



## Mrs. Demetria Belinda Davis Reed

November 20, 1954 - August 8, 2023

Demetria was born on November 20, 1954 to the late James M. Davis and Minnie Merle Davis in Crystal Springs, Mississippi. The big sister to four younger brothers, Demetria and her family lived in Brushy Creek before settling in Jackson. Demetria attended Lanier High School and graduated as a member of the first integrated class at Callaway High School in 1971.

Demetria attended the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, MS where she danced as the first African American on the Dixie Darlings Drill Team and was crowned Miss Afro '71-'72. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1975 and a Master of Education degree from William Carey College in 1976.

Demetria received an Educational Specialist degree from Jackson State University in 1987. She earned an Educational Administration and Supervision Certification from Alcorn State University in 1996 and completed the Principal's Institute at Harvard University in 1998.

It was at USM where she met her husband of 47 years, Alphonse Reed, marrying on June 26, 1976. This union would produce two children, Rashad and Jamie.

Demetria educated students for 25 years, teaching in Baton Rouge, New Orleans, and Jackson before settling in Natchez. She was named Natchez-Adams School District's Principal of the Year in 2002 before retiring in 2003. Demetria was a member of Phi Delta Kappa and a life member of the retired Education Personnel of Mississippi.

Demetria co-founded the Natchez School of Dance, the first black dance school in downtown Natchez, in 1989. She was a life member of the Natchez Chapter of the Links, Inc. and the Zeta Delta Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. She was a member of Zion Chapel A.M.E., where she served as a trustee, choir member, Sunday school teacher, and Missionary.

Diagnosed with breast cancer at 31, Demetria co-founded the God's Angelic Warriors breast cancer support group in 1998 and was an active American Cancer Society volunteer. Demetria received the American Cancer Society Terese Laser Award for her volunteer work and was named the Bluff City Post Person of the Decade. She was also a member of the Ruritan Community Service Organization and was named to Who's Who in Black Mississippi. Demetria is survived by her husband, Dr. Alphonse Reed; son, Rashad Reed of Albany, GA; daughter, Jamie Reed of Natchez; daughter-in-law, Naja Reed of Tallahassee, FL; two grandchildren, Jacob and J'Ana of Tallahassee; mother, Minnie Merle Davis of Jackson, MS; four brothers: Julian Davis (Rose) of Temple, GA, Cedric Davis, Dexter Davis, both of Jackson, and Elliott Davis (Lynn) of Stockbridge, GA; a special sister-in-law, Valerie Davis of Jackson; brother-in-law, Monroe Clark (Bobbie) of New Orleans; sisters-in-law: Willie Mae Little (Val) of Aurora, CO, Linda Reed of Woodbridge, VA and Lorraine Williams (Floyd) of New Orleans; and a host of uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

# Cemetery Details

## Garden Memorial Park Cemetery

8001 US 49  
Jackson, MS 39209

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG **16**. 4:30 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

West Gate Funeral Home (Natchez)  
409 N Martin Luther King Jr Street  
Natchez, MS 39120  
(601) 445-2008  
james@westgatefh.com  
<https://westgatefuneralhome.com>

## Visitation

AUG **16**. 6:00 PM - 6:30 PM (CT)

West Gate Funeral Home (Natchez)  
409 N Martin Luther King Jr Street  
Natchez, MS 39120  
(601) 445-2008  
james@westgatefh.com  
<https://westgatefuneralhome.com>

## Funeral

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AUG 17. 11:00 AM (CT)

Zion Chapel AME Church  
228 N Martin Luther King Jr Street  
Natchez, MS 39120

## Burial

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AUG 18. 10:00 AM (CT)

Garden Memorial Park Cemetery  
8001 US 49  
Jackson, MS 39209

# Tribute Wall



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Demetria Belinda Davis Reed.*



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August 16, 2023 at 03:12 PM



“ *Maurice, Pat, and Loretta Winston purchased the Pink Potpourri Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Demetria Belinda Davis Reed.*



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**Maurice, Pat, and Loretta Winston** - August 16, 2023 at 02:01 PM



