



## Vera Weaver Hawkins

January 27, 1939 - March 30, 2026

Vera Marie sunrise on January 27th 1939, to the late Willie and Hessie Weaver both of Inman, SC. She was the youngest of the five children born to this union. Siblings: Karl, Ruth, and Anna preceded her in death.

A Christian faith which was instilled in her at a young age remained throughout her life. She shared memberships with Whitehall Baptist Church & Mount Zion Baptist Church Inman, South Carolina Bethel AME Church Pompano Beach, Florida, Piney Grove Baptist Church Fort Lauderdale, Florida and Bethel AME Denton, Maryland.

Vera received her primary education to 6th grade at Ben Bomar school for colored, from 7th to 10th grade at Bethune colored school in Inman South Carolina. As her mother became ill, Vera was sent to Pompano Beach, Florida to live with her two sisters, attending Blanche Ely High School from 11th to 12th grade receiving her high school diploma in 1957. She furthered her education by attending (HBCU) Bethune-Cookman College. There she joined the sisterhood of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., she also was a member of the Women's Senate & P.E.M. Club.

During a holiday home visit from college, Vera stood 5 ft. 3 in. when a tall statue of a man standing 6 ft. 4 in. captured her interest and she was smitten. Clarence Hawkins was a teacher at Blanche Ely High School. While still

attending BCC, the two dated until his employment ended, and he returned home to Rock Hall, MD. A devastated Vera completed her education earning her bachelor's degree in physical education in 1961.

Upon graduation she gained employment and became a Broward County's Supervisor over Parks and Recreation for both Fort Lauderdale and Deerfield Beach. She was instrumental in a city-to-city collaboration that started the annual MLK Day festivities. She headed major community events such as concerts at Sunland Park in Fort Lauderdale that brought major celebrities to Broward County. Vera also led the recreational events at Westside Park in Deerfield Beach. While working at Westside Park in Deerfield Van Poitier a city employee worked hard to capture her attention. He courted her and they married. She helped him to co-parent his son, Van Jr, her stepson. Unfortunately, Sr. did not understand her no nonsense policy of life's choices; they divorced and remarried and he preceded her in death.

She was also a third grade teacher, alongside her sister Anna Gordon who was a second grade teacher at Deerfield Beach Elementary School. Together the two brought a real educational and discipline experience to the school especially for the black students as the school was a predominantly white. They knew that segregation and lack of good books and education had held black people down. They championed on "Not passing was not an option and testing well was the only option". To help advance their efforts they knew they needed to kick in some doors and make a little noise. They strategize with other black teachers to come up with lesson plans and strategies to coordinate on how to help those struggling students meet the mark. They then joined and eventually held positions as officers in the NEA Teachers Union. While teaching she attended FAU to earn her master's degree in education.

After suffering a major loss, Rev. Clarence A. Hawkins returned to Pompano Beach, Florida to reconnect with Vera, the love he was forced to leave back

when she was attending BCC. So after 28 years of teaching at DBES she retired, sold both houses, married and moved to Rock Hall, MD. On April 15, 1990, the two were married as Vera had no children of her own; she once again instantly gained two step-sons and a step-daughter. Ranata, Clarence Jr. and John. Her greatest joy came in the form of a granddaughter Ranaya. She became the First Lady of Bethel AME Church in Denton, Maryland. They also created a business "Harambee" buying and flipping houses. Owning several properties.

While in Maryland she became a member of the Red Hat Society, Quilting Bees and various organizations throughout the AME Church as First Lady.

They travelled and enjoyed 26 years together. After the passing of her beloved Clarence on March 28th, 2016, Vera returned to Deerfield Beach until her sunset on March 30th 2026.

Vera was of many talents, musically she played the trumpet as one of the first girls to play this instrument and self-taught to play the keyboard. Extremely creative in arts & crafts, paintings & drawings skills that best served her as a teacher, which she helped the students create projects. Vera was an excellent seamstress, making clothes and costumes.

She leaves to cherish her memories; eldest sister Fannie Mae Harris of Newark, New Jersey (Suffolk, Virginia), brother-in-law Carroll Hawkins of Rock Hall, Maryland, special nieces: her niece Carla Littlejohn-Jarman and great niece: Chisato Turner of Pompano Beach as well as a host of family, friends, Sorors & students.

