clam House, Carolyn began employment with Tyson Foods and in 2006 she began employment at Perdue Farms. Although she held many positions, her favorite occupation was selling Avon. You could find Carolyn, to this very day, with a house and car full of Avon products. Selling Avon was her passion, and what she did not sell or use, she would give away as gifts! Carolyn was united in Holy Matrimony to the late Leo Branford Ayres, Sr. on May 17, 1975. Their marriage produced two children, Leo Ayres, Jr. (LB) and Carletha Ayres (Caleat).

She became a member of Holy Trinity Baptist Church as a child and through

the years, held many roles within the ministry. Her most recent roles included Deaconess, Treasurer, kitchen volunteer, and choir member until her relocation to Richmond, VA. Her last 7 months were spent being surrounded by her children and grandchildren. Carolyn loved her family and had an amazing relationship with God. She had many adopted children, who lovingly called her "Mama Carolyn", "Ms. Carolyn" or "Ms. Ayres." Carolyn's voice was soft and sweet, but her spirit and beauty commanded the room. She will be best remembered for her yeast rolls, church punch, and being Richmond's Spoonbread Champion!

Carolyn is survived by: one daughter, Carletha Ayres of Richmond, VA (David); one son, Leo Ayres, Jr. of Petersburg, VA; bonus son, Keyon Kellam; four grandchildren, Leo Ayres, III, Derrick Harmon, Jr., Dahleal Harmon and Branford Leo Ayres; bonus mother, Louise Floyd; four sisters, Elsie Floyd, Margaret Burris, Patricia Brayboy (Jimmy) and Teresa Venson (Dale), all of Dover, DE; two brothers, Maurice Floyd and Clyde Floyd (Wanda), all of Dover, DE; a special niece, Nikola Custis (Tony) of Salisbury, MD; a special nephew, Rashyn Custis (Casey) of Salisbury, MD and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and close friends.

She was preceded in death by her father, John William Floyd, her mother, Louise Bailey, husband, Leo Brandford Ayres, Sr., one brother, Norman Turner and sister, Mary Ann Custis.

Lovingly Submitted ~ The Family

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Carolyn Ayres, please visit our Heartfelt Sympathies Store.

Tribute Wall

GR

“ *My dear wife and I would like to extend our condolences for the loss of your loved one. We send this condolence with the sure hope the Bible provides all of us at difficult times like this.*

As recorded in the Bible, God's only-begotten son, Jesus promises that one day he is personally going to bring back to life all those who have died (John 5:28, 29; 11:43, 44). As death is an enemy to us, it is also an enemy to Almighty God (1 Corinthians 15:26). For that reason, as well as others, He promises to remove from this earth FOREVER all the pain, suffering, wickedness, and DEATH that mankind has had to endure for thousands of years (Revelation 21:3-5; Psalm 37:10, 11, 29). What a glorious day that will surely be! It's a reality and a sure hope that we can trust in because it is absolutely impossible for God to lie (Titus 1:2).

My wife and I sincerely encourage you to look up and meditate on these noted scriptures in your own Bible (1 Timothy 4:15, 16; 2 Timothy 3:16, 17). You will surely be encouraged and comforted by the marvelous hope our Grand Creator has in store for us (John 17:3). Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

George & Christine Ragusa - February 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM

VH

“ *Sorry to hear of the passing of Carolyn. Praying for the family.*

Virginia Heath - February 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

HF

“ My deepest condolences for the loss of your dear loved one. While nothing will completely take away your grief by meditating on Gods promises found in the Bible you can find real hope and the strength to keep going. My family and I have found the scripture at Isaiah 25:8 to be especially comforting. Here it promises that God "will swallow up death forever and the Sovereign Lord Jehovah will wipe away the tears from all faces."

H. Fields - February 26, 2018 at 12:00 AM

IR

“ Sorry for the passing of your love one. Read Psalms 34:18 for words of comfort and peace.

Irene - February 26, 2018 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ Sorry For Your Loss!

Thomas & Libby Widgeon - February 25, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ I am sorry for your loss, please accept my sincere condolences. I hope the family will find some comfort and strength in Jesus promise of the earthly resurrection(Acts 24:15)and the renewed Paradise earth, where death will be no more and no family will mourn the death of a loved one.-Revelation 21:3,4;John 5:28,29;Luke 23:43. may GOD(Psalms 83:18)grant you peace and comfort now, during this grievous time.-Matthew 5:4.

M Jones - February 25, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ *Dear Family*

Wishing you peace to bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your heart. My prayers are with you and the Ayres family.

JoyceA - February 25, 2018 at 12:00 AM