



## Mrs. Ruby Lee Smith Gaters

March 9, 1938 - February 24, 2023

Mrs. Ruby Lee Smith Gaters, 84, of Summerton, South Carolina entered into eternal rest on Friday, February 24, 2023. She is the widow of Joe Gaters. She is survived by her children: F. Renee Gaters, Deidre Durant (Martinez) and Terri Sumrell; grandchildren: Martinez Durant, Jr. and Desiree Renee Durant; siblings: Lee June, Roberta Cain, Catherine Wilson and Mary Wells; sisters-in-law: Shirley June, Annie June, Geanice June, Lula Dyson, Carrie Montgomery, Claudell Gaters, Eva R. Gaters and Bobbie Lee Gaters; and brothers-in-law: Robert Cain, Willie Dyson, Roosevelt Gaters and Sammie L. Gaters, Jr.

She was preceded in death by her parents: L.D. Smith and Elsie Georgia Smith; granddaughter: Taneda T. Brooks; siblings: Lawson June, Jr., Alphonza June and Louise Servance ; sister-in-law: Hester Gaters; brothers-in-law: Charles Wilson, Noah David Wells, Paul Gaters and Leon Gaters.

The family will be receiving friends from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm starting Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at the family home: 1018 Urbana Rd., Summerton, SC 29148. Please limit your visitation time. Strict COVID-19 precautions and masks are required while visiting with the family and during funeral services.

Walk-Through Viewing

Saturday, March 4, 2023

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Smith-McNeal Funeral Chapel

2119 Dorchester Rd.

North Charleston, SC 29405

Sunday, March 5, 2023

12:00 noon - 2:00 PM

Taw Caw Community Outreach Center

1126 Granby Ln.

Summerton, SC 29148

Celebration of Life Service

Sunday, March 5, 2023

2:00 PM

Taw Caw Community Outreach Center

1126 Granby Ln.

Summerton, SC 29148

Interment:

Taw Caw Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery

# Cemetery Details

## Taw Caw Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery

1130 Granby Lane  
Summerton, SC 29148

# Previous Events

## Viewing

MAR 4. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

W.M. Smith-McNeal Funeral Home  
2119 Dorchester Road  
North Charleston, SC 29405

## Viewing

MAR 5. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Taw Caw Community Outreach Center  
1126 Granby Lane  
Summerton, SC 29148

## Celebration of Life

MAR 5. 2:00 PM (ET)

Taw Caw Community Outreach Center  
1126 Granby Lane  
Summerton, SC 29148



# Tribute Wall

PP

“ *ToThe Gaters Family: Please accept my deepest sympathy and condolences in the lost of your Mother. She was such a beautiful woman inside and out with a kind spirit. Always encouraging others especially the youth to do your best.*

*With Sympathy and Prayers,  
Patricia Pringle, Clarendon County Auditor and the Pringle Family*

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**Patricia Pringle** - March 05, 2023 at 11:33 AM



SJ

“ *Terri and family, please accept my deepest condolences regarding the passing of your dear mother. I am praying for you all. Sh'lisa Jackson*

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**Shlisa Jackson** - March 03, 2023 at 08:13 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Ruby Lee Smith Gaters.*

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March 03, 2023 at 04:50 PM



DR

“ I am sorry for your loss. "Wherever a beautiful soul has been, there is a trail of beautiful memories." Your Mom touched so many lives. I pray that you and your family find peace and comfort in knowing she will be missed by so many.

Deborah P. Richardson - March 02, 2023 at 06:58 PM

DR

“ Deborah P. Richardson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Ruby Lee Smith Gaters



Deborah P. Richardson - March 02, 2023 at 06:56 PM

JG

“ Our deepest condolences to the Gaters family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during your time of sorrow. Cherish those fond memories of your loved one, Ruby forever.

Lee and Janie Gibson, Sanford, FL



Janie Gibson - March 02, 2023 at 04:36 PM

LW

“ Love you, The Witherspoods purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mrs. Ruby Lee Smith Gaters.



Love you, The Witherspoods - March 02, 2023 at 09:45 AM

RH

“ *Rev.& Mrs. O. J. Hannah lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Ruby Lee Smith Gaters*



Rev.& Mrs. O. J. Hannah - March 02, 2023 at 12:34 AM

SS

*My sincere condolences to the Gaters family. I'm praying God comfort you during this most difficult time. Sylvia (Yvette)*

Sylvia Shropshire - March 02, 2023 at 01:14 AM

SW

*we are praying for you all that God will give you all the strength to make it through this difficult time and Beyond.Mr and Mrs Richard White we love you all*

s h a r o l y n white - March 02, 2023 at 04:58 PM

WJ

*I am praying for each of you during this difficult time Remember God will never leave you or forsake you Love Willene Lawson James and Family*

Willene James - March 03, 2023 at 09:32 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Ruby Lee Smith Gaters.*



March 01, 2023 at 07:26 PM

ML

“ To The Gaters Family,  
May God keep each of you with His love.  
My “friend” Ruby’s job was well done. Ruby was so proud of each of  
you.  
Our prayers and love are with you family.  
Love,  
The Garrisons

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Marie, Elaine(Aaron), Jeanne and Larkin - February 28, 2023 at 11:37 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for  
the family of Mrs. Ruby Lee Smith Gaters.



