

*A Celebration of Life for*

*Helen Elizabeth  
Jones Wedeaux*

**February 8, 1934 • August 23, 2017**

*And Helen said: "My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed." - Luke 1:46-48*

*-I've Changed My Address-*

I've changed my address to Heaven

I've crossed the Great Divide.

I know there's no sorrow or crying,  
Because I've reached the other side.

I am so happy to be here,  
for the Lord Himself I see.

I've changed my address to Heaven,  
I bid this world goodbye.

I now live forever with Jesus in  
my new home in the sky.

I have no burdens or heartaches  
And from tears I am now free.

I've changed my address to Heaven,  
I'm safe forevermore.

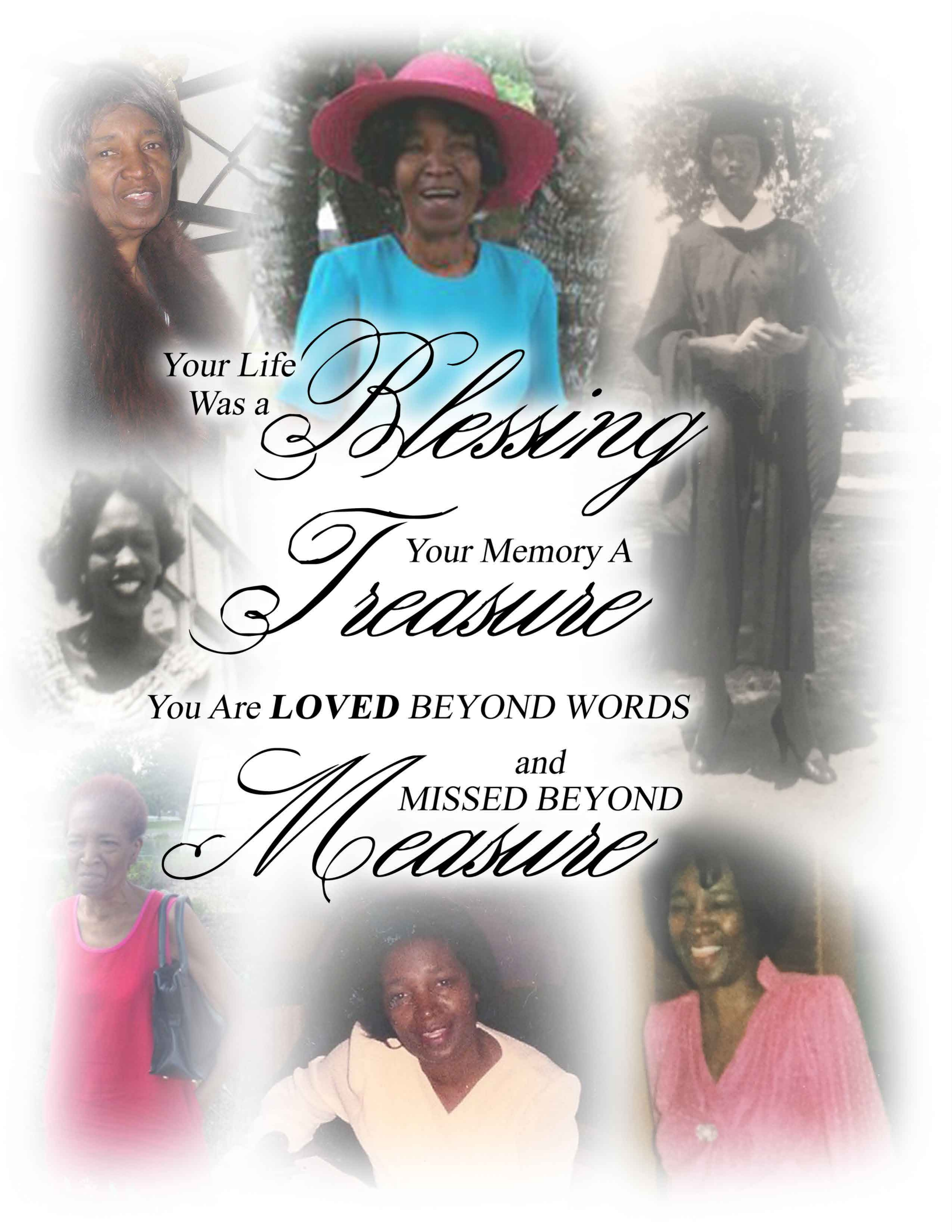
For the Lord built a mansion  
And my name is on the door.

You can find us walking together,  
For where He is, I'll always be.

I've changed my address to Heaven,  
That's the place you'll find me.

