



Deloris Woods Hayden

May 16, 1936 - December 30, 2022

Deloris Woods Hayden was born to the union of James Woods and Jezebel Washington on May 16, 1936, in Vidalia, Louisiana. Blessed with 86 years, she was the beloved eldest of two branches of her family tree. From Jezebel Washington she was followed by siblings Shirley Woods (deceased), Elizabeth Davis Louding and Jerry Washington and from James Woods she was followed by Jeannette Neblett (deceased).

She attended Vidalia High School and maintained a long-lasting friendship with her High School friend Lucille Jenkins. She worked in the Hospitality Industry for over a decade training and managing housekeeping staff at new hotels to establish a foundation for the team of workers to maintain. Most of her career was taking care of her children, grandchildren, and family friends' children.

A major life lesson learned from her (aka Mom, Granny D, Sister, Aunty, and friend) is to love those who are a part of your life. The birth order, marriage, stepfamily, half-brother/sister, in-laws, or extended family are descriptions of why you met. The life you share and building community for the youth to thrive is more important and “must be done” with discipline and love.

This classy lady's beautiful spirit and standards radiated for you to experience and see. Each of us had a unique relationship and we can share our own

stories, but one special connection of note was her daily communications with her sister Liz. They spoke at least four times a day, every day, or maybe the baseline for talking was six times; who is counting? They would know about each other's whereabouts and news. This daily connection did not matter if they were in the same state or not. They had a significant bond.

To know Deloris Hayden was to also know her love for family, sports, and daytime "stories". Sports was one of her favorite past times. She was excited to watch her teams either on television or live, which was a perfect fit for four athletic children. She had sports gear for each team- t-shirts, coat, scarf, slippers, blankets, etc. she was prepared to represent her team at home or at the stadium. Yes, she had more than one favorite Football team – Seahawks 12th man, Saints and Cowboys ("Ya'll do not worry about the order of the teams!" 😊). We need to also mention the NBA and WNBA teams, ice skating and Mariner's baseball were also her favorites. She also was an avid bowler known for her stylish form. She reached high pin scores and maintained a case full of trophies when in single and couple leagues.

If you did not keep up with "stories", a.k.a "Soap Operas", you would think that she was talking about a real person, however Aunty Mau, Cousin Mildred, Aunty Adie B and Cousin Bea knew exactly what was going on.

Deloris shared a special bond with Lucille Jenkins, Till Lucien, Maria Watkins, Barbara House, Ethel Stott and of course many family members.

She is survived by her children: Melvin Joseph (Marvella) (Seattle, WA), Gary Joseph (Seattle, WA) and Karen Hayden (Covington, LA), and siblings: Jerry Washington (Semmes, AL) and Elizabeth Louding (Marreo, LA), Nephews & Nieces: Ondria Neblett (South Holland, IL), Jeanine Neblett Griffin (Troy) (Chicago, IL), Joseph Louding (New Orleans, LA), Altonvice Louding Thomas (Tarrace)(Madisonville, LA), Je'rann Washington (New Orleans, LA); Charlotte

Washington (New Orleans, LA), Tre' Washington (Ponchatoula, LA) as well as, 12 grandchildren, over 35 great-grandchildren and a host of Aunts & Uncles, cousins and friends.

While we miss her, we know Deloris joins her eldest son, James Joseph, two sisters Shirley & Jeanette and many other loved ones who have passed on.

Daily we see her beautiful smile and remember how she made us laugh when describing things. Her descriptions were hilarious, a "little off the cuff", country and sophisticated at the same time. We will all miss her and the special love she showed each of us.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 7. 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM (CT)

Cross Memorial Funeral Home - Amite
60100 W Way Drive
Amite, LA 70422
(985) 748-7199
<https://www.crossmemorialfuneralhome.com/>

Family Fellowship

JAN 7. 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM (CT)

Cross Memorial Funeral Home - Amite
60100 W Way Drive
Amite, LA 70422
(985) 748-7199
<https://www.crossmemorialfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall

JS

“ I knew Deloris as the best friend of my sister, Til Lucien. She immediately became a friend of mine. My sister spent all her 50 years of marriage displaced in Seattle, lol, but our family found comfort Til had Deloris as a friend.