“ *Maurice, Pat, and Loretta Winston planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Demetria Belinda Davis Reed.*

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**Maurice, Pat, and Loretta Winston** - August 16, 2023 at 02:01 PM



“ 58 files added to the album LifeTributes



West Gate Funeral Home - August 16, 2023 at 11:16 AM



“ Prayers and Condolences to you and your family ! 🙏🙏🙏



Laura Smith - August 16, 2023 at 08:40 AM



“ Shirley Mazique lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Demetria Belinda Davis Reed



Shirley Mazique - August 15, 2023 at 07:34 PM

WH

“ *The West Gate family extends our heartfelt sympathy to the Reed and Davis families. Demetria will be greatly missed but her warmth, kindness, and gentle spirit will be remembered forever by those who knew and loved her. We will continue to uplift the family in prayer.*

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**WEST GATE FUNERAL HOME** - August 15, 2023 at 04:23 PM

WH

“ *WEST GATE FUNERAL HOME lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Demetria Belinda Davis Reed*



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**WEST GATE FUNERAL HOME** - August 15, 2023 at 03:40 PM

LF

“ *Demetria was an inspiration to those who knew her. She was always a willing participant no matter what. When I became an administrator she was as happy for me, as I was!! When she retired I became Principal at her school (Frazier Primary). Her wealth of knowledge was exemplary as she often explained the research behind her beliefs. I especially remember our chats and laughter about family. I'll always cherish her as a sorority sister, an educational mentor, a super mom and 100% Angel to those who were blessed with the pleasure of knowing her. To the Reed family continue her legacy and know that an Angel will now watch over you from afar. Always in my heart, Soror Lorraine F. Franklin Retired Principal*

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**Lorraine Franklin** - August 15, 2023 at 01:18 PM

TF

“ The Reed Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Demetria Belinda Davis Reed.

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**The Reed Family** - August 14, 2023 at 07:42 PM

TF

“ The Reed Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Mrs. Demetria Belinda Davis Reed.



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**The Reed Family** - August 14, 2023 at 07:42 PM

RW

“ Rosie Woods lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Demetria Belinda Davis Reed



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**Rosie Woods** - August 14, 2023 at 09:55 AM

GB

“ *Demetria and I attended Powell jr high and Brinkley Sr high together. We remained connected as members of the Brinkley Jr Class of 1971. She attended our reunions and was a part of us till her death. We will always remember her marching in the band and being a star student. Love and our sincere condolences to her family and all who loved her.*



*The Brinkley Jr Class of 1971 Jackson MS  
Glenda Cage BARNER*

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**glenda barner** - August 13, 2023 at 05:25 PM

BW

“ *Barbara Winston lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Demetria Belinda Davis Reed*



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**Barbara Winston** - August 13, 2023 at 03:28 PM

GS

“ *Gail Scott lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Demetria Belinda Davis Reed*



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**Gail Scott** - August 12, 2023 at 09:19 AM

ZA

“ *Beautiful, caring lady. Loved children and learning.* ”



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**Zelda Argue** - August 11, 2023 at 09:31 PM

CS

“ *Cynthia Sims lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Demetria Belinda Davis Reed* ”



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**Cynthia Sims** - August 11, 2023 at 07:07 PM

PW

“ *PEGGY Wimberly lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Demetria Belinda Davis Reed* ”



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**PEGGY Wimberly** - August 11, 2023 at 02:11 PM

ED

“ *Elizabeth Dunham lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Demetria Belinda Davis Reed* ”



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**Elizabeth Dunham** - August 11, 2023 at 10:10 AM

DM

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**Dorothy Matthews** - August 11, 2023 at 08:19 AM

DO

*Rest in peace* 😊😊😊 !!!!

**Dorothy** - August 16, 2023 at 12:11 AM

RW

“ *Ruthie Washington lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Demetria Belinda Davis Reed*



**Ruthie Washington** - August 11, 2023 at 07:45 AM

GG

“ *Georgia Green lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Demetria Belinda Davis Reed*



**Georgia Green** - August 11, 2023 at 06:41 AM