



## Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward

July 6, 1939 - August 8, 2021

WARD, Mrs. Rosemary C. Age 82, passed away Sunday, August 8, 2021 at Willowbrook Manor. Funeral service will be held 11:00 AM Friday, August 13, 2021 at Bethel United Methodist Church, 1309 N. Ballenger Hwy. Friends and pallbearers will assemble at the church 11:00 AM Friday. Mrs. Ward will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 906 W. Flint Park Blvd., and may be viewed from 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM Thursday with family present from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM to receive friends.

Rosemary Carlotta Jones Ward was born on July 6, 1939 in Little Rock, AR to the late Samuel P. and Alberta H. Jones. She departed this life on earth Sunday, August 8, 2021.

What laid the foundation for her educational journey was attending South End Elementary School in Little Rock, AR. In 1955, at the age of sixteen, she graduated from Paul Lawrence Dunbar High School of Little Rock, Arkansas. Afterwards, she attended Arkansas A.M. & N College (now referred to as University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff), where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology with a minor in Chemistry in 1959. She furthered her education by doing practice teaching at Philander Smith College in Little Rock, AR, and graduate courses in education at the University of Michigan – Ann Arbor.

After brief employment at both Flint Osteopathic and McLaren Hospitals, she began her teaching career at Parkland Elementary and continued in the profession by teaching at Martin Elementary and Freeman Elementary, where she retired in 2002.

Rosemary gave her life to Christ at an early age and began her Christian journey at Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church in Little Rock, Arkansas. After relocating to Flint, she became a faithful serving member of Bethel United Methodist Church where she served in many capacities in the United Methodist Church.

In 1977 she became a certified Mission Study Leader in the areas of Covenant Living, Human Rights, Pluralism, Refugee, People of the Pacific Islands, and Public Education – teaching these classes at Adrian College, Albion College, Flint, Detroit, Redford, Waterford, and Gaylord, Michigan.

In 1984, she was elected as the first African American Lay Leader for the Detroit Conference, representing 140,000 lay persons in 511 United Methodist churches of the Upper Peninsula and eastern Michigan. During that same year, she was one of nine lay persons elected as a delegate to the Bicentennial General Conference of 1,000 persons across the United States and abroad. As the first female president of Detroit Conference Black Methodists for Church Renewal (BMCR), she worked for the election of African American Bishops in the North Central Jurisdiction, as well as ensuring ethnic minority inclusion on General boards and agencies. She also served as a Lay Speaker and advocate for Phase III of the National United Methodist Women's Campaign for Children.

After retiring, she continued to serve in different capacities within Bethel and the United Methodist Church.

She was heavily involved in various community organizations such as Jack and Jill of America, National Council of Negro Women, Victorious Christian Women, Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, Urban League and the NAACP. She was the Superintendent of the Dort-Oak Park Neighborhood House New Sunday School for a New Day. She was also a part of the Zeta Beta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and the Gamma Delta Chapter of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. until her passing.

On January 26th, 1963, Rosemary was united in Holy Matrimony to Jesse James Ward of Tarboro, North Carolina. During their union, they enjoyed laughing, dancing, and entertaining the Tucker-Ward Family Club members. She was a very loving and devoted wife until his death in 1973. As a young 33 year-old widow, she became devoted and even more committed to the challenge of raising their three young sons. Because of this challenge and determination to raise them to be well-rounded men, she became familiar with sports and other activities that young boys participate in.

Rosemary loved her family and leaves to cherish in her memory: loving sons, Anthony D. (Renisha) Ward, Sr. of Little Rock, AR, Gerald K. Ward of Marietta, GA; stepson, James Stephen Ward of Columbus, OH; three grandchildren, Joanna C. Ward of Little Rock, AR, Carlie S. Ward of Austin, TX, Anthony D. Ward, II of Little Rock, AR; one great-grandchild, Jadyn E. Boston of Little Rock, AR; two godsons, Wesley Roberts-Bey of Flint, MI, Jason Clemens of Toledo, Ohio; and a host of other nieces nephews, relatives, and friends.

Preceded in death were her parents Samuel P. and Sadie Alberta Jones, Sr.; husband, Jesse James Ward; siblings, Samuel P. Jones, Jr., Laura J. Thompson; mother and father-in-law, Jutson and Maggie Ward, Sr.; brother-in-laws, Billye G. Thompson, Sr., Jutson Ward, William Ward; sister-in-laws, Dorothy Pittman, Mary Jackson, Ruth Pritchard; and her long-time beaux of

30+ years, Russell Roberts-Bey.

