



## Berline Smith Ray

July 14, 1941 - November 17, 2025

The time has come for Mrs. Ray to rest. She was a beloved daughter, sister, aunt, and wife. To many, she was a beloved middle school science teacher. But to me, she was Momma. She displayed an exceptionally high level of unconditional love. Unwavering compassion and loyalty were rooted in her soul. She gave so much of herself to her students. She taught discipline and self-respect. She wanted the best out of each student and would not accept less. Mrs. Ray was a diligent student of life; herself. She earned multiple degrees and awards. Mrs. Ray was raised by C.P. Smith, Sr. and Annie Luzeal Smith.

Her siblings:

C.P. Smith

Marvin Smith, Sr.

Robert Smith

Lee Smith, Sr.

Winston Smith

Bobbie Sims

Lewistine Brooks

Mrs. Ray was born on July 14, 1941, and passed away at home on November 17, 2025. She worked hard and smart, growing herself from a small town in Mississippi to make her dreams come true through education and helping others. In the beginning, she drove from Memphis to Charleston, MS, to

teach. She never missed a day of work to be an example to the students she loved. She then moved on to Ridgeway and finally Bellevue Jr. High School before retiring. But she never stopped teaching her favorite student. Thank you all for your prayers and thoughts. Hopefully, the slideshow will bring back some fond memories and a smile to your heart.

Friends are invited to a visitation with the family on Monday, December 1, 2025, at Coleman Funeral Home of Olive Branch from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 1. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Coleman Funeral Home of Olive Branch  
6815 Parkview Boulevard  
Olive Branch, MS 38654  
(662) 893-3900  
info@colemanfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.colemanfuneralhomeob.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ Coleman Funeral Home of Olive Branch created a Tribute Video in memory of Berline Smith Ray



Coleman Funeral Home (Olive Branch) - November 25, 2025 at 05:28 PM



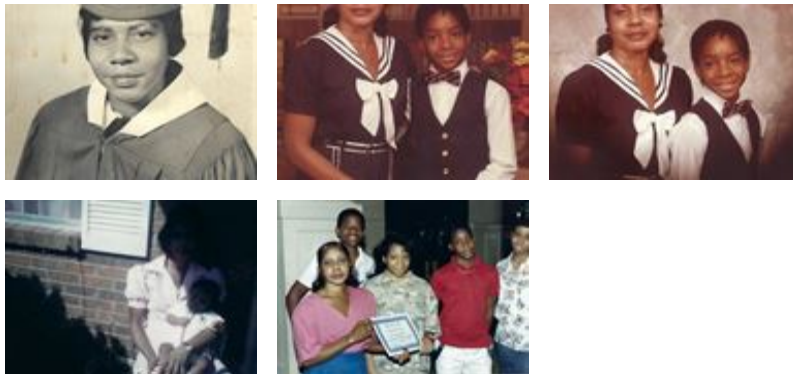
“ M. Cheryl T Thompson, cousin lit a candle in memory of Berline Ray



M. Cheryl T Thompson, cousin - December 01, 2025 at 07:32 PM



“ 80 files added to the album Life Tributes



Coleman Funeral Home (Olive Branch) - November 25, 2025 at 04:58 PM

VR

“ Von Rodgers lit a candle in memory of Berline Ray



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**Von Rodgers** - November 24, 2025 at 08:20 AM

JS

“ Jurice Washington Smith lit a candle in memory of Berline Ray



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**Jurice Washington Smith** - November 21, 2025 at 01:58 PM

LB

“*My sister was more than family — she was my safe place, my confidant, and my forever friend. From the earliest days, she filled my life with laughter, warmth, and a kind of love that asked for nothing in return. She had a way of making even the smallest moments feel special — a shared cup of tea, a late-night conversation, or a knowing glance that said, “I understand.” Her strength was quiet but unshakable. She faced life’s challenges with grace, never letting hardship dim her light. She taught me that kindness is not weakness, that forgiveness is a gift we give ourselves, and that love, when given freely, can change the world around us. Though she is no longer here in the way I wish she were, her presence is woven into everything I do. I see her in the colors of the sunrise, hear her in my imagination, and feel her in the moments when I need courage the most. I will carry her laughter in my heart, her wisdom in my choices, and her love in my soul — always. She was, and will forever be, my sister, my guide, and my dearest friend. I love you sis; your time has come to take your rest in the arms of Sweet Jesus. You are gone but never forgotten. I will never say good-bye, but see you later.*

*Love your sister, Lewie*

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**Lewis Brooks** - November 21, 2025 at 12:22 PM

LB

“ I am so blessed to call you my sister, to call you, my friend. You always loved me unconditionally and stood by me through thick and thin. You shared my joys and sorrows, my laughter, and tears. You were my inspiration as we grew up through the years. When we were little children, you were always there for us. Then growing up, you stood by us through good and stormy weather. There is something God gave us more than family; He place a love for you, my sister, deep down in my heart. There are no words to say how I will miss you. You will forever be loved. God has called you home to take your rest in the arms of Sweet Jesus. I will not say good-by, but see you later.

Your brother Winston

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**Lewis Brooks** - November 21, 2025 at 12:21 PM

LB

“ Lewis Brooks lit a candle in memory of Berline Ray



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**Lewis Brooks** - November 21, 2025 at 12:18 PM

TS

“ Tracey N Stinson lit a candle in memory of Berline Ray



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**Tracey N Stinson** - November 19, 2025 at 04:26 PM

TN

“ *The Pronto Network purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Berline Smith Ray.*



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**The Pronto Network** - November 19, 2025 at 11:24 AM

WJ

“ *Wanda Jones lit a candle in memory of Berline Ray*



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**Wanda Jones** - November 19, 2025 at 07:50 AM

WJ

“*Berline, your life here on earth was filled with many amazing and incredible attributes. First, you had a quest and zeal for our Savior. You accepted him and was baptized at the Dean Hill Missionary Baptist Church. Second, your desire to be a teacher took you far after graduation; from College, to the Charledton MS schools district, to the Memphis Shelby County School system. Retiring successful after 40 plus years of commendable service. But you did not stop there. You became one of the best Sunday School teachers. Your excellent study skills served you faithfully because you wanted to shew yourself approved, a workman, not ashamed, rightfully dividing the truth in God's word. Now, your earth faithfulness has earned that last and final approval; the heavenly degree. You are now finally at rest. You have obtained our Lord and Savior's love, peace, contenment, patience, joy, happiness and security that you taught others about. You have received your welcome home. Well done good and faithful servant. You are at your heavenly home among other family and friends. Rest well. Enjoy the fruit of your labor. Your cousin, Wanda Jones.*

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**Wanda Jones** - November 18, 2025 at 10:48 PM