



Mrs. Evelaner "Mama Free" Bates

May 5, 1939 - June 14, 2019

Mrs. Evelaner Winding Bates, 80, of Liberty, MS, peacefully bid farewell to this life on June 14, 2019 at the University of MS Medical Center in Jackson, MS. Mrs. Bates, best known to all as "Mama Free", was born May 5, 1939 in Liberty, MS to the late Mr. Royan Winding and the late Mrs. Rosie Lee Winding.

Evelaner created lasting memories with everyone who came in contact with her jovial spirit and captivating sense of wit. She founded and opened Unique Beauty Shop where she was the local beautician for many Liberty residents. Evelaner had a special dose of sass and class and lived a big life until God served his final summons on her life.

Evelaner was preceded in death by both of her parents, three brothers: Bobby Lewis Winding, Ulysses Winding, and Jessie Winding, and three sisters: Catherine Galloway, her twin sister, Willimemar Witt, and Virginia Bates. She leaves to mourn her passing, one daughter: Theresa (David) Taylor, of Liberty, MS. N One son: Walter (Debbie) of New Orleans, LA. Seven grandchildren: Sharonda Taylor of Dallas, TX, Ranardo Knighten. Nikita Taylor, Latoya (Jason) Winding-Banks, and David Taylor, all of New Orleans, LA, Brittney Taylor of Liberty, MS, and Blandis Fisher of New Orleans, LA. Three great-grandchildren: Jason Banks, III, Jaxon Banks, and Jayse Banks, all of New Orleans, LA. She also leaves two brothers: Thomas Winding, Sr. and Charles

(Tijwana) Winding of Liberty, MS and three sisters: Dorothy (Bobby) Hamilton, Rowanner (James) Allen, and Betty Winding, all of Liberty, MS. Two Sisters-in-law: Mary Winding of McComb, MS and Arthamease Williams of Liberty, MS. Four God-Siblings: Willie Jackson, Ellis Ray Jackson, Benjamin Rodgers and Maxine Nimox. Three special Friends: Willine Winding, Sarah Taylor, and Janice Weatherspoon, and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

The visitation for Mrs. Bates will be held Friday 4pm until 6pm at Craft Funeral Home in McComb, MS. Her homegoing celebration will take place Saturday 11am at Mt. Sinai Baptist Church in Liberty, MS. Rev. Jehu White will officiate the funeral service, with interment to follow in the church cemetery.

Please share online condolences at www.craftfuneralhome.org.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Sinai Church Cemetery

5033 Mt. Sinai Rd.
Liberty, MS 39645

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN **21**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Craft Funeral Home
210 Martin Luther King Dr
McComb, MS 39648
(601) 684-5971
info@craftfuneralhome.org
<https://www.craftfuneralhome.org/>

Service

JUN **22**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Mt. Sinai M.B. Church
5033 Mt. Sinai Rd.
Liberty, MS 39645

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Evelaner "Mama Free" Bates*

October 09, 2023 at 08:24 AM



“ *My Auntee allowed me to stay with her on weekends while I was a student at Jackson State University. She would do my hair and fry fish. We had big fun together! I would bring my clothes down to wash. I was sooo appreciative that my cousin AKA Big Sis, Theresa (Auntee Free's daughter) would help me with my laundry and fuss at me at the same time. Auntee and I traveled to visiting churches to sing with the choir too. Boy, she would drive so fast through the woods, I would sit quietly and pray for our safety. After the service was over, Auntee and I would get back in the car and again, she would whip through the woods like a professional race car driver. 😊 I have loads of memories, but the most important thing about my Auntee Free...she could express her thoughts about anything at any time. If you didn't want to hear the truth you knew not to ask my Auntee Free. Loved my Auntee with all of my heart!!*

Agurann H. Bates - June 21, 2019 at 08:10 PM



“ *Our staff will continue to keep your family in our prayers. We thank you for allowing us to serve your family during this difficult time. ~~~~Craft Funeral Home & Craft-Ginn Funeral Chapel*

Crystal Renee Hollins - June 18, 2019 at 11:24 AM