



Ms. Sonya Gipson

November 15, 1963 - April 5, 2025

Ms. Sonya Denae Gipson, 61, passed away on April 13, 2025.

Sonya was born on November 15, 1963 to Jewel D. Smith and Everett E. Thornton in Gary, Indiana. She attended Roosevelt High School and was at the top of her class, graduating with the Class of 1981.

She was good at working with electronics and computers and loved music, shopping and stylish (drip) clothes. She also loved traveling and attending family gatherings. She attended Grace Apostolic Church of Columbus, OH where she was baptized by Bishop J. Gaiters, Sr.

Sonya served in the United States Navy working as a Computer Engineer and Information Systems Technician until she was honorably discharged in 1986.

Later, she met and married Eric Gipson. She loved the Lord and was a true believer. Sonya loved her family more than herself and was the "ride or die" of the family. She will always be remembered as the "Big Sister" and "Favorite Auntie" of the family.

She is preceded in death by her mother, Jewel D. Smith, her father, Everett E. Thornton, brother, Carlos T. Smith, and nephew, Dwan L. Williams.

She leaves to mourn and cherish her everlasting memory; her husband, Eric Gipson (Denver, CO); daughter, LaTeria Jones, and son Robert Lewis, Jr. (both of Gainesville, FL); fifteen Grandchildren; Brothers, Rev. Calvin Thornton (Lori) and Everett Thornton, Jr. (both of Columbus, OH), Jason Thornton, Javon Smith (Tampa, FL), and Emmanuel Smith (Gainesville, FL); Sisters, Joy Thornton (Goodyear, AZ) and LaDonna Smith (Gainesville, FL); fifteen Nieces and Nephews; and a host of cousins, other loved ones and close friends.

"A CHESTNUT SERVICE"

Previous Events

Graveside Service

MAY 30. 1:30 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Jacksonville National Cemetery
4093 Lannie Rd
Jacksonville, FL 32218