



Ms. Dorothy Jean Ellerbe

September 2, 1938 - September 29, 2025

BURIAL WILL BE PRIVATE!

Ms. Dorothy Jean McGinnis Ellerbe, affectionately known as Dottie or Dot, entered into eternal rest on

September 29, 2025, surrounded by the love of her family. Born on September 2, 1938, in Alachua,

Florida, she was the cherished firstborn of the late Arthur and Willobie McGinnis and the loving older

sister to five siblings, preceded in death by Betty Singleton.

Dottie graduated from Mebane High School in her hometown of Alachua and later furthered her

education at Santa Fe Community College. A woman of wisdom, warmth, and unwavering faith, she

devoted her life to service — both to her family and to her church.

She shared a beautiful life with her beloved husband, Willie Ellerbe, who preceded her in death.

Together, they raised three children: Willie Carlos Ellerbe (also preceded her in death), Jeanine

Carson, and Keith Ellerbe. Dottie's greatest joy was her family, and she lived each day in love, prayer,

and service to those around her.

In 1975, Dottie accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior and was

baptized — a turning point in her life that would define her purpose and passion for years to come. Through her faithful example, she led her husband and children to the Lord and continued to touch countless lives with her gentle guidance and steadfast faith. She was a devoted and active member of her church, always finding joy in worship, fellowship, and outreach.

Dottie dedicated more than three decades to the field of nursing, working at Shands Hospital and the University of Florida's campus infirmary. She was known for her compassionate care, her calming presence, and her tireless work ethic. Even in retirement, her nurturing spirit never dimmed.

To know Dottie was to be loved by her. She leaves behind a legacy of kindness, strength, and spiritual devotion that will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

Her life was a light — a guiding star of faith, love, and hope. She will be deeply missed, but we rejoice in knowing she is at peace and in the presence of her Savior.

Dottie leaves to cherish her memories: her loving children, daughter Jeanine (James) Carson,

Brunswick, GA; son Keith (Panny) Ellerbe, Durham, NC; daughter Terrie Ellerbe, Alachua, FL; eight

grandchildren, Justin (Rebecca) Carson, Brunswick, GA; Ryan Ellerbe, Charlotte, NC; Lance Ellerbe,

Orlando, FL; Kristen (Brandon) Taylor, Raleigh, NC; Joely (Johnnie) Russell, Brunswick, GA; Brent

(Yngrid) Ellerbe, Winston-Salem, NC; Isaiah Ellerbe, Charlotte, NC, and Carlee Ellerbe, Tampa, FL;

six great grandchildren, Jenesis and Jaia Russell, both of Brunswick, GA;

Caden, Braylon and

Michele Taylor, all of Raleigh, NC; Kataleya Wimbly of Gainesville, FL; two brothers, Earl (Cynthia)

McGinnis of Gainesville, FL and Barry (Bonnie) McGinnis of Killeen, TX; two sisters, Carol Nelson of

Gainesville, FL and Paula McFatten of Ft. Lauderdale, FL; and a host of loving nieces, nephews,

cousins and dear friends.

Resolutions may be sent to wecare@chestnutfh.com

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Final and most sacred arrangements are entrusted to the professional care of Chestnut Funeral Home, 18 NW 8th, Ave, Gainesville, FL, 32601.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

OCT 11. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (est)

University City Church of Christ
4626 NW 8th, Ave
Gainesville, FL 32601

Tribute Wall

DY

“ Keith, Jeanine and the entire Ellerbe Family,
Our heart goes out to all of you during this time. Your mom was a very special, godly woman, and a friend to so many of us. I will miss her very much. We had many phone conversations over the years talking about life, grandchildren and always God our Father. Every person that Dottie touched, and with whom she had a relationship, knew how much she loved God, her family and her Christian sisters and brothers. The beauty of Dottie's life was her commitment to share the good news about Jesus Christ our Savior, and while we will all miss her, it's comforting to know all those who believe in our Savior will be with her again in heaven.
Grace and peace,
Jarl and Deidre Young (Dee Love)

Deidre Young - October 11, 2025 at 12:28 PM

L&

“ Leo &. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Dorothy Jean Ellerbe.

Leo &. - October 10, 2025 at 07:36 PM

TA

“ Dottie was the dearest of friends to my mother and was like a beloved aunt to me. Since I was a little girl, her love, generosity, and unwavering faith shaped my life, and her example continues to inspire me today.

To Jeanine, Keith, and the entire Ellerbe family, I hope you find comfort in knowing how deeply your mom was loved and how many lives she blessed through her faith and compassion. I'm holding you all in my prayers and sending love as you celebrate her extraordinary life.

With heartfelt sympathy,

Trudy Coar Adams

Trudy Coar Adams - October 10, 2025 at 12:13 PM



“ Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Ms. Dorothy Jean Ellerbe.



October 10, 2025 at 10:40 AM

TA

“ Trudy Coar Adams planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Dorothy Jean Ellerbe.

Trudy Coar Adams - October 10, 2025 at 10:40 AM



“ *Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray was purchased for the family of Ms. Dorothy Jean Ellerbe.*



October 10, 2025 at 10:34 AM



“ *From Dorothy Coar planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Dorothy Jean Ellerbe.*

From Dorothy Coar - October 10, 2025 at 10:34 AM



“ *There are no words I can say to heal the pain that you're going through at this moment. Your Mother was a beautiful soul, always caring, nurturing, and teaching. She was truly a wonderful woman, but most of all, a woman of God. Tears will fall, memories will last, but love never dies. With Deepest sympathies... The Roberts family: Martha, Melody, and Michael.*

Michael Roberts - October 09, 2025 at 05:02 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ms. Dorothy Jean Ellerbe.*



October 09, 2025 at 04:58 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ms. Dorothy Jean Ellerbe.

October 09, 2025 at 04:58 PM



“ Rest well my former roomie, bridesmaid, and church sister. We shared good times over the years during my stay in Gainesville. May God grant your family comfort and hold on in knowing that Earth has no sorrow that Heaven cannot heal. Blessings, Olga Douglas

Olga Douglas - October 09, 2025 at 08:09 AM



“ Jeanine and Keith your Mother was an amazing Woman and Mother and such a STRONG WOMAN OF GOD. You are truly BLESSED to have had such a WOMAN to raise and teach you. I remember you as you attended Crossroads, and spending time with your late brother Carlos. Your family will always be my heart. She has done a GREAT JOB in raising you and GOD IS PLEASED, and would say "WELL DONE MY GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT"

Bill Lundy

Bill Lundy - October 08, 2025 at 02:58 PM