

CELEBRATION OF
Life



Vera Foster Haynie

ALPHA: June 3, 1934

OMEGA: May 29, 2025

June 7, 2025

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church
13146 US Hwy 51
Hazlehurst, MS 39083

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The family of Vera Foster Haynie wishes to express our sincere gratitude for the many acts of kindness, prayers, calls, visits, and heartfelt expressions of love during this time of loss. Your support has brought us comfort and strength, and we are truly thankful for each of you.

May God bless you for your thoughtfulness and compassion.

— The Haynie Family



ORDER OF SERVICE

Processional

Greetings

Scripture Reading

Musical Tribute

Obituary Reading

Musical Tribute

Eulogy

Reverend Washington

Recessional

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O B I T U A R Y

Vera Lee Foster Haynie departed this life with quiet grace on May 29, 2025—just five days shy of her 91st birthday. She was deeply cherished as a Wife, Mom, Sister, Aunt, Maw, Maw, Bee Bee, Booda Boo, and Friend.

REMEMBERING VERA FOSTER HAYNIE

Vera Haynie was born on June 3, 1934, in Hazlehurst, Mississippi, to John "Shot" Foster and Arcola Johnson Foster. As the second oldest of her siblings, she was the family's peacemaker—the one everyone turned to for guidance, comfort, and a little bit of tough love when needed. Her siblings knew they could always count on her for unwavering support, but they also knew better than to cross her. One unforgettable moment that still brings smiles: even with Regenia dressed to the nines for prom, Vera sat her down and declared she was going to "fix her knotty head." A standout student and a phenomenal basketball player, Vera balanced athletic excellence with academic achievement throughout high school. After graduation, she pursued higher education with determination, earning her bachelor's degree from Mississippi Valley State University and later a master's degree from Jackson State University.

As a gifted beautician, she ran her beloved beauty shop on Hansen Road—just behind her grandmother's house. It wasn't just a salon; it was the place to be. Friends, neighbors, and family gathered there, not just for a fresh finger wave, but for laughter, love, and the comforting sense of community. Even her sisters made the trip home from college—not just for a new hairdo, but for to listen to "the Talks" and enjoy the feeling of being wrapped in home.

Vera was an extraordinary educator who began her teaching career in Minter City, serving at an elementary school deep in the Mississippi Delta. She later returned to her hometown of Hazlehurst, where she spent over 30 years shaping young minds as a beloved first-grade teacher at Hazlehurst Elementary School—where she eventually retired. Vera had the unique gift of teaching generations of children and their parents, becoming a cornerstone in the lives of countless families. She was her own children's first teacher and her grandchildren's forever favorite. More than letters and numbers, she taught love, laughter, and the joy of learning. Like her husband, education was not an option, it was the only decision for anyone who she encountered.

In 1957, Vera met the love of her life, Mr. Lonnie Haynie, Jr. Theirs was a bond without limits—a union cherished and admired by all who knew them. From this enduring love came two daughters, Sandres and Sonya. She opened her heart and home to her nephew John, welcoming him as a son and never failing to make his favorite chocolate cake. She was a proud grandmother to five grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. For over 64 years, Lonnie and "Bee" were a living testament to the power of love, the strength of family, and the value of education. Forever her protector, we find peace in knowing that in the end, he welcomed her into heaven with arms wide open and eyes filled with love.

After retiring, Vera could often be found at home, surrounded by family, catching up with friends, or spending treasured moments with the love of her life. If she didn't answer the phone, chances were she and Lonnie were out enjoying lunch at the casino with her sister Nell. Bee loved to play the slots—and she almost always won. True to her generous spirit, she shared her winnings freely, while Lonnie faithfully picked up the lunch tab. And when she did answer the phone, you could often hear her sister Kitten in the background—laughing, cooking, and sharing in the joy of sisterhood. Even after moving to Louisiana, Bee and Kitten could often be found on FaceTime with Nell and Regenia, keeping their unbreakable bond strong across the miles. Kitten remained faithfully by her side, talking with her, laughing with her, caring for her, and holding her hand with unwavering love and devotion until the very end.

Of all the roles Vera held in her remarkable life, her favorite was being a mother and grandmother. She was affectionately known as Maw Maw, Bee Bee, and Booda Boo to her beloved grandchildren and great-grandchildren. In her later years, she lived with Sandman and her family in Louisiana, while Renee her baby girl, was never far away. Her daughters were her pride and joy—her heart could barely hold the love she carried for them, and her eyes lit up every time she spoke their names. Whether she was dancing with Kim, laughing with Missy, asking Chris about his kids, loving on Pat, or chatting with Bri Bri, Vera made everyone feel special. Her great-grandchildren brought her the purest joy—making her eyes sparkle with possibility and promise.

She is preceded in death by her loving husband of 64 years Lonnie Haynie Jr., mother Arcola Foster, father John Foster, brother Calvin, sister Ruth and many others who we know she is hugging and laughing with in heaven.