# Cemetery Details

## Forest Lawn North Cemetery

200 W Copans Rd  
Pompano Beach, FL 33064

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 11. 1:00 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/>

## Burial

APR 11. 3:00 PM (ET)

Forest Lawn North Cemetery  
200 W Copans Rd  
Pompano Beach, FL 33064

# Tribute Wall



“ *L.C. Poitier Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Vera Weaver Hawkins*



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**L.C. Poitier Funeral Home** - April 11 at 01:14 PM

YJ

“ *Yvette Jarman lit a candle in memory of Vera Weaver Hawkins*



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**Yvette Jarman** - April 16 at 06:00 AM

VW

“ There are some people  
who don't just live...  
they leave pieces of themselves everywhere.

*In every room, every story, every memory you didn't know you  
needed to hold onto there she was. Vera Marie.*

*She was a keeper of history,  
a protector of moments,  
a woman who could look at you  
and expect you to remember where you came from.  
She loved deeply, strongly,  
honestly, the good and the hard.*

*And somehow, all of it shaped us.  
Shaped me.*

*They say I carry her name...  
but it's more than that.*

*I carry her strength,  
her voice,  
her fire, that quiet knowing  
that family matters  
and legacy is something you live, not just leave.*

*So I don't just say goodbye.  
I say thank you to my Aunt Vera...  
For the stories.  
For the love.  
For the lessons spoken and unspoken.  
Her wings were ready my heart was not.  
Rest in Peace Aunt Vera.*





Vera Woods - April 12 at 09:29 AM

MW

“ Mary Ann Wallace-Kelly lit a candle in memory of Vera Weaver Hawkins



Mary Ann Wallace-Kelly - April 11 at 09:07 PM

LP

“ Live streaming services for Vera Hawkins will begin shortly. We apologize for the delay.

L.C. Poitier - April 11 at 01:06 PM



“ 124 files added to the album LifeTributes



L.C. Poitier Funeral Home - April 11 at 12:28 PM



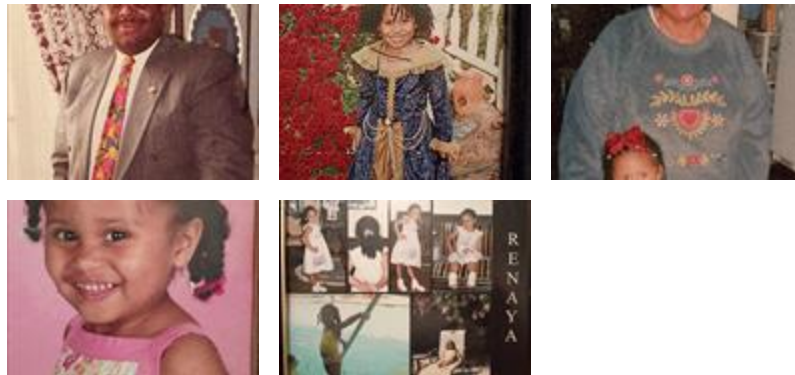
AB

“ Vera’s mother(HESSIE Weaver) and my mother(Grace Wallace) were sisters Vera and I were born the same year. She’s was only two months older than me. We went to the same school for 10 years. I always enjoyed my visits at her house and she would always visit my house. I visited and stayed at her home in Florida and in Maryland. We always try to stay in touch with one another. She told me the best can opener was the one that they took to the moon so I bought it. I used it yesterday and it’s still kicking. We had similar talents, cooking and sewing. I will miss her. I pray that the family will stay strong during these times. God is at the end of the tunnel, begging you to come on through. Jesus is the light of the world. He lives within my heart.

