

Acknowledgement

The family of Lavera Floyd acknowledges with sincere gratitude, all acts of sympathy and love bestowed upon us during this time of loss. We are thankful for your prayers, telephone calls, floral arrangements, words of encouragement and other thoughtful ways in which you have expressed your care and concern. May God bless you now and forever.

Pallbearers

Family and Friends

JOURNEY OF *Faith*

To offer condolences to The Floyd Family,
visit www.TheChapelofPeace.com



We Entrusted Our Loved One to the Caring Professionals At
CHARLAN GARY FUNERAL HOME
CHAPEL OF PEACE
NORTH: 2500 CLEVELAND AVENUE EAST: 5456 E. LIVINGSTON AVE
614-267-8310
www.THECHAPELOFPEACE.com



A *Celebration* of Life for



Lavera Floyd

October 6, 1941 - September 5, 2023

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2023
Visitation: 11:00AM - Service: 12:00PM
DONALD JORDAN MEMORIAL CHAPEL
4882 GERMANTOWN PIKE, DAYTON, OH 45417

Obituary

Lavera Floyd, a remarkably loving woman whose strength, intelligence, and dedication left an indelible mark on the lives of all who knew her, was born on October 6, 1941, in Gadsden, Tennessee to Rosie Lee and Willie Lee Butler. Lavera shared three children, Loretta, Glenn Jr "Prince", and Lisa with her late ex-husband, Glenn Floyd, Sr.

Lavera was raised with a strong sense of determination and a very competitive spirit. She graduated from Alamo High School where she was a star basketball player and an exceptional student who graduated at the age of sixteen. She earned a bachelor's degree from Tennessee State University and master's degree from both Syracuse University and Central Michigan University. She was an active participant in the Dayton area Tennessee State University Alumni Association and a supporter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Over the course of her illustrious career, she assisted in groundbreaking research on infants as a Medical Research Chemist at Vanderbilt University. As a Chemist at Bristol Myers, she was responsible for drawing the molecule for Acetaminophen, commonly known as Tylenol. She was also the first female Engineering Supervisor at Dupont. She later served as an Engineer Supervisor at General Motors.

Upon leaving the corporate world she began her 30-year tenure as a Federal employee at Wright Patterson Air Force Base (WPAFB) in 1981. Over the years, she ascended the ranks, serving in vital positions such as Systems Integration Engineer and Chief in the Environmental Division. Lavera's expertise and leadership were pivotal in implementing quality procedures and spearheading next generation environmental policies, leaving an enduring impact on generations of military pilots and personnel.

Lavera received her final promotion at WPAFB in 2004. She became Wing Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health Technical Expert / Advisor and retired from this position in December 2011. In the later years of her career at WPAFB, before retiring, many military pilots reported that on a doomed flight they had to resort to her instruction manual to survive their flights. Her Air Force policies regarding how to respond in the presence of hazardous chemicals were later adopted by all Armed Forces.

Beyond her professional achievements, Lavera was a champion for civil rights, participating in impactful marches during her college years, working to pass the Equal rights Amendment in her younger years, and fighting for the promotion of minorities, women, and underrepresented groups throughout and beyond her career. She owned and proudly operated the Dayton Defender, a small minority newspaper focused on the advancement of the African-American community. As the owner of the Defender, she sponsored Futurepreneurs, an annual citywide conference to introduce minority youth to business ownership. Her deep passion for justice extended beyond the newspaper and the office, as she selflessly assisted countless individuals in their personal struggles, earning the titles ``Grandmother, Mother, Sister, and Friend" from those she guided and supported. As a result of her vigilance and embodiment of service to others she was presented the NACCP Image Award.

On Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at the age of 81, Lavera departed this Earthly life. She was preceded her granddaughters, Chelsea Floyd and Ciara Moss; grandson, Jordan Floyd; parents, Rosie Lee "Sug" and Willie Lee Butler; siblings, Curtis Butler, Dorothy Bell Radley, Mattie Sue Pruitt, Frankie Mae Blakely, Leonard Butler, Ernest "Bub" Butler, and James "Otis" Butler, Sr.; and special mentor, Jean Woodberry.

Although Lavera's journey on this earth has come to an end, her legacy of compassion, intellect, and advocacy will be treasured and remembered throughout the lives of her family, friends, and community members. She leaves to cherish her memory, children, Loretta Floyd, Glenn "Prince" Floyd, Jr, and Lisa (Frank) Floyd-Jefferson; grandchildren, Dustin (Rachel) Harrison, Joshua Harrison, Fralsia Jefferson, Jayla Floyd, Glenn Floyd, III and Connie Bailey; great grandson, Isaac Cardenas; siblings, Alexander "Alex" Butler, Johnny "Sonny" Butler, Velma Jean (Willie) Carter, Rosie Mae Frierson, and Willie Ann Hampton; special nephew/brother, Thomas Ray (Jean) Butler; and a host of beloved nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

PROMISE YOURSELF

*To be so strong that nothing
can disturb your peace of mind.
To talk health, happiness, and prosperity
to every person you meet.*

*To make all your friends feel
that there is something in them
To look at the sunny side of everything
and make your optimism come true.*

*To think only the best, to work only for the best,
and to expect only the best.
To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others
as you are about your own.*

*To forget the mistakes of the past
and press on to the greater achievements of the future.
To wear a cheerful countenance at all times
and give every living creature you meet a smile.*

*To give so much time to the improvement of yourself
that you have no time to criticize others.
To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear,
and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.*

*To think well of yourself and to proclaim this fact to the world,
not in loud words but great deeds.
To live in faith that the whole world is on your side
so long as you are true to the best that is in you.”
— Christian D. Larson*

Order of Celebration

FAMILY PROCESSIONAL Glenn "Tony" Carter, Sr. & Noah Carter
"When The Saints Go Marching In"

SCRIPTURE READING
Old Testament Arnett "Poncho Hayes"
Psalm 23
New Testament..... Karl Radley
John 14:1-6

PRAYER Larry Curry

SELECTION Velma Jean Carter

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT/CONDOLENCES..... Sheliah Butler

TRUMPET SOLO Glenn "Tony" Carter, Sr.

REMARKS Family & Friends

TRIBUTE..... Fralisia Jefferson

READING OF OBITUARY Silently

SELECTION Jerry Warren

The Eulogy
MINISTER KIM KIDD

BENEDICTION Minister Kim Kidd

RECESSIONAL Clergy, Family, and Friends

Interment
Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum
118 Woodland Ave, Dayton, OH 45409

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters.
He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
forever.

