



MONA RAY

March 19, 1924 - December 31, 2015

Mona Lois Ray, 91 of Kankakee, IL, died Thursday, December 31, 2015 at her residence. Visitation will be Tuesday, January 5, 2016 from 11:00 A.M. until time of funeral services at 12:00 P.M. at Shiloh Full Gospel Church. Pastor Alan Roundtree will officiate. Burial will be in Mound Grove Gardens of Memory.

Mona Lois Ray was born on March 19, 1924 in Connellsville, PA to Robert Sr. and Eulah Strader. She spent her childhood in Fitz Henry, PA as a coalminer's daughter. At a young age, Mona married Robert Ray, he preceded her in death. To this union, one son, Bruce was born. Later in life, she was united with Haywood Bush Sr. The two of them had four children: Beverly, Ingrid, Letitia and Haywood Jr.

Mona worked many jobs throughout her life. She even worked as a welder during World War II. She retired from Manteno Mental Health Center where she worked over 20 years as a Mental Health Technician. Never willing to sit still, Mona worked for a number of years as a substitute cook in Kankakee School District 111. Even when she stopped babysitting, she continued to work as a Personal Care Assistant. Her driven spirit contributed to her long and fulfilling life.

Mona was a member of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church for several years.

While there, she served as a member of the Nurse's Board and Pastor's Aid Society. Later she would unite with Shiloh Full Gospel. Mona worked in the kitchen for several years and was inducted into the Mothers' Board.

Mona's prized possession was her spoon collection. If you were traveling, you had better return with a spoon to add to the collection. Look all you want, but please don't touch! She also collected limited edition quarters. Even if the quarter did not fit into one of her collection displays, she held on to it just the same.

Mona leaves to cherish her memory, two sons and three daughters, Bruce E. (Murretta) Ray of Bourbonnais, IL, Beverly Y. Stewart of Clermont, FL, Ingrid A. Fortinberry and Letitia M. Bush, (Roosevelt Williams) both of Kankakee, IL and Haywood (Elois) Bush Jr. of Sauk Village, IL; thirteen grandchildren; twenty-three great-grandchildren; two great-great grandchildren, and a host of other relatives and friends.

Preceding Mona in death were her parents; one brother and sister-in-law, Robert Sr. and Elizabeth Strader; one sister and brother-in-law, Lettie and Julius Edwards and two special friends, Corine Collins and Willie B. Wallace.

Tribute Wall

SC

“ So sorry for your loss! I'm going to miss her especially giving the babies a ride on her lap and helping her on and off the van!

Sonya Caffey - February 06, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AJ

“ To Ava, Chetni and family love you all God Bless.

Anthony Jackson - January 27, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ With deepest sympathy to the family. I offer my prayers that God will comfort you during your time of sorrow.

Jeanette Whalum-Chambers - January 14, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ To the Family, you should walk in high esteem for the life your matriarch lived. Mother Mona Ray had such a loving and kind spirit! She served as a wonderful Mother of the Shiloh Church and we loved her dearly. She loved for "her girls" to come home and

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Turner, Rolanda and Rhonda - January 07, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SO

“ a life well lived...RIP

sammy odeneal - January 07, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ May the LORD continue to comfort you at this time in your lives.

Jeannie Hunt Randle - January 06, 2016 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ Dear Ingrid and family-My deepest sympathy to you and your family. It is so hard to lose your mom-hope many good memories give you comfort. God bless...Tanna

Tanna Behrends - January 06, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PJ

“ My condolences to the family. God bless each of you.

Patricia Jamison - January 04, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ So sorry for your loss praying for you and your family during this time.

Aubrey Williams - January 04, 2016 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ Thinking of you this day. Our prayers are with you.

The wilkins family - January 04, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ Aunt Baby will truly be missed. You have my deepest Sympathy. Love you all.

Mary Ann Gaddy - January 03, 2016 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ May God continue to be the one that you call on for comfort and peace. Praying for your family.

Mary Black - January 03, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ So sorry for your loss. *Be Blessed.*

Bettie Calvert - January 02, 2016 at 12:00 AM