



Elmira Cook- Royster

July 2, 1937 - April 5, 2026

Elmira Cook Royster, lovingly known as “Bay,” was born July 2, 1937, in Miami, Florida, to the late John Hoskins, Sr. and Lila May Way. She was the cherished middle child of five siblings, raised in a God-fearing home grounded in faith, love, and strong values.

At an early age, Elmira was baptized and became a devoted member of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church in Pompano Beach, Florida, where her spiritual foundation was firmly established.

In 1963, she united in marriage with John Cook and relocated to New Jersey, where she resided for ten years. In 1973, she returned to Pompano Beach, Florida—a place that would become the backdrop for her lasting impact on family and community. Driven by a desire for growth and service, Elmira earned her Associate of Arts degree from Broward Community College. She began her professional career as an insurance agent at Metropolitan Insurance Company where her natural compassion and

dedication to helping others quickly became evident.

Affectionately known as “Bay,” she committed her life not only to her family but to uplifting her community. She actively supported civic engagement, including collecting absentee ballots for the campaign of Pat Larkins, who would become Pompano Beach’s first Black mayor.

Elmira continued to break barriers as one of the first Black women dispatchers for the Broward County Police Department, contributing to progress and representation within the local workforce.

Following the passing of her beloved mother, Lila May Way, Elmira channeled her strength and resilience into entrepreneurship by establishing Cook’s Bookkeeping Services in Pompano Beach, Florida. Through her business, she continued her lifelong mission of serving others with integrity and care.

Over the years, Elmira became a pillar in the community—respected for her strength, admired for her perseverance and loved for her generous spirit. Her life was a reflection of faith in action, leaving a legacy that will continue to inspire generations. In 2013, Elmira united in marriage with John Royster, who preceded her in

death in 2014.

She continued to live a fulfilling and purpose-driven life, rooted in faith, family, and service

to others. In 2016, Elmira relocated to Atlanta, Georgia, where she joined The House of

Hope Atlanta (The Greater Travelers Rest Baptist Church), continuing her steadfast walk

with Christ and remaining rooted in her faith and devotion.

On April 5, 2026—Easter Sunday, a day symbolizing resurrection and new life—God called

Mrs. Elmira Cook Royster home from her earthly labor to eternal rest.

She leaves to cherish her loving memory: her devoted son, Eugene Conklin; her

granddaughters, Erika, Erin, and Elan Conklin; and her great-grandson, Elijah Ayers. She

was preceded in death by her siblings, Estella Tillman Belcher, John Henry Hoskins, Jr.,

James Roosevelt Hoskins, and Earnestine White Tai.

Elmira will be deeply missed and forever remembered by a host of nieces, nephews,

extended family, and dear friends whose lives were touched by her love, strength, and

unwavering spirit.

Though she has transitioned from this life, her legacy of faith, resilience, and love will

continue to live on in all who knew and loved her.

Cemetery Details

Westview Cemetery

NW 18th Ave
Pompano Beach, FL 33069

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 17. 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

L.C. Poitier Funeral Home
317 NW 6th Street
Pompano Beach, FL 33060
(954) 943-7050
info@lcpoitier.com
<https://www.lcpoitierfuneralhome.com/>

Service

APR 18. 10:00 AM (ET)

Greater Antioch Missionary Baptist Church
420 NW 8th Avenue
Pompano Beach, FL 33060

Repast

APR 18 (ET)

Greater Antioch Missionary Baptist Church
420 NW 8th Avenue
Pompano Beach, FL 33060

Tribute Wall

BS

“ *A beautiful soul and a hard worker for Christ and her fellow man.* ”



Brenda K. Scott - April 16 at 03:50 PM

RJ

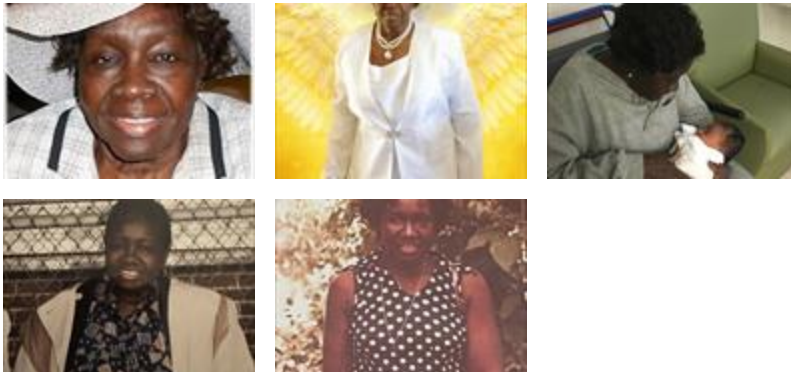
“ *Rev. Benjamin F. Sudderth, Jr. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Elmira Cook- Royster.* ”



Rev. Benjamin F. Sudderth, Jr. - April 16 at 12:08 PM



“ *6 files added to the album Memories Album* ”



L.C. Poitier Funeral Home - April 15 at 08:29 PM