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February 28, 2023 at 11:22 PM

CM

“ To The Gaters, Durant & Sumrell Families  
May God's love surround and comfort each of you during this  
difficult time.  
Ruby was always loving & welcoming to us, whenever we visited  
her & Joe  
during our trips down south. Our thoughts and prayers are with you..

The Mellerson & Marion Families

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Christine Mellerson - February 28, 2023 at 07:23 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Ruby Lee Smith Gaters.*



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February 28, 2023 at 04:47 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Ruby Lee Smith Gaters.*



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February 28, 2023 at 11:03 AM



“ *Steven Goldberg & The Steinberg Law Firm purchased the Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray for the family of Mrs. Ruby Lee Smith Gaters.*



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**Steven Goldberg & The Steinberg Law Firm** - February 28, 2023 at 09:04 AM



“ *Mrs. Ruby Gaters was such a beautiful soul! She was a women of Love! Always complimenting everyone on how beautiful they look! She did what God commands us to do Love everybody! Treat everyone right no matter where they come from. Mrs. Ruby you've done your part! Well Done! To the family I love y'all Jannie Cannon Greenville SC*

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**jannie Cannon** - February 27, 2023 at 09:01 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Ruby Lee Smith Gaters.*



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February 27, 2023 at 11:29 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Ruby Lee Smith Gaters.*



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February 27, 2023 at 08:20 AM



“ *Ms. Renee and family:  
We are deeply sorry for your loss. We pray that God can provide you comfort at this time. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers.*

*With deepest sympathies,  
The Bines Family*

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**Rasaan Bines** - February 26, 2023 at 09:06 AM

DW

*Attorney Renee Gaters and family, I did not know your mom personally but I knew of her love, respect and admiration for those of us in the trenches of education. My dear friend, the late Dr. Rose Wilder was so uplifted whenever she received a beautiful bouquet of flowers from Mrs. Gaters. Your mom will be remembered as a woman of great fortitude for her many years of support and encouragement for those of us in education. May our Heavenly Father continue to bless you and your family and may these words bring you peace. Sincerely, Dr. Vashti K. Washington, Associate Professor, SCSU.*

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**Dr. Vashti Washington** - February 26, 2023 at 09:47 PM

DM

*To The Gaters Family,  
My condolences goes out to each of you during this time. Ruby was such a sweet, fun and loving person to work with. I will always remember her by her strut. She had a walk of confidence and worth.  
In Sympathy,  
Dian McKinney*

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**Dian Mckinney** - February 28, 2023 at 11:05 AM

LW

*To The Gaters Family,  
Our condolences goes out to you. Her kindness will never be forgotten. Her sweetness will always linger near and her laughter we will always share. May God continue to bless you all.  
The Williams family*

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**Lillie Williams** - March 01, 2023 at 12:53 PM

DJ

*To Our Cousins Renee, Deidre, Terri & the Family,  
We are lifting you up in prayer during this very sad and difficult time. The loss of your mother is truly a great loss but the Lord will heal your sorrow. In time, your tears will change to smiles as you think about and remember the love and sweet memories of her. May the comfort of knowing that she is resting in peace with her Heavenly Father give you peace. We love you.  
The Smith Family (Darlean, Jackie, Juanita, Bruce, Valarie, Lyndra)*

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**Darlean Smith Jenkins** - March 04, 2023 at 12:25 PM

KW

*May the peace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ surrounds and holds you close during this most difficult time. As long as life shall last and memory hold true, I will remember Ruby and her kindness and especially her beautiful smile. Katie G. Williams and Family*

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**Katie G Williams** - March 04, 2023 at 09:11 PM

SD

“ Terry,  
“I'm sorry for your loss.” “I'll miss your mom's smile.” “She's in a better place now.  
Sharon Davis

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**Sharon Davis** - February 26, 2023 at 01:30 AM

DW

“ Renee,  
Please accept our most sincere condolences. Stay in FAITH...  
Dexter, Renee, Dex, Lynette, and family

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**Dexter N. Wilson** - February 25, 2023 at 05:21 PM

AM

*Renee,  
Please accept my deepest condolences to you and your family on the passing of your mother. I did not know your mother personally but I have had the blessing of knowing you. The Bible says a tree is known by the fruit it bears and I can bear witness to your being exceptional fruit in serving your profession and church and community. I pause and give thanks to God for the Great Tree your mom was, blessing so many of us exceedingly abundantly through the wonderful children she mothered and raised. What a life well-lived!*

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**Attorney Bernard McIntyre** - February 25, 2023 at 07:35 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Ruby Lee Smith Gaters.* ”



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February 25, 2023 at 04:33 PM