



Mrs. Dean Cates

August 13, 1942 - March 8, 2024

Mrs. Willer Dean Cates, of Bowdon, Georgia, passed away on March 8, 2024. She was 81.

Mrs. Cates was born on August 13, 1942 in Randolph County, Alabama to the late J.L. and Ina Victoria Geter. She was a seamstress at Lamar Manufacturing for 49 years and also worked with her husband, Ray, in their lawncare business and raising cattle. She was very talented and used her sewing skills to make clothes for her family when her children were younger. Dean also spent many years traveling through Georgia and Alabama with her family's gospel group. She found great joy in gardening, canning jellies and homegrown vegetables, and baking cakes and cooking for her family. Mrs. Cates was also a devoted member of Sardis Baptist Church.

In addition to her parents, Mrs. Cates was preceded in death by her brother, Tommy Geter; her sister, Maxine Stewart; and her grandson, Wesley Deal.

She is survived by her husband of 61 years, Ray Cates; her daughter and son-in-law, Donna and Gary Deal of Resaca, Georgia; her son and daughter-in-law, Dennis and Pam Cates of Temple, Georgia; her brothers and sister-in-law, Frankie Geter of Bowdon, Georgia and Dwain and Jenny Geter of the Veal Community; her granddaughters, Tonya Henderson (Dee) of Calhoun, Georgia and Brandi Kirk (Luke Bennett) of Temple, Georgia; her great-

grandchildren, McCoy Deal, Alisa Deal, Jacie Henderson, Ameree Henderson, MaeLi Henderson, Zeke Bartee, Xander Bartee, and Elias Bennett; and her caregiver, Sharon Bradley; and Trevor.

Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. at Sardis Baptist Church, she will lie in state from 1:00 p.m. till 2:00 p.m.. Bro. Kevin Geter and Bro. Darnell Teal will officiate. Music will be provided by Corey and Rita Pearson, formerly of the Diplomats. Pallbearers will be McCoy Deal, Dee Henderson, Zeke Bartee, Xander Bartee, Josh Caldwell, and Torey Pollard. Honorary pallbearers will be Tonya Henderson, Brandi Kirk, Alisa Deal, Jacie Henderson, Ameree Henderson, MaeLi Henderson, and the late Wesley Deal will serve in spirit. Interment will follow in the church cemetery with Bro. Steve Dempsey conducting the graveside services.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Monday, March 11, 2024 from 4:00 till 7:00 p.m.

Cemetery Details

Sardis Baptist Cemetery

4292 Highway 100 South
Bowdon, GA 30108

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 11. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Rainwater Funeral Home
317 North Carroll Street
Bowdon, GA 30108
(770) 258-7239
info@rainwaterfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rainwaterfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

MAR 12. 2:00 PM (ET)

Sardis Baptist Church
4292 Highway 100 South
Bowdon, GA 30108

Tribute Wall

LF

“ *LaDonna Fryar lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dean Cates*



LaDonna Fryar - November 24, 2024 at 09:33 PM

RN

“ *I am so sorry to hear of Willa Dean's passing. She was a sweet person. My deepest sympathy to the family. Robyn Wright Nordquist (Aunt Edna's youngest daughter)*



Robyn Wright Nordquist - March 14, 2024 at 09:27 AM

SP

“ *Susan And Clyde Patterson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dean Cates*



Susan and Clyde Patterson - March 12, 2024 at 09:51 AM

DL

“ *Donnie And Glenda Laney lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dean Cates*



Donnie and Glenda Laney - March 12, 2024 at 05:46 AM

EL

“ Elaine And Hal Lovvorn lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dean Cates



Elaine and Hal Lovvorn - March 11, 2024 at 03:29 PM

DC

“ Deana Crews lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dean Cates



Deana Crews - March 11, 2024 at 03:01 PM

TH

“ Tanner Hospice Care staff would like to offer our condolences to you during this difficult time. We appreciate you trusting your loved one in our care.

Tanner Hospice - March 11, 2024 at 10:34 AM

DC

“ Dottie Grizzard Cavender lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dean Cates



Dottie Grizzard Cavender - March 11, 2024 at 09:03 AM

WY

“ *Wilda Yarbrough lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dean Cates*



Wilda Yarbrough - March 11, 2024 at 08:40 AM

JM

“ *Janie R Meadows lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dean Cates*



Janie R Meadows - March 11, 2024 at 08:24 AM

BL

“ *Bart Loftin sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Dean Cates*



Bart Loftin - March 11, 2024 at 08:19 AM

SM

“ *Sherrie Musick lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dean Cates*



Sherrie Musick - March 11, 2024 at 02:08 AM

BC

“ *Barbara Hollaway Cavender lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dean Cates*



Barbara Hollaway Cavender - March 10, 2024 at 07:39 PM

CN

“ *Christie Nobbley lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dean Cates*



Christie Nobbley - March 10, 2024 at 06:00 PM

PH

“ *Patty & Tommy Hardy lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dean Cates*



Patty & Tommy Hardy - March 10, 2024 at 05:17 PM

DM

“ *Debra Morris lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dean Cates*



Debra Morris - March 10, 2024 at 02:12 PM

TC

“ *Tommy&Judy Cantrell lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dean Cates*



Tommy&Judy Cantrell - March 10, 2024 at 12:52 PM