



Mrs. Frances Goodman

December 23, 1931 - May 23, 2023

Frances Parham Goodman, or "Mamas" as she was affectionately called by her grandchildren and great grandchildren was born on December 23, 1931, as the youngest child of Wade and Laura Belle Parham, who have both preceded her in death.

She transitioned on May 23, 2023. Frances' position as the baby of the family helped shape her strong drive, initiative, and unyielding faith in God. Her love for the Lord and dedication to Christ began early in life and continued throughout her years.

Frances was an active member of the Berean Baptist Church, where she taught Sunday school classes, sang in the choir, and worked with the Women's Department.

Frances attended Merry High School, where she formed many lifelong friendships, before graduating in the Class of 1948. She then attended Lane College where she met the love of her life, James Goodman Jr., whom she would go on to be married to for 58 years. She and James had a goal for their family that centered on love for God, and love for each other, family and friends. They always said, "We are each other's brother's keeper."

Throughout her life, Frances instilled nuggets of wisdom for her children to live

by. She urged them to always tell God and themselves the truth and have someone on earth they could confide in completely. She wanted them to create lasting memories and cherish them. She taught the importance of getting quiet, still, and finding a quiet space for reflection. Frances instilled respect and kindness towards her children's siblings and urged them always to show grace to others. Finally, Frances taught them never to leave a task unfinished, encouraging them to do everything to the best of their abilities.

In the 60s, the NAACP reached out to Frances with a specific need: they needed someone to integrate the salesforce of Downtown Jackson. Frances became the Ambassador of Change and was employed at Woolworth's Downtown for over three decades. To those who knew her, her soft-spoken demeanor, captivating smile, friendly attitude, and kind words remain memorable even today.

Her true love was her family to whom she was devoted. When Frances loved someone, it was unconditional. She was thoughtful, kind, patient, and long-suffering, never insisting on her way. She enjoyed women's basketball, reading, word finds, working in her yard, and sweets.

No words could adequately describe her steadfast love as a mother. She was preceded in death by her husband: James Thomas Goodman, Jr, her children: Ronald McGhee, Gayle Murphy, son-in-law: Ricky Murphy, and very special friend: Romeo Stewart. Their passings took immeasurable strength and unshakeable faith in God to endure.

She is survived by her children James Thomas (Tonya) Goodman, Cheryl (Michael) Brady; grandchildren Nicole (Jason) Oggs, Irvin (Kimberly) Britt, Carlos Burnett, Ronald McGhee, Megan (Joseph) Brown, Michael (Jocelyn) Brown, Ricky (Julia) Murphy, Ronnie (Charity) Murphy, Lauren Murphy; sister in laws, Mary Helen Smith, Irma Goodman, Loretta Goodman, and Ruby

Claytor; nieces and nephews Constance Woods, Raymond (Debra) Weddle, Karen (Mike) Weddle West, Cynthia Parham; and a host of great grandchildren, cousins and friends.

Cemetery Details

Parkway Memorial Gardens

2839 Paul Coffman Drive
Jackson, TN 38301

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 26. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Stephenson-Shaw Funeral Home, Inc.
807 N. Hays Avenue
Jackson, TN 38301
(731) 427-7411
info@stephenson-shaw.com
<https://www.stephenson-shaw.com>

Celebration of Life

MAY 27. 11:00 AM (CT)

Berean Baptist Church
214 North Royal Street
Jackson, TN 38301

Tribute Wall



“ *Stephenson-Shaw Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Mrs. Frances Goodman*



Stephenson-Shaw Funeral Home, Inc - June 02, 2023 at 09:50 AM

JC

“ *Mrs. Frances Goodman came into my life when I was 16 years old. My first job as a teenager was working at Woolworth's Department Store in downtown Jackson. Mrs. Frances was the first black woman employed at Woolworth and worked in the hardware department. I was the first teenager hired at Woolworth downtown. I was the same age as Mrs. Frances teenage son. She took good care of me while I worked at Woolworth. We often ate lunch together in the break room. Years later, Mrs. Frances and I crossed paths again. I had married and moved to Gibson County. My husband and I had four children and I taught 37 years at Humboldt High School. Mrs. Frances and I discovered we shared a love for Thrift stores and bargain shopping. We often ran into each other and reflected on our memories at Woolworth. We compared notes of our families, both children and grandchildren. Mrs. Frances will always hold a special place in my heart. Thank you for sharing her with me. My name is Janice Holt Coleman and would love to share memories with any of the family. My cell is 731-571-2391. May God bless your family.*

Janice Coleman - June 15, 2023 at 11:31 PM

QM

“ Queen Merriweather lit a candle in memory of Frances Goodman



Queen Merriweather - May 27, 2023 at 07:02 PM

WJ

“ Mrs Frances was a beautiful light in my life when I was growing up on Laconte Street. Even though she was the same age as my Mom I thought she was younger, very pretty, soft spoken and cool. She always smiled, turned her head to the side, and walked gracefully into the house after coming home from Woolworths Dept Store. I loved that lady. Plus she allowed Cheryl to do things my Mom didn't. I thought she was the coolest Mom on earth. Rest in peace Mrs. Frances. Cheryl I love you to the moon and back. Job well done.
Wanda Jo

Wanda Jo - May 27, 2023 at 11:10 AM

DL

“ Cheryl and family.....please accept our sincerest condolences as you mourn and celebrate the life of Mother Goodman. The tender loving care of your mom is to be admired and emulated! Reggie and I love you and pledge our undying support as you navigate and adapt to your new normal. May God hold you in His Hands and give you comforting peace.
The Lanier's
Reginald & Debbie



Debbie Lanier - May 26, 2023 at 09:11 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mrs. Frances Goodman.*



May 26, 2023 at 09:07 AM



“ *From the Goodman and Baker Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mrs. Frances Goodman.*



From the Goodman and Baker Family - May 25, 2023 at 10:18 PM



“ *From :Sandra and Alfred Brady purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mrs. Frances Goodman.*



From :Sandra and Alfred Brady - May 25, 2023 at 07:54 PM



“ *Tommy and the entire Family of Mrs Frances Goodman, I would like to express my profound sadness during your period of mourning. Please know "Earth has no sorrow that Heaven cannot heal" Be blessed and keep her in your hearts forever. Tony Nixon, 7-AT-1977, Kappa Alpha Psi*



Tony Nixon - May 25, 2023 at 12:51 PM

LU

“ *This Lady right here didn't know she brought Joy to my Heart and brightened many of my Days.To Know Mrs.Frances was to Love her because you had no choice But to Love her continue with your rest.Love you Luvonnia*

Luvonnia - May 24, 2023 at 09:11 AM

LS

“ *Our deepest condolences & prayer.
William & Lisa Lewis*

lisa smith-watson - May 23, 2023 at 06:14 PM