Rosemary was a loving daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, and friend. Her presence will be forever felt and deeply missed by all those she encountered.

# Cemetery Details

## Sunset Hills Cemetery

G-4413 Flushing Rd.  
Flint, MI 48504

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

AUG 12. 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Chapel, Flint  
906 W. Flint Park Blvd.  
Flint, MI 48505  
(810) 789-MOON (6666)  
lemoonfhflint@gmail.com  
<http://www.lawrenceemoonfuneralhome.com>

## Family Present

AUG 12. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Chapel, Flint  
906 W. Flint Park Blvd.  
Flint, MI 48505  
(810) 789-MOON (6666)  
lemoonfhflint@gmail.com  
<http://www.lawrenceemoonfuneralhome.com>

## Funeral Service

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AUG 13. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethel United Methodist Church  
1309 N. Ballenger Hwy.  
Flint, MI

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Ward was a very memorable teacher I had her in the 4th grade at Freeman in 1998 and she was so sweet lol and did not play with you! RIP!* ”

c - January 29, 2025 at 01:11 PM



“ *Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward* ”

October 09, 2023 at 07:02 AM



“ *The Cardwell Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward* ”



The Cardwell Family - August 26, 2021 at 12:22 PM



“ *Theresa Stephens-Lock lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward* ”



Theresa Stephens-Lock - August 18, 2021 at 10:19 AM

AB

“ *Althea Barbee lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward*



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**Althea Barbee** - August 16, 2021 at 08:37 AM

KS

“ *Kim Streeter lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward*



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**Kim Streeter** - August 14, 2021 at 07:39 AM

LH

“ *Lois Harden lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward*



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**Lois Harden** - August 13, 2021 at 11:01 PM

DK

“ *Diane Kirksey lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward*



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**Diane Kirksey** - August 13, 2021 at 10:15 PM

AE

“ To the Ward Family,  
Rosemary was a quiet, and influential woman of God. Her service  
will long be remembered and cherished. Praying God’s peace will  
be yours.

*Art and Derryl Evans*

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**Art and Derryl Evans** - August 13, 2021 at 02:26 PM

MF

“ My condolences and prayers to the family.



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**Melita Bowman-Murphy and Family** - August 13, 2021 at 01:27 PM

WR

“ Wannetta Reid lit a candle in memory of Mrs.  
Rosemary C. Ward



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**Wannetta Reid** - August 13, 2021 at 09:37 AM

JB

“ Condolences to the Ward family.  
I will miss hearing you say, “I prayed for you today.”  
*Jewell Bowe*

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**Jewell Bowe** - August 13, 2021 at 07:54 AM

PB

“ *Pamela Bowe-Tabbs lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward*



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**Pamela Bowe-Tabbs** - August 13, 2021 at 07:50 AM

DB

“ *Debra Bridges lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward*



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**Debra Bridges** - August 13, 2021 at 06:40 AM

JB

“ *My condolences to the Ward family. I will miss hearing Rosemary saying to me "I prayed for you today "*

*Alphonzo and Jewell Bowe*

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**Jewell Bowe** - August 12, 2021 at 11:09 PM

CO

*I, too, heard these comforting words many times. I taught with Rosemary at Freeman School, which was a privilege for me. She earned her wings many times over. An angel on earth, now with her Lord. 🙏*

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**C. Diane Ooten** - January 11, 2025 at 02:38 PM

PB

“ Pamela Bowe-Tabbs lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward



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**Pamela Bowe-Tabbs** - August 12, 2021 at 09:55 PM

PB

“ Pamela Bowe-Tabbs lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward



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**Pamela Bowe-Tabbs** - August 12, 2021 at 09:11 PM

JB

“ Condolences to the Ward family. I will miss hearing you say, “I prayed for you today.”