Alma wallace BYRD - April 06 at 08:49 PM

YJ

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Yvette Jarmen - April 06 at 06:57 PM

JT

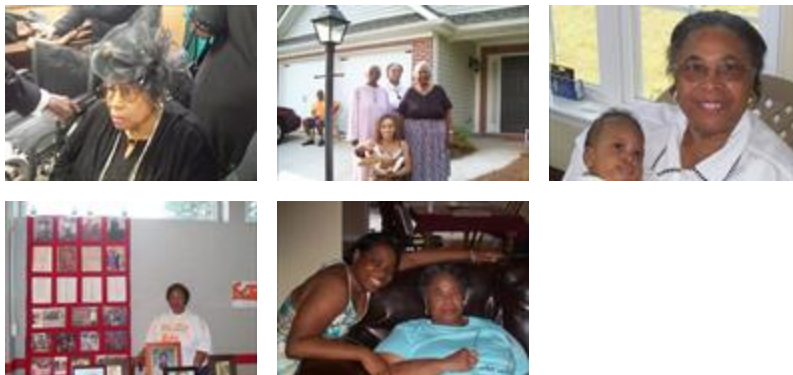
“ When we first reconnected with Aunt Vera in Rock Hall, MD.



Jon Turner - April 06 at 06:19 PM

AW

“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



Anita Weaver - April 05 at 08:18 PM

YJ

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Yvette Jarmen - April 05 at 09:34 AM

YJ

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Yvette Jarmen - April 05 at 09:25 AM

YJ

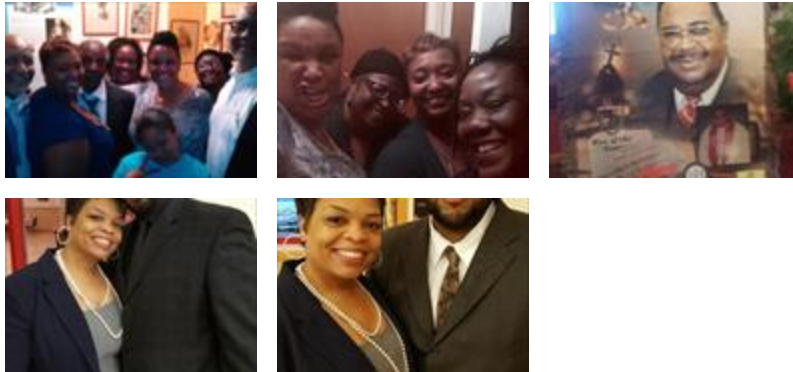
“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Yvette Jarmen - April 05 at 09:19 AM

YJ

“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



Yvette Jarmen - April 05 at 09:12 AM

SW

“ WE ALWAYS HAD OUR LAUGHS ❤️



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**Sherry Evelyn Wingo** - April 04 at 12:37 PM

“ Our deepest condolences on the passing of my beloved stepmother and mother in love, Mrs. Vera.

*You entered my life during one of its most difficult seasons. It wasn't always easy, but through patience, faith, and perseverance, we built something real bonded in love and respect.*

*You once told me that the Lord didn't bless you with children, but if He had, that child would have looked like me. I'm not a man of many words, but that stayed with me and will remain in my heart forever.*

*Anytime I walked into the house to visit you and Pop I felt welcomed—never as a guest, but as family.*

*When my wife came into my life, you embraced her immediately. What you and she built was something special a true mother in love and daughter relationship. The laughter that came from the back of the house when you two disappeared together said more than words ever could.*

*Yvonne would often ask me, “Have you spoken to Pop and Mrs. Vera?” And if I said no, she would pick up the phone without hesitation and call, saying, “I don't want nothing—just checking on y'all.” That was the love you gave so freely, without condition.*

*Thank you for loving Naya as your granddaughter. The joy and excitement in your voice every time we dropped her off with you and Pop for those biweekly visits filled your hearts. Those visits were the highlights of your days—and the foundation of her memories.*

*From paying for swimming lessons, to family vacations, taking her to church, combing her hair, and surrounding her with friends old enough to be her grandparents, you gave her more than love, you gave her roots, faith, and a sense of belonging.*

*Thank you for the incredible gift you gave to my wife and me. The gift of trust, generosity, and love. Your kindness lives on and your generosity will never be forgotten; it will last a LIFETIME!*

*And lastly, thank you—with all my heart—for loving my father, Rev. Clarence “Biggie” Hawkins, Sr.*

*With love, gratitude, and eternal remembrance,  
John and Yvonne Hawkins  
Renaya Colomb*

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**John Hawkins** - April 04 at 10:54 AM

YJ

“ 11 files added to the tribute wall



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**Yvette Jarmen** - April 04 at 04:58 AM