Joyce Sims - January 16, 2023 at 09:39 PM

JR

“ My fondest memories of Cousin Deloris was her Banana Pudding she would make for our Easter Dinner. (the best) One of the other times was when Deloris, Til Lucien and myself would go to lunch at our special restaurant. Cousin Deloris was one of a kind I never saw her with a frown on her face just that award winning smile. She was always pleasant and when I would see her however long, I would tell her she never looks like she has aged. She will always be remembered. ❤️

Julia Riley - January 14, 2023 at 08:57 PM

JT

“ Im so sorry for your loss
Deloris Hayden was a wonderful person she will surely be missed

Jo Anne Talbot - January 14, 2023 at 07:31 PM

DA

“ I will always remember her smile and wit. I am praying Gods comfort for the family and friends left to mourn her passing. She's always in our hearts and fond memories.

Delores Davis Andrews - January 13, 2023 at 10:01 PM

TL

“ I met Delores Hayden 50 years ago at Albertson’s grocery store in Seattle Washington. There we exchange addresses and telephone numbers this was the beginning of our lifelong friendship. She was my sister we never had a disagreement or an argument we were there for each other celebrating Christmas and Easter dinners with family and friends. She will be missed.

Cherish all your wonderful memories of my sweet Deloris! Like Uncle Huey would say, “ I love myself some Delores”. May God bless you all. Aunt Til

Til Lucien - January 08, 2023 at 04:26 PM

AL

“ Ms. Deloris,

Thank you so much for the way you stepped on to be my grandmother when mine passed last Memorial Day. I thoroughly enjoyed our lunch and brunch and winery visits in Washington. You gave me so much peace during such a tumultuous time. I can only imagine my grandma greeting you at Heaven’s gates, arms outstretched and saying, “Thank you for loving my Chocolate Drop!” I cannot wait to see you again! Forever and Ever in my heart!



Aleice - January 07, 2023 at 12:51 PM

PA

“ I am grateful to have had the opportunity to know such a woman of class and grace. Thank you Karen for sharing her with me. Her grace and class lives in you.

Phyllis A. Ames - January 07, 2023 at 11:42 AM

YF

“ Your cousin Lillian Davis Brown & Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Deloris Woods Hayden.



Your cousin Lillian Davis Brown & Family - January 07, 2023
at 08:53 AM

DB

“ Have been friends with Liz for 40 plus years. And when my husband and I went to our granddaughter’s graduation in 2018 we arranged to meet Deloris for lunch. Such a lovely lady and we became fast friends and stayed in touch. She even joined Liz and me for lunch when she visited Louisiana. Last spoke to Deloris December 14th when she checked on me while I was stuck at the airport waiting for my grandkids to arrive—that was the same evening the tornado slammed the West Bank. Bless her heart she was concerned for me That’s the Deloris I knew. Rest In Peace dear friend

Diane Barrilleaux - January 06, 2023 at 05:37 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Deloris Woods Hayden.



January 06, 2023 at 11:53 AM

EL

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Elizabeth Louding - January 05, 2023 at 09:21 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of *Deloris Woods Hayden*.



January 05, 2023 at 08:55 PM

JL

“ *Jessie Ousley & Barbara Laners* purchased the *S imply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of *Deloris Woods Hayden*.



Jessie Ousley & Barbara Laners - January 05, 2023 at 04:42 PM

BF

“ *Barbara House and Family purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Deloris Woods Hayden.*



Barbara House and Family - January 05, 2023 at 10:15 AM

GH

“ *Our sincere condolences. Praying that you are surrounded by God's comfort and strength during this difficult time. With love Gene, Betty and Family* 💕💕

Gene & Betty Hayden - January 04, 2023 at 07:32 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Deloris Woods Hayden.*



January 04, 2023 at 04:42 PM

YG

“ *Your Kids - Melvin, Karen, Gary purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Deloris Woods Hayden.*



Your Kids - Melvin, Karen, Gary - January 04, 2023 at 02:41 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Deloris Woods Hayden.*



January 04, 2023 at 01:32 AM



“ *Rose Garden Heart was purchased for the family of Deloris Woods Hayden.*



January 03, 2023 at 09:50 AM



“ *Karen I have so many fond memories of Ms. Deloris, like she letting us use the yellow car to go to ECC.
My prayers for comfort to you, Shena and the entire family.
Love you LS 💙💛
Michelle J. Hunter-Banks*

Michelle J Banks - January 02, 2023 at 11:58 PM



“ *I love you with all my heart and I miss you so much.*

Sheena



Sheena Reed-Hill - January 02, 2023 at 10:35 PM

RT

“ *For 46 Years I had Mom In my life. She was a jewel. My heart is filled with pain along with great memories. Rest in Peace Mom Hayden!*

Rita Turner - January 02, 2023 at 08:57 PM