



Minister Takako LaShonda Gatson-Smith

March 8, 1976 - March 3, 2025

Takako Lashonda Gatson Smith was born March 8, 1976, in Farmerville, Louisiana. She was the youngest sibling born to the late Rev. Cleo Gatson and Allen Delouis Paige-Gatson. Her brother, Michael Gatson, two special aunts, Millie Mae Gatson-Andrews and Daisy Lee Gatson-Bates all preceded her in death.

Her work followed her humble spirit. She never got unnoticed as she served at the World Services for the Blind in Little Rock, Arkansas. Takako will be remembered as an unapologetic Prayer Warrior who was nonjudgemental and always had that contagious smile. Her presence was felt whenever she entered the room because she never met a stranger.

Takako was baptized at the County Line Missionary Baptist Church in Louisiana at an early age. During her later years, she attended Parkway Place Church in Little Rock, Arkansas. She departed this earthly home on Monday, March 3, 2025, at her residence in Little Rock, Arkansas, to live throughout eternity.

Her sweet memories will be forever cherished in the lives of her children: Phillip Smith Jr, Victoria Smith, Prince Smith, and Grace Smith all of Little Rock, Arkansas; two brothers, Cleodis (Minister Sharon) Gatson of North Little Rock, Arkansas, Hoby (Karen) Gatson of Summit, New Jersey; three sisters,

Phyllis Gatson-Lumsey of El Dorado, Arkansas, Felicia Gatson-Johnson of Dallas, Texas, Roslyn Gatson of El Dorado, Arkansas, and a host of nieces, nephews, and other relatives, and friends to celebrate her homegoing. She is gone but will never be forgotten.

Celebration of Life services will be held Saturday, March 15th, 2025, at R.L. Reed Funeral Home Chapel in Magnolia, Arkansas at 11:00 a.m. with burial to follow at County Line Cemetery in Spearville, Louisiana, under the direction of R.L. Reed Funeral Home, LLC. Minister Cleodis Gatson, Eulogist.

A final viewing will be held before services begin, so please govern yourselves accordingly.

“For precaution due to the COVID-19, Masks are Encouraged but Not Required While Attending the Services and During Visitation Hours. However, wearing masks ensures safety for you and others. Thank you.”

Cemetery Details

County Line Cemetery

425 County Line Rd.
Spearville, LA 71277

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAR 15. 11:00 AM (CT)

R.L. Reed Funeral Home Chapel
100 HWY 79 NORTH
Magnolia, AR

Tribute Wall

AC

“ *Agatha Clark lit a candle in memory of Minister Takako LaShonda Gatson-Smith*



Agatha Clark - March 26, 2025 at 04:09 PM

AC

My deepest heartfelt condolences to the Gatson and Smith families. Wow I'm lost for words. Just hearing about Takako's passing. God makes no mistakes. His timing is always great. Lifting the family in prayer for your comfort and strength. Much love to you 💕💕

Agatha Clark - March 26, 2025 at 04:13 PM

CD

“ *It's faith that lifts us up, love that brings us comfort, and strength that allows us to move on. May you be touched by the healing power of prayer, feel the warmth of those who love you, and realize you have the courage to carry on. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all, our deepest condolences.*

Cynthia Daniel - March 15, 2025 at 11:17 AM

AF

“ *Abundant Grace Apostolic Church Family!! planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Minister Takako LaShonda Gatson-Smith.*

Abundant Grace Apostolic Church Family!! - March 14, 2025 at 09:12 PM

AF

“ Abundant Grace Apostolic Church Family!! purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Minister Takako LaShonda Gatson-Smith.



Abundant Grace Apostolic Church Family!! - March 14, 2025 at 09:12 PM

MC

“ We did not personally know Takako but she was our family thru our Son-n-law Drake Johnson. Our Hearts and prayers are with Gatson-Smith Family. Doug, Marlene, Alex (Johnson) and Ashleigh Carberry.

Marlene Carberry - March 13, 2025 at 09:51 AM

DF

“ Doug and Marlene Carberry & Family purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Minister Takako LaShonda Gatson-Smith.



Doug and Marlene Carberry & Family - March 13, 2025 at 09:48 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Minister Takako LaShonda Gatson-Smith.

March 12, 2025 at 01:16 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Minister Takako LaShonda Gatson-Smith.*



March 12, 2025 at 01:16 PM



“ *Prayers and condolences to the family.*



Denise Aaron - March 12, 2025 at 09:02 AM



“ *Takako was my coworker at WSB. She was loved by many and her presence will be greatly missed. No matter the challenges she faced, she remained optimistic and always had a word of encouragement. She would stop by my office occasionally and we would talk about the goodness of God. She would say “let me go back to work cause I can stay here all day talking about Jesus.” I will miss our conversations because there is no one else that I can talk to on that level. One day she came to me and out the blue said “He didn’t bring you this far to leave you.” At that moment I needed to be reminded of that. I thank God for allowing me to meet such a lovely human being. To her children and family, I pray that God send strength, comfort, and peace that surpasses your understanding. God bless you! 🙏❤️*

Latashia J - March 11, 2025 at 02:36 AM

LS

Sending love, prayers, and sympathy to the Gatson and Smith Families. Rest in peace.

