



## Alease DuRant

February 22, 2022

Alease Byrd DuRant was born on October 16, 1927 in Florence County to Junious and Florence Pettigrew Byrd. She was the ninth child of twelve children, six boys and six girls. She left home at 18 to attend Morris College in Sumter, SC where she majored in Social Studies and Elementary Education with a minor in English. She later continued her education at Morgan State College and Mt. Mercy College in Pittsburgh, PA where she became certified as a reading specialist and at SC State College where she became certified in Special Education. She began her career as an elementary educator in Holly Hill, SC.

Alease married Rev. Elee J. DuRant (E.J.) in 1949 with two daughters born to this union. After marrying, she became a foster parent for the first Florence County foster home for African-American children. She continued her teaching career in Florence District 3 and later began teaching in Florence District 1 from which she retired after 32 years of service. She also taught during the summers at Camp Courage for special needs children. After retiring, Alease continued to work part-time in Florence School District 1 in adult education and privately tutored family and community members. She was also a member of The Retired Teachers Association.

Alease was a life long member of Bethlehem Baptist Church where she was baptized during the 8th. Grade. She was a Sunday school teacher, a Missionary member and a Tent member. She attended church faithfully until her health failed.

Alease is survived by two daughters, Aquila Brown (George) and Yolanda Braswell (Charles); six grandchildren, Maurice DuRant (Megan), Kelley Purdie, Gerard Brown, Travis Brown (Taisha), Brandon Braswell (Jewel) and Aleascia Braswell; a brother, Rockefeller Byrd (Pat); a “sister” Corrine Stewart, two goddaughters, Rose Battle and Gwendolyn Lowery; 15 great grandchildren, 1 great-great grandchild and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and devoted friends. Alease will be greatly missed and cherished in memory by all.

# Cemetery Details

## Sunset Memory Gardens

2615 Alligator Road  
Effingham, SC 29541

# Tribute Wall

AW

“ I am just learning about Ms. Durant’s passing. She was an amazing woman and a wonderful friend to my mother Ms. Eugenia Solomon. Thoughts and prayers are with you.  
Angela Solomon-Williams

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**Angela Solomon Williams** - March 27, 2022 at 12:10 PM

SM

“ Mrs. Alease DuRant will ALWAYS be remembered. She has imparted many great, gentle, and Godly lessons to many students. Bethlehem Baptist Church was richly blessed with her diligence in imparting biblical truths to the younger generations. I thank God that I was a recipient. I encourage all to follow the God-given principles she taught so well over her four score and 14 years.

*Family, you have my sincerest condolences -although I believe she is shouting Victory over death right now! Hallelujah!!!*

~~~Sister Melody Ham McCray and Family

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**Sister Melody Ham McCray** - February 28, 2022 at 02:12 PM

NE

“ Nathaniel & Janice Echols lit a candle in memory of Alease DuRant



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**Nathaniel & Janice Echols** - February 26, 2022 at 08:17 PM

MS

“ Our heartfelt prayers and condolences go out to the DuRant, Brown, and Braswell families. We can't begin to say we know what and how you are feeling because Mrs. DuRant was the foundation on which your families were built. Although she is physically gone, she will forever live in your hearts. She touched so many lives. May GOD provide you with the necessary strength to endure your time of bereavement. HE saw fit to pluck this beautiful flower from HIS garden so that she could take her rest. Yes, we loved her, but HE loved her best! May GOD continue to bless you! 🙏🙏🙏❤️❤️❤�

Maurice and Lula Goodwine - Columbia, SC - February 26, 2022 at 05:58 PM

JB

“ Jeronell Bradley lit a candle in memory of Alease DuRant



Jeronell Bradley - February 26, 2022 at 05:26 PM

SL

“ My sincere condolences to the family. You are in my prayers.  
Stephanie Thompson Lockhart



Stephanie Lockhart - February 26, 2022 at 12:32 PM

SB

“ Praying for peace and comfort to the families of the departed. Our deepest condolences

*Mrs. & Mr. Jessie B. Barr & Family*

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**Sandra Barr** - February 25, 2022 at 08:34 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Alease DuRant.



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February 25, 2022 at 07:43 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Alease DuRant.



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February 25, 2022 at 06:20 PM

RJ

“ Rudelle Jackson lit a candle in memory of Alease DuRant



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**Rudelle Jackson** - February 25, 2022 at 02:08 PM

DM

“ Dan, Kathy and Bryan Mahoney purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Alease DuRant.



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**Dan, Kathy and Bryan Mahoney** - February 24, 2022 at 10:27 AM

AN

“ Thank you, God, for a life well-lived. A great teacher from my early childhood that always had a sweet spirit. Always welcoming whenever we visited her home as young students. May God comfort and strengthen the family during this time.



*Audrey Davis-Nelson*

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**Audrey Davis Nelson** - February 23, 2022 at 07:40 PM

BD

“ Always fond of our conversations filled with life stories. Your laughter and smile will always live on my heart. Our family was blessed to have you as a neighbor



*Love Sammie and Brenda Davis*

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**Brenda Davis** - February 23, 2022 at 05:05 PM

MS

*Our heartfelt prayers and condolences go out to the Brown and DuRant families during your time of bereavement. May GOD provide you with the needed strength to endure your time of bereavement. Mrs. DuRant displayed her love for GOD by the way she lived and treated her fellow man. She was a very nurturing, caring, and compassionate lady who accepted everyone for who they were. GOD plucked this beautiful flower from HIS garden and now she is safe in HIS arms no longer in pain and smiling down on all of us. Yes, we loved her but GOD loved her best! May GOD continue to bless y'all.*

**Maurice and Lula Goodwine- Columbia, SC** - February 23, 2022 at 11:39 PM

YG

“ *Yolanda Gee lit a candle in memory of Alease DuRant*



**Yolanda Gee** - February 23, 2022 at 03:16 PM

LJ

“ *Lorretta James lit a candle in memory of Alease DuRant*



**Lorretta James** - February 22, 2022 at 10:28 PM

PB

“ *Pam Burgess lit a candle in memory of Alease DuRant*



**Pam Burgess** - February 22, 2022 at 07:22 PM

MP

“ *Maggie Pettigrew-Mack lit a candle in memory of Alease DuRant*



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**Maggie Pettigrew-Mack** - February 22, 2022 at 06:10 PM