



Tessie Peterson

November 11, 1934 - April 21, 2026

On November 11, 1934, in Talladega County, Tessie and Amanda Little welcomed to the world a daughter who was given the name Tessie Mae. She graced us with her vibrant spirit for 91 years, filling our lives with joy and love that transcends time.

At a young age, Tessie accepted Christ as her Savior and became a member of Cave Springs Baptist Church in Lincoln, Alabama where she served faithfully as a choir member, usher, and Sunday school teacher for the youth. Tessie received her formal education at Saint Mary School in Lincoln, Alabama, Lincoln Jr. High School and Talladega County Training School. She enjoyed softball, basketball, and volleyball. After high school, Tessie secured gainful employment at Blue Ridge Clothing Factory and Eastaboga Airport.

In 1969, seeking new adventures and opportunities, Tessie moved to Cleveland, Ohio where she resided for seventeen years. While there, she was a dedicated employee of Mr. Coffee and the Noranda Building Product Company. Eventually, Tessie's heart led her back home to Alabama. She found rewarding employment as a secretary at DHR and as a poll worker. In pursuit of another dream, Tessie attended Anniston Cosmetology School and eventually became the proud owner of Tessie's House of Beauty. She continued to nurture her spirituality at the Greater Thankful Baptist Church in Anniston, Alabama. As a devoted and active member, she served as a

member of the choir, chairperson of the program committee, secretary of the Matrons, and a member of other auxiliaries.

Along life's journey, Tessie met and married her soulmate, John L. Peterson. This union created an abundance of love that they shared with their blended family.

On Tuesday, April 21, 2026, while surrounded by her loved ones, Tessie peacefully accepted the call of her Master and transitioned to her heavenly home for eternal rest joining her husband, John L. Peterson; parents, Tessie and Amanda Little; great-grandson, Gary Wayne, III (Little Man); brothers, Jessie James Little and Isaac Little; sister, Flossie Bell Lanier; brothers-in-law, Prince Edward Lanier and Roosevelt Swain; and bonus son, John L . Peterson, Jr.

Tessie's memories will forever live on in the hearts of her son Gary Wayne Little (Janice); bonus son, Juan Lynn Peterson; bonus daughter, Cheryl Phillips (Ronald); grandchildren, great-grandchildren; sisters; Almeta Swain of Talladega, Alabama and Harriett Gover of Lincoln, Alabama; special friends, Sophia Christian, Ruby McQuery and Ray Talley; special nurse, Dale Parker; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, and friends.

Let us remember Tessie not with sadness, but with laughter, joy, and a grateful heart. Her spirit will continue to inspire us, and her legacy of love will always shine in our lives.

Cemetery Details

Cave Spring Church

Lincoln, AL 35096

Previous Events

Public Viewing

APR **29**. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

S.M. Goodson Funeral Homes and Crematory- Anniston
830 Noble Street
Anniston, AL 36201

Celebration of Life

APR **30**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Greater Thankful Missionary Baptist Church
3025 West 14th Street
Anniston, AL 36201

Tribute Wall

GT

“ Genny, Sabrina, TaMeisha, Brittnie purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Tessie Peterson.



Genny, Sabrina, TaMeisha, Brittnie - April 29 at 10:09 PM

PT

“ Patricia Turner lit a candle in memory of Tessie Peterson



Patricia Turner - April 29 at 06:25 PM

LF

“ Love, Chris and Debbie Edison and family purchased the *Heavenly Heights Bouquet* for the family of Tessie Peterson.



Love, Chris and Debbie Edison and family - April 29 at 01:29 PM

BO

“ Baker family-/Cleveland Ohio purchased the *Basket Full of Wishes* for the family of Tessie Peterson.



Baker family-/Cleveland Ohio - April 28 at 02:56 PM

BO

“ Baker family-/Cleveland Ohio planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Tessie Peterson.

Baker family-/Cleveland Ohio - April 28 at 02:56 PM

AN

“ My prayers and condolences to Tessie's Family and Friends. May her memories bring comfort to your hearts.



Anonymous - April 28 at 02:47 PM

BO

“ Tessie Mae, when you called me on November 1st to write your obituary, I had no idea that it would be published sooooo soon. Remembering the times our family had together. Rest in peace Auntie. Bonnie

Bonderie - April 28 at 12:25 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Tessie Peterson.



April 28 at 09:48 AM

SM

“ Swain & McAfee purchased the Your Light Shine
s for the family of Tessie Peterson.



Swain & McAfee - April 27 at 08:08 PM

AH

“ Deepest condolences to the Little/ Peterson
family
Alonzo and Shernevelyne Draper Hill



Alonzo and Shernevelyne Hill - April 27 at 01:48 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the
family of Tessie Peterson.



April 26 at 02:03 PM



“ A [Memorial
Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Tessie Peterson.

April 26 at 02:03 PM

CS

“ Candace Smoot lit a candle in memory of Tessie Peterson



Candace Smoot - April 24 at 04:15 PM

RM

“ I offer prayers for my family. Tessie was a jewel of a person. She loved her family so much! It may be a cliché, but "earth's loss is heaven's gain." As Pastor of the Damascus Baptist Church, we will be praying for Gary and the grandchildren, her siblings, her whole family. Rev. Dr. Timothy Madden, DMin.

Rev. Dr. Timothy Madden - April 22 at 07:26 PM

SH

Mrs. Tessie was my Mom the late Sharon Pearson Hunter childhood friend and kept in touch up until my Mom death. She was my Mom beautician.
I am so sorry for your loss and Heaven has gained an angel

Sharolyn Hunter - April 24 at 03:53 PM

MW

RIP ❤️ The Wishom's

Metre Long Wishom - April 24 at 07:23 PM