



Delores Reddin

July 6, 1935 - February 22, 2026

Ms. Delores Hudson Reddin was born on July 6, 1935, in Clarksdale, Mississippi, the second of ten children born to Zula Tigue Hudson and John Hudson, Sr. She was raised on the West Side of Chicago, where she would spend her life building a legacy rooted in faith, family, and community. She attended Medill Elementary School and graduated from Lucy Flower High School, forming lifelong bonds and a strong sense of responsibility to those around her. On December 12, 1951, she was united in holy matrimony to Otis Reddin, Sr. From this loving union four children were born: Otis, Dexter (who preceded her in death), Valena LaGail, and Demetrich LaRay. Delores was a woman of diligence and purpose. She began her professional career at Pathfinders, where she quickly advanced to the position of Supervisor. Even after retirement, Delores remained active, later working in several part-time roles, including as an accounting clerk for an accounting firm.

Her commitment to community was just as strong. She was actively engaged in civic life, attending NAACP meetings alongside her dear friend Connie Reden; always believing that faith and action go hand in hand. To the family, Delores was the heart of everything. Lovingly known as the “Baby Whisperer,” she had a special gift with children and was a second mother to her nieces, nephews, and many of her children’s friends. Iwonna Hampton, Valena’s childhood friend (and Bestie), became the second daughter she never had. From learning to ride a bike for the first time to reconnecting with cousins, her

house was a gathering place where children played in the driveway, laughed in the yard, and made lifelong memories.

Her creativity was another expression of love. An exceptional knitter and seamstress, Delores created sweaters, scarves, and even stunning prom dresses; pieces that will be treasured for generations.

She also had a deep and abiding love for animals, especially her beloved dogs: Hershey, Eastwood, Daisy Mae, and Marley; they were family in every sense of the word. She also loved and cherished many family dogs over the years including Copper, Archie, Labbie, Nipples the cat, Bear, Cody, Wink-Wink, Trey, Boseman, Duke, and her grand-dog Ivey. Her compassion extended to all of God's creatures!

Some of the most cherished memories of Delores were found around her table and at her house. She found great joy in hosting Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve gatherings, bringing family together with love, warmth, and laughter. Those moments full of food, stories, and

connection, were her ministry in action. But her greatest pride and deepest love were her children.

Delores loved the Lord with all her heart. She accepted Christ at an early age and was a faithful and dedicated member of Monument of Faith Church, under the leadership of Dr. Richard D. Henton, where she served for many years on the Gideon's Spiritual Army and the Nursing Board.

Delores loved Jesus! Again, Delores loved Jesus!

If you ever called her, you already knew how the conversation would begin. Before hello, before your name, before the reason for the call, you would hear

her familiar greeting: “Bless the Lord.” Her favorite expressions, “Jesus is my doctor” and “Thank God for Jesus,” will forever live in our hearts. Her faith was not something she simply believed; it was something she lived. One of her favorite sayings, “Thank God for Jesus,” was not a phrase she used lightly. It was a testimony. Her faith was steady, joyful, and unwavering, and it shaped every part of who she was.

Delores was called to her eternal home on Sunday, February 22, 2026. She was preceded in death by her parents, John Hudson, Sr. and Zula Tigue Hudson, her husband, Otis Reddin, Sr., and her son, Dexter Reddin; five siblings; brothers’ John, Leon (Maxine), William, Michael, and sister Yvonne Thomas. Delores was the matriarch of her family — a loving, supportive and devoted wife, mother, daughter, sister, aunt and grandmother. Her legacy lives on through her children: Otis Reddin, Jr., Demetrich LaRay Reddin (Crystal), and Valena Reddin-Cade; her granddaughter, Sade’ Cade; her brothers, Randolph Hudson (Sarah) and Kurt Hudson, Sr.; her brother-in-law Bobby Thomas; her sisters, Gwendolyn Burks (late James Burks, Jr.); Vicki Hudson-Couch (late James Couch, Jr.); her sister-in-law Annie Mae McCullough.

Her legacy continues through her nieces Carla Wicks (Tony), Crystal Thomas, Kanika Hudson, Tracy Wells, Patricia Payne and Tracey McCullough, nephews Michael Leon Hudson (Cynthia), John McCullough, Lance Thomas (Krystal), Roderick Hudson (Trina) Kurt Hudson II (Frankie), James Burks III (Lillian), John Hudson, Jr., James Couch III (Maya) and Solomon.