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**Jewell Bowe** - August 12, 2021 at 08:44 PM

JB

“ Condolences to the Ward family. I will miss hearing you say, “I prayed for you today.”  
Jewell Bowe

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**Jewell Bowe** - August 12, 2021 at 08:32 PM

BF

“ Praying that God will give you all comfort



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**Birtie Forster** - August 12, 2021 at 07:53 PM

JS

“ Deapest sympathy to Rosemary’s family .  
May they lean on God’s promises as did she  
did and gain comfort ,strength , and peace  
during this difficult time. John & Janet Smalley  
& Family



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**Janet Smalley** - August 12, 2021 at 05:14 PM

JS

“ Janet Smalley lit a candle in memory of Mrs.  
Rosemary C. Ward



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**Janet Smalley** - August 12, 2021 at 05:02 PM

MD

“ Mary Dantzler-Grace lit a candle in memory of  
Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward



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**Mary Dantzler-Grace** - August 12, 2021 at 02:25 PM

GB

“ Gwendolyn Bronson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward



Gwendolyn Bronson - August 12, 2021 at 01:48 PM

RB

“ Robert & Ervine Byrd lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward



Robert & Ervine Byrd - August 12, 2021 at 12:42 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward.



August 12, 2021 at 10:28 AM

EB

“ Eddie And Linda Booth lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward



Eddie and Linda Booth - August 12, 2021 at 10:24 AM

LT

“ My Auntie was a wonderful woman who loved the Lord, and served in many capacities in the Flint community helping others. She has the Peace she needs now, and is being welcomed by the angels, and the family who went on before. Much love and prayers for my cousins AW, and GW, and peace to our family as we know she has gone to be with our Lord and Savior. Rest in Paradise Sweetie!



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**Lauretta Thompson** - August 12, 2021 at 04:07 AM

MW

“ My condolences to the Ward family. Mrs. Ward was my 4th grade teacher as well as my favorite teacher. She will be truly missed.



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**Maria Williams** - August 11, 2021 at 10:53 PM

LB

“ Lisa Bankston lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward



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**Lisa Bankston** - August 11, 2021 at 10:50 PM

JR

“ *The first memory that comes to mind about Mrs. Ward is her unconditional kindness. Always a kind word of encouragement delivered right on time. Her tone so soft with powerful words filled with compassion and love. A class act who will certainly be missed but never forgotten.*

Johnnetta Ricks - August 11, 2021 at 09:47 PM

SM

“ *Sheila Miller-Graham lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward*



Sheila Miller-Graham - August 11, 2021 at 08:00 PM

CT

“ *Carl Ursery - Knoxville TN lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward*



Carl Ursery - Knoxville TN - August 11, 2021 at 07:28 PM

RB

“ *Richard Brotemarkle lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward*



Richard Brotemarkle - August 11, 2021 at 07:22 PM

WF

“ Wesley, David, Jamil & Roberts Family purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward.



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**Wesley, David, Jamil & Roberts Family** - August 11, 2021 at 01:54 PM

SP

“ Sheila Phillips lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward



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**Sheila Phillips** - August 11, 2021 at 12:32 PM



“ Robbie Grier lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward



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**Robbie Grier** - August 11, 2021 at 12:15 PM

LD

“ Rev. Antonio and Lei Davie



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**Lei Davie** - August 11, 2021 at 12:02 PM

DC

“ Dwight And Yvette Tucker Collins lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward



Dwight and Yvette Tucker Collins - August 11, 2021 at 10:35 AM

TB

“ Terry Brannon lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward



Terry Brannon - August 11, 2021 at 08:18 AM

PF

“ Pamela Koutouzos And Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward



Pamela Koutouzos and Family - August 11, 2021 at 08:01 AM

VS

“ Valerie Southall lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward



Valerie Southall - August 11, 2021 at 02:36 AM

EH

“ Earlene Hildreth sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward



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**Earlene Hildreth** - August 10, 2021 at 10:25 PM

YT

“ Yvonne Tucker lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward



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**Yvonne Tucker** - August 10, 2021 at 09:35 PM

JB

“ Judy Buckley lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward



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**Judy Buckley** - August 10, 2021 at 06:51 PM

TC

“ Tucker And Ward Family Club lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward



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**Tucker and Ward Family Club** - August 10, 2021 at 05:41 PM

SJ

“ Shirley W Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward



Shirley W Johnson - August 10, 2021 at 03:05 PM



“ Teresa Claxton Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward



Teresa Claxton Williams - August 10, 2021 at 12:15 PM



“ My condolences to the Ward family. Soror Rosemary was a special pearl. She will be missed 💖💚💛🖤



Michelle Bowie Brock - August 10, 2021 at 11:37 AM

RA

“ Rosia Anderson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward



Rosia Anderson - August 10, 2021 at 11:16 AM

RW

“ *Rudy And Geneva Ward lit a candle in  
memory of Mrs. Rosemary C. Ward*



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**Rudy and Geneva Ward** - August 10, 2021 at 10:33 AM