



Ms. Anna Novella Davis Reeves

December 1, 1929 - December 4, 2025

Anna Novella Lawson Davis-Reeves passed away quietly at home on December 4, 2025 after a brief illness at the age of 96.

She was born on December 1, 1929 in Denniston, Virginia to Gaither and Louise Lawson, the first of ten children. As a young adult, she graduated from North Carolina College for Negroes (now North Carolina Central University) and spent some time in Washington, DC before she joined the staff at Elizabeth City State Teachers College in Elizabeth City, NC. There, she met her future husband, Dr. George L. Davis.

George and Novella relocated to Nashville, TN, he on the faculty at Tennessee State University, and she as a librarian in Nashville public schools. They parented two children, George Davis, Jr. and Vernessa Lynn Davis-Tharpe. George Sr. passed away in 1995.

She found a second partner in Mr. Wayne Wellington Reeves. They were happily married and lived together in Nashville until his death. Novella then relocated to Jackson, TN to be closer to her daughter.

She is survived by George (Clinese), Vernessa (Siegfried), seven grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

DEC 18. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
949 T S Jackson Avenue
Nashville , TN 37209

Tribute Wall

DB

“ To the family of Novella Davis, we ask the Lord to embrace and give you peace and serenity during the days of loss. Cherish memories and know that Hillsboro High School and the Green Hills community of Nashville was blessed to have Novella. A lady of grace, intellect, poise, and sense of humor who was deeply loved by so many. Rest in peace my Burro fiend.

Dorothy Baxtet - December 16, 2025 at 08:18 PM