



Ms. Aretha "Rita" Coleman

June 7, 1962 - February 3, 2026

Aretha Coleman was born on June 7, 1962, in Forrest City, Arkansas, to Henry Coleman, Jr. (who preceded her in death) and Cora Coleman, her devoted and proud parents. She transitioned from this earthly life on February 3, 2026, in Memphis, Tennessee. Affectionately known as "Rita," Aretha was raised in a home where strong family values, resilience, education, and love were deeply instilled.

Aretha attended schools within the Forrest City School District and proudly graduated from Forrest City High School in May 1980.

Aretha continued her pursuit of higher education by enrolling at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, where she established lifelong friendships and meaningful connections. In the Spring of 1983, she proudly became a member of the Delta Eta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. In the Fall of 1984, Aretha earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration, marking a significant milestone in her academic journey.

Following graduation, Aretha served her country by joining the United States Army and later continued her public service with the City of Dallas, Texas Police Department, where she served with honor and professionalism. Aretha later relocated to Memphis, Tennessee, where she became an employee of the United States Postal Service. During her tenure, she held several critical

roles that supported and strengthened daily operations prior to her retirement.

Aretha demonstrated her love for her family through her unwavering care and quiet dedication, often working diligently behind the scenes while also contributing to impactful community service organizations. She leaves to cherish her memory and legacy her mother, Cora Coleman; two brothers, Milton Coleman, Sr., of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and Curtis Coleman of Little Rock, Arkansas; four sisters, Rose (Michael) Jones of Grand Prairie, Texas, Yvonne (Keith) McCoy of Forrest City, Arkansas, Patricia Ledsinger of Paducah, Kentucky, and Bettye Coleman of Grand Prairie, Texas. In addition, she leaves a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, and dear friends who will forever honor her life and legacy.

Cemetery Details

West Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery

4000 Forest Hill Irene Rd
Memphis, TN 38125

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 13. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Miles J. Kimble Mortuary & Cremation
1900 South Washington Street
Forrest City, AR 72335
(870) 633-1914
mjkimble@yahoo.com
<http://www.mjkmortuaryandcremation.com>

Service

FEB 14. 12:00 PM (CT)

United Christian Missionary Baptist Church
203 West Franklin Street
Forrest City , AR 72335

The family will processional from the McCoy's, located at 1310 Jones Street, Forrest City, AR 72335, with departure at 11:30 AM.

Repast

FEB 14. 2:00 PM (CT)

United Christian Missionary Baptist Church
203 West Franklin Street
Forrest City , AR 72335

The repast will be held immediately following the service.

Graveside

FEB 17. 9:00 AM (CT)

West Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery
4000 Forest Hill Irene Rd
Memphis, TN 38125

The family should arrive at the funeral home by 7:30 AM to processional to the graveside service.

Tribute Wall

RS

“ *Rita Sweeney*
I have known Ms. Aretha Coleman as a neighbor since we both moved into the Kate Bond neighborhood in Memphis, Tennessee since 1991. She was a great person to know as a neighbor. My condolences go out to her entire family and may God give you strength. She will be truly miss.

Rita Sweeney - March 08 at 11:29 PM

AC

“ 🌸 🕯️ *Rest In Peace, Love and Light Auntie!* 🌸 🕊️



Alexis Coleman - February 19 at 04:32 PM

PS

“ *Rita, my Sonic working friend in High School. May you Rest in Heavenly Peace* 💕💕💕🙏

Phyllis Sargent - February 19 at 07:02 AM

MN

“ *Sending condolences to the family of Ms. Aretha Coleman. I pray God's strength and mercy will carry and heal you all during this time of bereavement.*



Mary Neal - February 17 at 01:01 PM

AN

“ Sent from the Bradley family: to our cousins our deepest condolences to the family.



Annette - February 16 at 02:55 PM

AR

“ I give my condolence to my first cousin and auntie Cora, Rosemary Bali, Yvonne, Betty Milton, see and Curtis. I'm sorry that I'm not capable in going with my heart will be with y'all always love you and take care of you and God's holy name.