DT

“👋 In Loving Memories of My 3rd grade teacher, Mrs. Vera Weaver Poitier Hawkins ❤️👤. During COVID-19 Pandemic, her nephew Michael Little John was trying to coordinate, a visit with Mrs. Poitier-Hawkins and I. Unfortunately that never happened 🙁. I'm Thankful that we were able to converse, over the phone. I still remember the Story she taught us about, clueless young man. Love Always,  
Darryl D. Thomas 😊  
A Proud Former 3rd Grade Student of Mrs. Vera Weaver Poitier Hawkins 🕊️

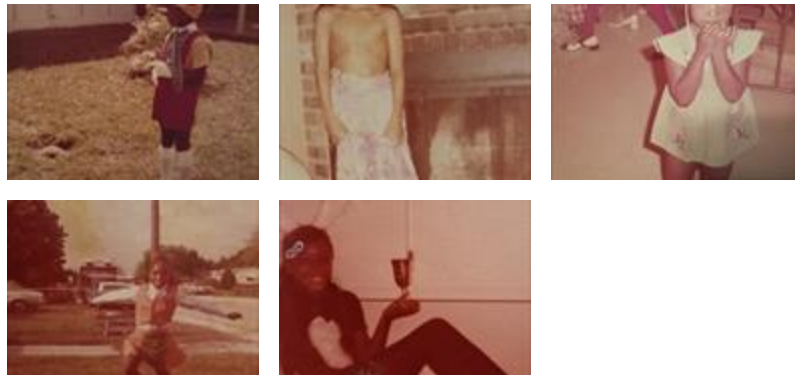


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Darryl D. Thomas - April 02 at 11:33 PM

YJ

“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



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Yvette Jarmen - April 02 at 10:15 AM

YJ

“ Yvette Jarmen lit a candle in memory of Vera Weaver Hawkins



Yvette Jarmen - April 01 at 07:17 PM

YJ

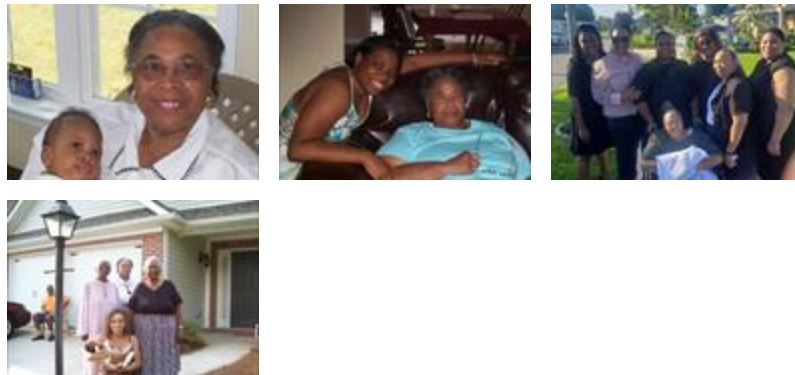
“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Yvette Jarmen - April 01 at 07:14 PM

YJ

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Yvette Jarmen - April 01 at 07:05 PM

YJ

“ 8 files added to the tribute wall



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**Yvette Jarmen** - April 01 at 09:37 AM

BW

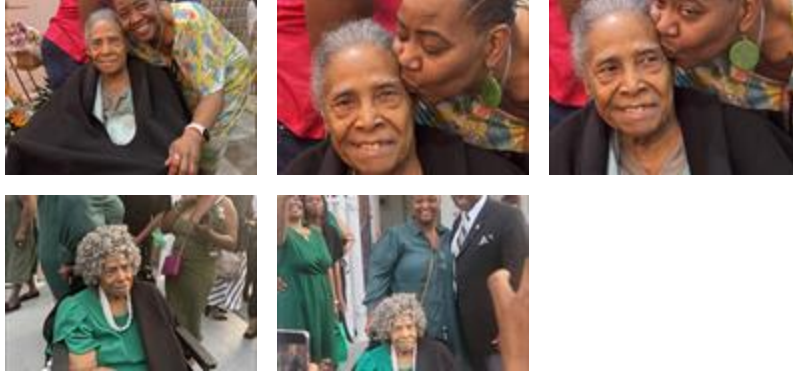
“ Soror, I will miss that lovable smile! I remember you to be the best neighbor! My sons really enjoyed coming over to get in the pool and those Science Projects decorations at the last minute! My condolences to the family from the Walkers! You will be missed Soror! Love 💙👉💙🙏

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**Bettye A. Walker** - March 31 at 09:44 PM

DF

“ Aunt/Cousin Vera, I have heard about you my whole life from “Mook”. I have only had a few years to love on you but thank you for loving me back and reminding me that I look just like my mother. Rest well.