Lennie Smith - March 11, 2025 at 02:59 PM

EM

“*Wow cousin! What a shock! You transitioned before our next reunion but God is a mistake-less God and wanted you in His presence. I’m saddened but I’m not mad. He knows what’s best. Looking forward to that meet up in the air!*”



Eric Bishop Miles - March 09, 2025 at 08:16 PM

BC

“*Brooke Clausen lit a candle in memory of Minister Takako LaShonda Gatson-Smith*”



Brooke Clausen - March 08, 2025 at 09:51 PM

LG

Prayers and condolences 🙏🕊️

Leslie Gatson-Winston - March 09, 2025 at 10:25 PM

BC

“ I worked with Kako. She was the sweetest soul at WSB. My first memory of her was her and I at miss Ds closet and she was grabbing something out of it. I had just met her I was brand new to working there and I must have been looking really stressed out and worried as I was looking off while she was saying something and I heard her say it's gonna be ok and I clutched my chest at my heart and In an almost crying voice I whispered what did you just say and she said it again it's gonna be ok. It was the way she said it like she knew for sure like God had told her it was gonna be ok and she touched my soul that she said that to me. It may not sound like much but for the moment it meant everything bc we didn't know each other hardly at all and I was in such emotional pain that I had no idea she could see it on my face. I loved her from then on. She was such a kind spirit. I always greeted her hey pretty lady. I will miss her so very much. She was so young. 6 yrs older than me. I'm so sad that she's gone and I'll never get to hear her sweet voice again. But I know one thing is that when she told me it would be ok I believed her. I think she'd say the same thing right now ab this. She was strong in her faith and I know we miss her but this life is temporary in preparation for the eternal life and I know she'll be there. I love you forever Kako. We miss you so much. Fly high sweet angel.

Brooke Clausen - March 08, 2025 at 09:36 PM

SS

“ Rest Easy Gorgeous One



Sue Sledge - March 08, 2025 at 07:59 AM

TM

“ *Tabetha Modica lit a candle in memory of Minister Takako LaShonda Gatson-Smith*



Tabetha Modica - March 08, 2025 at 01:35 AM

TM

“ *Love u* 🍷🕊️

Tabetha Modica - March 08, 2025 at 01:35 AM

MJ

“ *Mary White Jackson lit a candle in memory of Minister Takako LaShonda Gatson-Smith*



Mary White Jackson - March 07, 2025 at 09:46 PM

DM

“ *REST IN HEAVEN COUSIN, WE ARE GOING TO MISS YOU DEARLY, LOVE YOU. WE WILL CHERISH ALL THE WONDERFUL MEMORIES YOU LEFT FOR THE FAMILY. YOU'RE REUNITED WITH PAPA CLEO AND MAMA LENE.* 💙🙏



Dre Madison - March 07, 2025 at 02:38 PM

VN

“ *Veronica Nelson lit a candle in memory of Minister Takako LaShonda Gatson-Smith*



Veronica Nelson - March 06, 2025 at 08:07 PM

DW

“ *Dianne Willis lit a candle in memory of Minister Takako LaShonda Gatson-Smith*



Dianne Willis - March 06, 2025 at 11:47 AM

MC

“ *Michael Clayton sent a virtual gift in memory of Minister Takako LaShonda Gatson-Smith*



Michael Clayton - March 05, 2025 at 05:22 PM

JD

“ *James Dismuke lit a candle in memory of Minister Takako LaShonda Gatson-Smith*



James Dismuke - March 05, 2025 at 03:20 PM

DH

“ Dearlean Hughes lit a candle in memory of Minister Takako LaShonda Gatson-Smith



Dearlean Hughes - March 05, 2025 at 09:32 AM

SS

“ In loving memory of a cherished sister, whose kindness and warmth touched everyone around her. Though she has left this world, her spirit remains in the hearts of all who knew her. May her memory be a source of comfort and her legacy inspire us to live with compassion and love. She will be deeply missed but never forgotten. Heartfelt condolences, Sydnee Shorten



Sydnee Shorten - March 04, 2025 at 11:20 PM

LG

Sending prayers and condolences to the family! Leslie Gatson-Winston!❤️

Leslie Gatson-Winston - March 05, 2025 at 06:46 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Minister Takako LaShonda Gatson-Smith.



March 04, 2025 at 11:16 PM