*Helen Elizabeth Jones Dedeaux*

12 Gates to the City Avenue  
New Jerusalem, Heaven 77777



Your Life  
Was a

*Blessing*

Your Memory A

*Treasure*

You Are **LOVED** BEYOND WORDS

and  
MISSED BEYOND

*Measure*

# *- Order of Service -*

Processional ..... Clergy, Pallbearers, and Family

Final Glimpse ..... Funeral Staff

Old Testament Reading ..... Psalm 27: 4-14, DeAnna Nwankwo

New Testament Reading ..... Matthew 11: 28 – 30, Barbara Hightower

Musical Selection ..... Erica Young

## **"The Lord's Prayer"**

Family Acknowledgment ..... Mary Dedeaux - Swinton

Special Tribute ..... Andriene Dedeaux - Solomon

## **A Tribute to Helen's Beautiful Life**

The Message ..... Pastor Lamon Atkins

Progressive New Hope Baptist Church

Recessional ..... Clergy, Pallbearers, Family, and Friends

## **"I'm Going Up Yonder"**

The repast will be held in the fellowship hall immediately after the service.

Darden Cemetery Service - Corrigan, Texas

Prayer

The Committal

Parting Words from the Funeral Consultant

The Benediction



## *- Commemorating Her Legacy -*

One has to wonder if Henrietta Darden and John Edward Jones knew that their sweet baby girl would touch so many lives. Their only child, Helen Elizabeth, whose name means “shining light” and “God is my satisfaction,” was born in Chester, Texas on February 8, 1934. Family and friends all heard stories from her fond childhood memories from Chester and later Beaumont, before her family moved to Houston to make their home.

Helen graduated from Phillis Wheatley High School and decided attend college at Prairie View A & M University, where she played trumpet in the band. After college, she decided to pursue a career in education. Early in her career, she also operated a nursery school, with an emphasis on dance and the arts. For 37 years, she dedicated her life to teaching -- mostly second grade at Franklin Elementary in Houston Independent School District on Houston’s East Side. Her children recalled how dedicated she was to her school, even commuting as far away as Spring to continue teaching at Franklin. Her students held her in high esteem and she adored them.

She met her husband, Alvin George Dedeaux, while out bowling with friends and they married August 11, 1963.

Although Helen was close to her many cousins growing up, she was an only child and always dreamt of having a big family. The Jones-Dedeaux union produced six children: Alvin George II, Mary Ellen, Tracy Nanette, Adrienne Elizabeth, Stephanie Renée, and Helene Consuella.

Everyone knew Helen loved children, especially her own. Loving, caring, respectful, lady-like, wise and protective are words they feel suited their mother best. Her life revolved around her family, being sure to love each child in a special way. She sewed the girl’s Easter dresses and Christmas outfits, as sewing was one of her favorite past times. Cooking was also close to Helen’s heart. Her dinner rolls and peach cobbler will not soon be forgotten! On many a night before a holiday family meal, Mr. and Mrs. Dedeaux might be up half the night smoking meats on their pit or otherwise preparing to welcome guests. They especially enjoyed their children returning home with friends to join holiday dinners as they grew up and created lives of their own. There was always enough room at the table.



*Helen learned to appreciate fine clothing from her parents and her time spent working at Battelstein's in Houston during summer break from Prairie View. She collected china and crystal glassware (she was especially skilled at finding her favorite collectibles at garage sales and thrift shops).*

*Despite having a career and family, Helen made time to continue her education and volunteer for her church. She completed courses in education at Texas Southern University, often taking classes in the evenings and during summer breaks. She also volunteered her time as secretary and vacation bible school teacher at Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, where her father was pastor.*

*Although she had learned many lessons worth sharing throughout the years, she offered advice to her children gently, and was never judgmental.*

*Helen will be remembered for her kind demeanor and gentle spirit. The bible speaks of virtuous woman and it says: She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs without fear of the future. When she speaks, her words are wise, and she gives instructions with kindness. She carefully watches everything in her household and suffers nothing from laziness. Her children stand and bless her. Her husband praises her: There are many virtuous and capable women in the world, but you surpass them all! Charm is deceptive, and beauty does not last; but a woman who fears the Lord will be greatly praised. Reward her for all she has done. Let her deeds publicly declare her praise. (Proverbs 31:25-31, NLT)*

*We can rejoice and be glad knowing that she has received her heavenly reward!*

*Helen has joined in heaven, her husband Alvin George Dedeaux, and parents Henrietta Darden Jones and the Reverend John Edward Jones.*

