



## Nina Spears Gillispie

March 9, 1928 - February 18, 2025

Our beloved mother, Nina Lee Spears Gillispie, age 96, passed away on February 18, 2025, after a brief illness. Nina Lee was born in Scottsboro, Alabama, on March 9, 1928, to the late J. D. and Bonnie Lou Owens Smith.

During World War II our mother, together with her classmates, helped with the war effort by making clothing and other items to send to the troops serving on the home front and abroad. She graduated from Pisgah High School in May 1946 shortly after the war ended. An avid gardener, seamstress, quilter, and an amazing cook, our mother's greatest pleasures and joys in life were spending time with her children and extended family. She loved her Deans Chapel Community friends and neighbors, having moved to the community as a young bride in 1947. One of our mother's proudest accomplishments was serving as a substitute teacher at Deans Chapel Elementary School for many years.

She married William Clarence Spears, Sr., a veteran of World War II, on March 7, 1947, who preceded her in death. Together they had four children, Martha (Buster) Cravener, William "Bill" Spears, Rebecca Kay Spears, and Frances (Joseph) Dzik, all of whom survive her. In addition, two grandchildren survive her, Michael (Paula) Dzik and Joshua Dzik, and four great grandchildren, Rachel (Joseph) Cummings, Rebecca Dzik, Noah Dzik and Miles Dzik. Her sister-in-law, Earlene Smith, also survives her. She is also

survived by her nephews and nieces, Harold (Elaine) Brookshire, Gerald (Brenda) Brookshire, Sheila (Jerry) Weisenborn, Wayne Wilcoxson, Tom (Pam) Smith, and Mike Smith, as well as several great nephews and nieces.

She was also preceded in death by her second husband, Efford Gillispie, her son-in-law, Luther Timmons, her sister and brother-in-law, Inez and Marcell Brookshire, her brother, J. D. Smith, and her niece, Donna Brookshire Wilcoxson.

The family would like to extend special thanks to the wonderful staff at Cumberland Health & Rehab for the loving care they provided our mother. Additionally, the staff at Southern New Beacon Health Hospice made sure that Momma was comfortable and well cared for during the last few months and we are grateful for their support during this time.

Funeral services will be on Friday, February 21, 2025 at 2:00 pm in Rainsville Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Earnest Corbitt officiating. Burial will follow in Chaney's Chapel Cemetery in Dutton, Alabama.

Visitation will be held on Friday, February 21st from 1PM until 2PM.

# Cemetery Details

## Chaney's Chapel Cemetery

Dutton, AL

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 21. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Rainsville Funeral Home  
498 Mccurdy Ave N  
Rainsville, AL 35986  
(256) 638-2122  
<https://www.rainsvillefuneralhome.com>

## Service

FEB 21. 2:00 PM (CT)

Rainsville Funeral Home  
498 Mccurdy Ave N  
Rainsville, AL 35986  
(256) 638-2122  
<https://www.rainsvillefuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall

TA

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Tiffany Adams - February 28, 2025 at 09:20 PM

RF

“ Rector and kilgore family purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Nina Spears Gillispie.



Rector and kilgore family - February 21, 2025 at 11:22 AM

RF

“ Rector and kilgore family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Nina Spears Gillispie.

Rector and kilgore family - February 21, 2025 at 11:22 AM

RJ

“ Such a precious lady!! I loved her so much and will cherish our time. From playing cards to just talking about old times.



Robin Jenkins - February 21, 2025 at 10:59 AM

HA

“ *Her Angels!!! purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Nina Spears Gillispie.*



Her Angels!!! - February 21, 2025 at 12:25 AM

CS

“ *Charles and Sandy purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Nina Spears Gillispie.*



Charles and Sandy - February 20, 2025 at 12:05 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Nina Spears Gillispie.*



February 19, 2025 at 03:07 PM

SH

“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



shelia - February 19, 2025 at 10:52 AM

SH

*We loved our Aunt Nina and will miss her so much. My brother, Harold, visited every week and she was his teacher about people, relatives, surroundings towns, long lost relatives, etc.. He learned so much as she forgot nothing! She had such love, grace and courage until her last breath. She talked to our dad (her sister's husband) every night after our mom died just to support him and reminisce about good old days and she knew it kept away some of his loneliness. She always was thinking of others and especially our sister, Donna. We know she is now holding her hand and they are smiling down on us. God speed!*

shelia - February 19, 2025 at 11:42 AM

MH

*“ We loved Mrs. Nina so much! Thankful to have had the chance to spend time with her and hear some of her stories.*

*Our Halloween trick or treating visits with her were our favorite.*

*Praying for her family♥♥*



Magnolia Hall - February 18, 2025 at 11:47 PM

ER

“ *My dad, Bradley Wilson, would take my sister and I to Mrs. Nina’s house often to sit and listen to stories. My favorite visits were on Halloween when she would give us the best candy and baked goods. She will truly be missed.*

*-Elizabeth Grace Wilson Rider*



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**Elizabeth Rider** - February 18, 2025 at 11:35 PM

MA

“ *Ms Nina got the daily newspaper and when ever I took it to her, and talked to her she would say " Thank you angel" she was the sweetest person and always in a a good mood. My condolences to the family. Ms Nina, you will be missed.*

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**maria** - February 18, 2025 at 09:00 PM

MO

*mrs nina was the sweetest person i knew in grammar school at deans chaple loved when she was teaching, she raised 4 of the sweetest kids in the world. i loved her. melvin osborne aka gilley.*

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**melvin ray osborne** - February 18, 2025 at 09:24 PM

TS

*Ms Nina was a precious person with a remarkable sweet soul. I loved bringing her meds in the mornings and enjoyed hearing stories about her life. Her children are evidence of her greatness. They are also some of the sweetest people I've ever met. They were visiting and playing cards and having celebrations with her religiously. I can't wait to be with her again someday in Heaven.*

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**Terrie Smallwood** - February 18, 2025 at 09:39 PM

MP

*Ms. Nina was always so sweet every time you walk into her room, she had a big smile on her face. Will miss her so much.*

Michelle Poe - February 19, 2025 at 11:38 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Nina Spears Gillispie.*



February 18, 2025 at 08:44 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Nina Spears Gillispie.*

February 18, 2025 at 08:44 PM