She leaves to cherish in her memory daughters, Sandres "Sandman" Williams (Joe) and Sonya Renee Haynie; five grandchildren, Kim, Chris (Marissa), Missy (Clarence), Patrick and Brianna; 10 great-grandchildren (Kenadi, Caleb, Ashton, Olivia, Cayden, Jonathan, Grace, Kelsey, Ashlyn and Matthew); son/nephew John Swan (June), their 2 daughters (Natasha and Nichelle) and granddaughter (Kaelynn); three sister(s), Rosemary "Kitten" Conley, Nellie Beard, and Regenia Singleton; three brothers-in-law, Leon, Lester (Etheldra), and Henry L. Reed; five sisters-in-law, Olivia Sandidge, Carrie Z. Henderson, Classie M. McMurray (Fred), Stephanie Y. James, and Teresa Lee-Williams (Raymond); along with beloved nieces, nephews, cousins, bonus sons, daughters and friends.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 says: "Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." Vera embodied every word of this scripture. She was the essence of love. She was steadfast, selfless, and sincere. She moved through the world with grace, spoke with kindness, and lived with a heart full of hope. Her joy was radiant, her faith unwavering, and her spirit unshakably generous.

She was the living embodiment of God's love. May the love she gave live on in each of us. May we carry her lessons in our hearts. And may we never forget the sound of her laughter, the strength of her faith, and the beauty of her spirit. In her presence, we learned love. In her absence, we carry it forward.

"So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love. (1 Corinthians 13:13)"

FOREVER LOVE



She gave the world her gentlest touch,
A heart so wide, it held so much.
With every smile, with every prayer,
God's perfect love was living there.

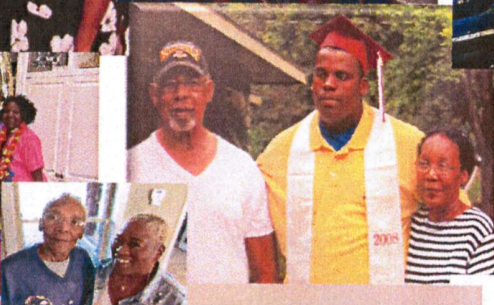
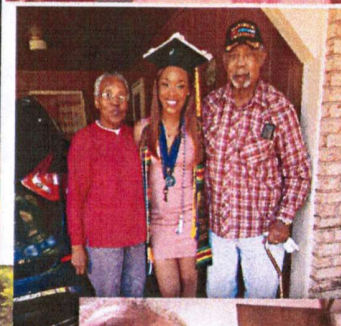
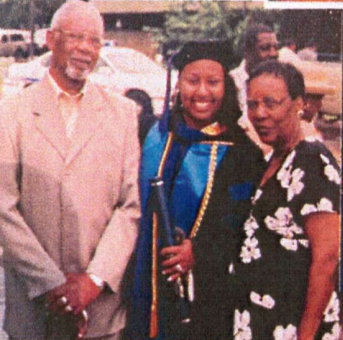
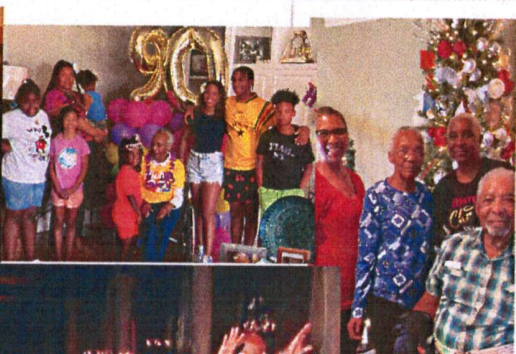
She walked in faith through every year,
A quiet strength, a voice so clear.
Her hands were steady, warm, and wise—
A glimpse of heaven in disguise.

In every moment, she moved with grace,
God's gentle calm upon her face.
She spoke with kindness, lived in truth,
A guiding light to all she knew.

And when the time had come to rest,
God called her home to where He blessed.
The angels sang, the skies grew wide,
And Lonnie met her by His side.

No pain remains, no tears, no night—
Just perfect love and endless light.
Together now, they laugh and roam,
In golden fields—they've both come home.

So we will weep, but not in vain,
For heaven's gain is earthly pain.
And in our hearts her song will stay,
Until we meet again one day.



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Pallbearers

Christopher Williams
Clarence Henry
Corey Conley

Shawn Easterling
Jeffery Foster
Steve Smith

Honorary Pallbearers

Joseph Williams
Ashton Jenkins
Richard Charles Tanner

Edward "Bee" McKenzie
John Swan
Walter Easterling

Internment

Greater Damascus Church Cemetery
1013 Damascus Cir
Hazlehurst, MS 39083

Repast

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church
13146 US Hwy 51
Hazlehurst, MS 39083

Arrangements

House of Peoples
446 Monticello Street
Hazlehurst, MS 39083