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**Deidra Fransaw** - March 31 at 06:48 PM

CC

“ Sending sincere condolences to the family of Vera Weaver Poitier Hawkins. Mrs. Poitier to me as she was my third grade teacher, loving, supportive, and eager for all of her students to win. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Cody Cox

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**Cody Cox** - March 31 at 06:06 PM

JH

“ A life well lived—she was given so much love and leaves behind a lifetime of beautiful memories. She is no longer in pain or burdened by the troubles of this world. Now, she rests peacefully, reunited with our loved ones who have gone before her. She will be deeply missed. I send my heartfelt condolences and prayers to our family during this difficult time.



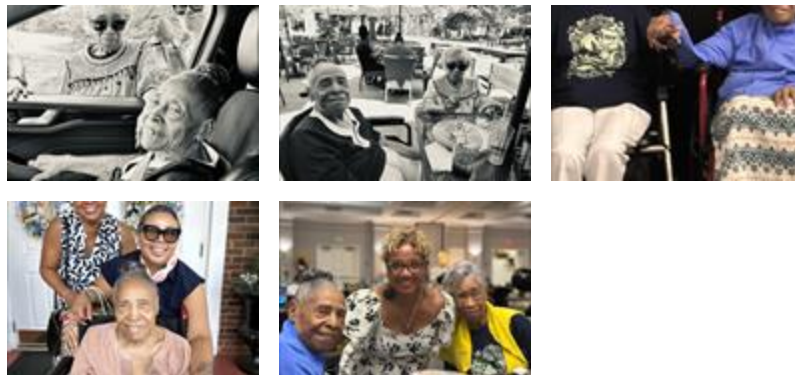
Jayme

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**Jayme Harris** - March 31 at 05:56 PM

VW

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



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**Vera Woods** - March 31 at 05:54 PM

YJ

“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



Yvette Jarmen - March 31 at 02:33 PM

YJ

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Yvette Jarmen - March 31 at 02:16 PM

YJ

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Yvette Jarmen - March 31 at 02:07 PM

YJ

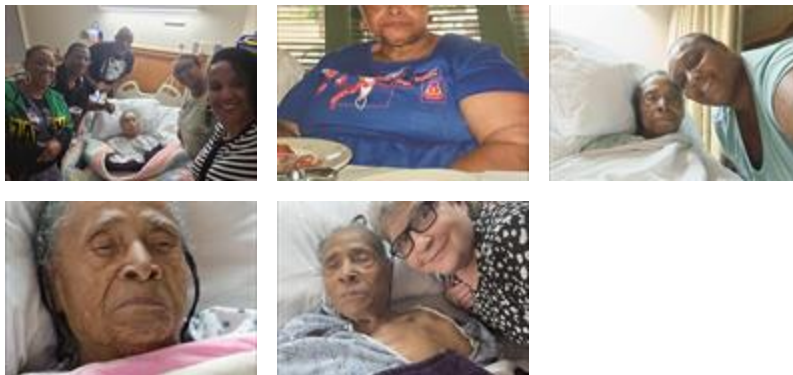
“ 20 files added to the tribute wall



Yvette Jarmen - March 31 at 02:04 PM

YJ

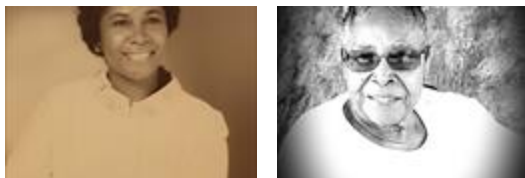
“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Yvette Jarmen - March 31 at 02:02 PM

JT

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Jon Turner - March 31 at 01:55 PM