*Precious memories will linger for those who remain: her children: Alvin George Dedeaux, II (Lenée), Mary Ellen Dedeaux-Swinton (Jeffrey), Tracy Nanette Dedeaux, Adrienne Elizabeth Dedeaux-Solomon (Kelton), Stephanie Renée Dedeaux (Charlie Keene), and Helene Consuella Dedeaux (Rodney Jones).*

*And her grandchildren: Mila Alexandra Doiron, Sadie Elizabeth Dedeaux, Ruby Renée Dedeaux, Jeremy Holmes Swinton, Sydney Elizabeth Swinton, Kevin Cees deJong, Nicholas Solomon, Farrah Elizabeth Solomon, Camille Elizabeth Keene, Madeleine Louise Keene, Claudia Marianne Keene, Jaleel Ahmad Dedeaux, Nadia Taylor Jones and Roman Jamal Jones.*

## *-Tributes-*

What I loved about Grandma was how she was always trying her best to make someone a better person. She would always make sure that I was always the best I could be. She would always make sure I was the best I could be. Grandma was always trying to change lives. Grandma taught for 20 + years. Grandma had a goal to change lives. Grandma was such an amazing person she not only changed the Dedeaux family but also as many lives as she could. Because thats what being a Dedeaux is all about.

*Jaleel*

I loved when we lived with Grandma and she sang in the kitchen. I also loved when we went to the store together.

*Nadia*

One of my favorite memories of Grandma is one day when Jaleel and I went into Grandma's room and started running around and acting crazy. She got up and chased us all over her house. She acted like she was going to spank us but we knew she was just playing around with us because she was laughing the whole time. We started doing that everyday just to play with her. I think she had as much fun as we did.

*Nicholas*

Grandma always used to tell me about the responsibilities I had to my sister and then to my cousins. She would tell me how I had to look out for and always help my sister, Sydney. When she would tell me I had to be to be the one to set the example for everyone to follow, it really didn't sink in until I got older. Grandma was all about the family. I get it, now. That task she put on me as a child has helped mold me into the man I am today. I hope I live a life that Grandma would be proud of.

*Jeremy*

What comes to mind is when on one Christmas where grandma got me "just dance" and everyone would just be upstairs on the Xbox dancing our heart out, having dance competitions between the boys and girls, and just having fun really. I don't know how grandma did it but she always just knew the perfect gift for everyone.

*Kevin*

Grandma loved her soul food. When my brother, Jeremy and I would go to her house over the summer she would always threaten us with chitlins. We hated chitlins, and she knew it. The more my brother and I would overreact to the thought of eating them the more and more she would offer them up. It became a running joke between the three of us.

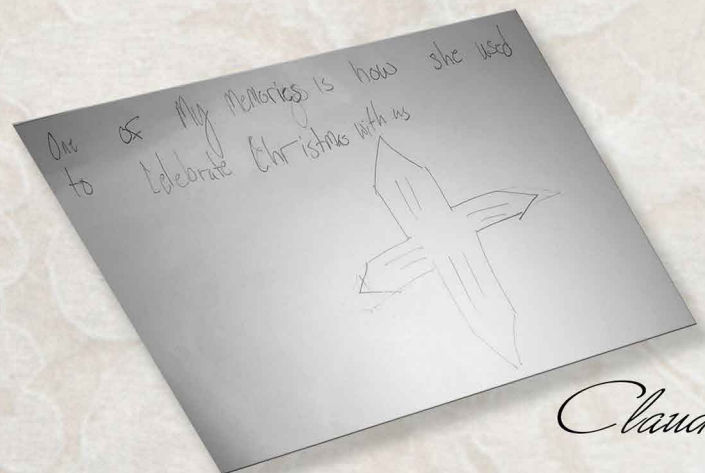
*Sydney*

I loved it when Grandma lived with me.

*Farrak*

When I Think of Grandma, the one memory my mind always goes to is on summer day about six years ago. We were all at her house, for some holiday, and she was chasing all the children around the house pretending that she was a monster out to get us. I couldn't say why this is the memory that always comes to mind, but I am glad it is because I believe that is captures the playful and loving dynamic that she has with all her grandchildren.