Delores was blessed with 13 great nephews, 6 great-great nephews, 17 great nieces, 3 great-great nieces, 10 cousins, and many dear friends. She will be deeply missed, and her loving spirit will live on forever in the hearts of all who knew and loved her

Cemetery Details

Oak Woods Cemetery

1035 E 67th Street
Chicago, IL 60637

Previous Events

Public Viewing

MAR 13. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Calahan Funeral Home - Legacy Center
7046 S. Halsted
Chicago, IL 60621

Visitation

MAR 14. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Calahan Funeral Home - Legacy Center
7046 S. Halsted
Chicago, IL 60621

Funeral Service

MAR 14. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Calahan Funeral Home - Legacy Center
7046 S. Halsted
Chicago, IL 60621

Burial/Interment

MAR 14. 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Oak Woods Cemetery
1035 E 67th Street
Chicago, IL 60637

Tribute Wall

OF

“ Ondria F. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Delores Reddin.

Ondria F. - April 07 at 01:21 PM

PS

“ Mother Reddin's spirit of love lives on in her greatest legacy her children, and extended family. I'll always remember her poise, strength, kindness and good food. Without words she taught us how to be strong, loving, responsible, humble, proud, God loving black ladies. She completed her assignment on this planet and we thank her. Rest in peace beautiful.
With profound love and gratitude,
Pamela Sharpe and family.

Pamela Sharpe - March 14 at 11:07 AM

VC

“ For many years Mama Reddin was a special person to me. Since the death of my mother we kind of lost touch. About a week ago I thought of her and looked her to get her address or phone number to contact her. That's when I found out about her passing. I will always cherish all of the beautiful memories I have of her. R.I.P. 🌹
🙏

Vetta Cook - March 13 at 04:30 PM

GF

“ *Greta Anderson & the Anderson/Gee Family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Delores Reddin.*



Greta Anderson & the Anderson/Gee Family - March 13 at 01:44 PM

EW

“ *Eleanor and Jennifer Wicks purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Delores Reddin.*



Eleanor and Jennifer Wicks - March 13 at 12:28 PM

EW

“ *Eleanor and Jennifer Wicks planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Delores Reddin.*

Eleanor and Jennifer Wicks - March 13 at 12:28 PM

TF

“ *THE DABBS FAMILY purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Delores Reddin.*



THE DABBS FAMILY - March 12 at 08:16 PM

OF

“ *Mother Reddin' emphasis on the 'n' Smile, the woman who lived, loved 😍 and shared her strength, compassion and unlimited knowledge of life! And above all 'Glory to God everyday, every hour...will never forget 🙏 her allowing me the honor to call her "Mother Reddinnnn. Will miss her shining lighthearted spirit and strength because in her words...and hearing, often in her stories of strength and encouragement..."I got sumthn fer ya'" and she meant it LOL Rest in Eternal peace 😊🙏.*



Ondria Franklin - March 12 at 05:23 PM

SS

“ *SSYC purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Delores Reddin.*



SSYC - March 12 at 05:21 PM

DJ

“ *Darlene Jackson purchased the Your Light Shines for the family of Delores Reddin.*



Darlene Jackson - March 11 at 08:10 PM

KL

“ Kurt L. purchased the *Serenity Wreath* for the family of *Delores Reddin*.



Kurt L. - March 11 at 06:36 PM

KL

“ Kurt L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of *Delores Reddin*.

Kurt L. - March 11 at 06:36 PM



“ *Serene Retreat* was purchased for the family of *Delores Reddin*.



March 10 at 06:04 AM

VD

“ *Vicki, Jim-Jim, Maya and Duke* purchased the *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray* for the family of *Delores Reddin*.



Vicki, Jim-Jim, Maya and Duke - March 09 at 05:43 PM

KM

“ Keena and Carrington Mercer purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Delores Reddin.



Keena and Carrington Mercer - March 09 at 03:13 PM

FF

“ From Veda and family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Delores Reddin.



From Veda and family - March 08 at 07:45 PM

FF

“ From Veda and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Delores Reddin.

From Veda and family - March 08 at 07:45 PM

FF

“ From the Linnear and Savannah Families purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Delores Reddin.



From the Linnear and Savannah Families - March 07 at 12:05 PM

EH

“ Edward and Cynthia Harris purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Delores Reddin.



Edward and Cynthia Harris - February 26 at 08:12 PM

CH

“ From the moment I met Mrs. Reddin, she was in travel mode and a woman on the move. I can only wish I can live life to the fullest as she has done. All while holding on to God's unchanging hand. Rest well Mrs. Redding!

Cynthia

Cynthia Harris - February 26 at 08:01 PM