Aleshia Ray - February 14 at 05:41 AM

AR

Sorry for loss my cuz Rita Coleman

Aleshia Ray - February 14 at 05:44 AM

LM

“ To the Coleman Family, I am sending my deepest condolences for the loss of my dear sorority sister and line sister, Aretha. I am praying for peace and comfort for you all during this time. I will always remember the laughter and joy she brought to our conversations. May her memory be a blessing. Rest in love, Aretha.



Lora Marshall - February 12 at 11:39 AM

JW

To the Coleman family, I am praying your strength in the Lord. May you feel the comfort and love of Jesus in this time of grief. Rita and I created some fun memories in the early 80s. Working at Sonic Drive In...Rest in peace my friend 💜

Janice Wilson - February 13 at 06:01 AM

LL

“ My condolences to my co-worker Yvonne and the Coleman family. The Lord will comfort you.



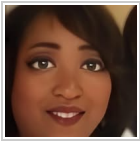
Lillie Lane - February 12 at 09:43 AM

LH

“ Lovie À. Hardrick sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Aretha "Rita" Coleman



Lovie À. Hardrick - February 11 at 10:00 PM



“ Sending prayers for comfort and healing for the Family during your time of bereavement.
Twyla Cochran Ford



Twyla Ford - February 11 at 08:09 AM

SK

“ My sincere condolences to the Coleman family! 🙏🙏



Shirley Malone King - February 10 at 03:07 PM

LH

“ *Lovie A Hardrick sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Aretha "Rita" Coleman*



Lovie A Hardrick - February 09 at 05:54 PM

PS

“ *Rita may God accept your soul in HIS kingdom where there will always be Heavenly Peace* ☐☐



Phyllis Sargent - February 09 at 10:04 AM

MI

“ *Sending my love, prayers and deepest condolences to the family.* 💕💕
🙏💕🕊️

RIP "Rita", my dear friend, you will be sorely missed. 🕊️

Mattie Ivy - February 08 at 08:57 PM

BJ

“ *Bobbie. Jones lit a candle in memory of Ms. Aretha "Rita" Coleman*



Bobbie. Jones - February 08 at 05:15 PM

ST

“ Cole an family and friends, Deepest Sympathy to you at this most difficult time. Praying that God wrap his arms around you, and give you comfort strength at this time of Bereavements. 🙏

Shirley Williams Thorn - February 08 at 05:11 PM

ST

Coleman family i

Shirley Williams Thorn - February 08 at 05:12 PM

LJ

“ Linda Johnson lit a candle in memory of Ms. Aretha "Rita" Coleman



Linda Johnson - February 08 at 03:16 PM

LN

“ My condolences to the family. Praying for the family.

Loretta Norris - February 08 at 02:29 PM

WW

“ My sincerest condolences and prayers to the family. 🙏🙏 Another beautiful gone to Glory. My memories of you as a classmate is your smile that radiated any room that you were in. Rest in Heavenly peace Rita. 😊💙

Windy Williams - February 08 at 08:34 AM

BM

“ My condolences to the Coleman. Her sister Yvonne is my best friend. I was over they house everyday, And grew up with the family. Rita will be miss by family friends. She was nice and sweet. Rita is resting now.

Betty Maxey
Helen "Jean" Witherspoon
Rochester NY

Betty Maxey - February 08 at 08:19 AM

AH

“ I grew up knowing you was my bonus big sister and was always the same friendly, always going to make you laugh and a great person. Rest in Love Rita.

Angeline Huntley - February 08 at 12:47 AM

LL

“ Aunt Rita I will always love and miss you ❤️ I thank God for all the love you showed and our talks! Prayers for my Family 🙏🙏🙏

Latasha Coleman Lowery - February 08 at 12:25 AM

TC

“ I will forever miss you Aunt Rita, I love you, miss talking to you. I miss your smile and laugh. Heaven has gained an angel. Praying for our family as we lean on Jesus for comfort at this time.

Tanya Coleman - February 07 at 10:33 PM

GS

“ Rest in the arms of the most high God, my sister and classmate of 1980.... Your race is over...



Gary Smith - February 07 at 08:35 PM

LH

“ Rita remembering playing baseball your laughter your smile and you just being yourself Rita Coleman I will truly miss you and you always be on my heart cuz. Lynda Howard Hardaway

Lynda Howard Hardaway - February 07 at 08:10 PM