*Camille*



*Claudia*

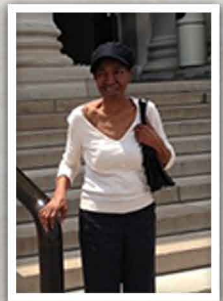
# *Life Well Lived*

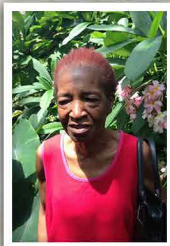
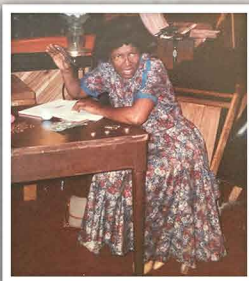
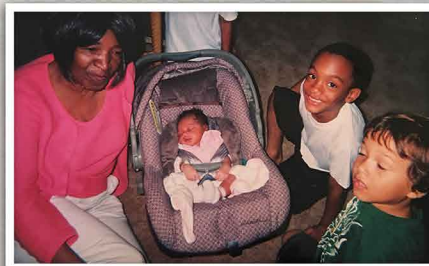
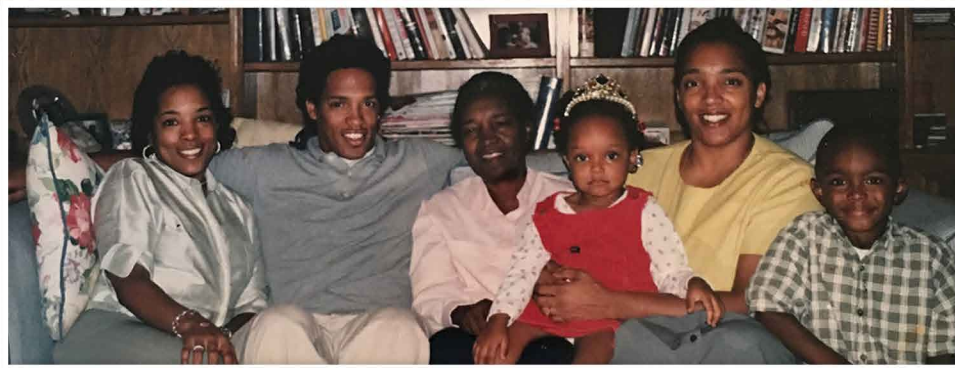
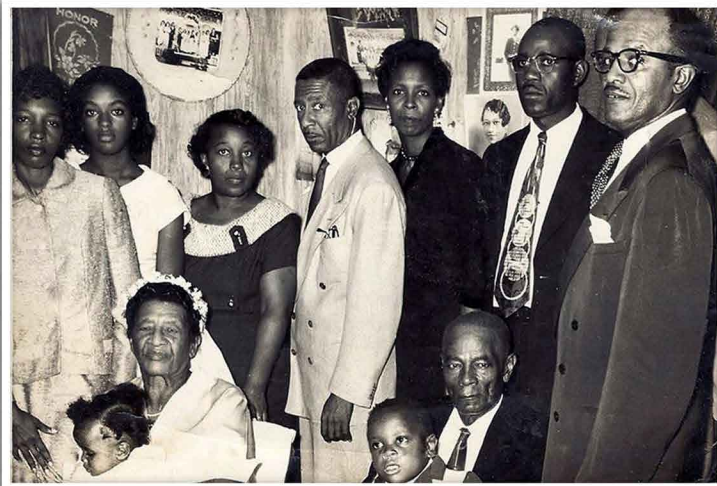
*A life well lived is a precious gift,  
of hope and strength and grace,  
from someone who has made our world  
a brighter, better place.*

*It's filled with moments, sweet and sad  
with smiles and sometimes tears,  
with friendships formed  
and good times shared,  
and laughter through the years.*

*A life well lived is a legacy,  
of joy and pride and pleasure,  
a living, lasting memory  
our grateful heart's  
will treasure.*









# *Active Pallbearers*

Alvin Dedeaux, II, son  
James Jones, cousin  
Charlie Keene, son in law

Kelton Solomon, son in law  
Jeffrey Swinton, son in law  
Jeremy Swinton, grandson

## *Family Acknowledgement*

God has touched our hearts through each of you and for this, we are thankful. To those who sent a card and visited, to those who called and prayed for us and with us, to those who sat quietly and just remembered us, we are sincerely grateful for your acts of caring and the expressions of love extended to us. Your kindness and your prayers are humbly received. Also the family would like to express special gratitude to the staff of Windsong Care Center and to the team at Heart to Heart Hospice for treating our mother with kindness and dignity. Please continue to pray for us and may God continue to bless each of you.

*~The Family of Helen Elizabeth Jones Dedeaux~*

*Guided with Love*



*Janice R. Hicks*  
NATIONAL FUNERAL CONSULTING GROUP  
832.721.8700  
[janicerhicks.nfcg.org](http://janicerhicks.nfcg.org)

*Final Arrangements Entrusted to*

~Loving Memories Mortuary~  
Houston, Texas

*Final Resting Place*

~Darden Family Cemetery~  
Corrigan, Texas