



## Ms. Geraldine J. Ruffing

August 2, 1945 - June 2, 2022

### Obituary

Elder Dr. Geraldine Ruffing also known as “Gerrie, Ma G, Doc, and Granny G” was born on August 3, 1945 in Fayetteville, NC to the late Jenny and Jack Jackson. Three months later she was adopted by the late J.W. and Lena Jones whom raised her with love. Gerrie attended schools in Arlington County, and was a graduate of Hoffman-Boston Junior/High School. After graduating high school Gerrie worked as a waitress, a short order cook and cashier. After being forced into unemployment she learned about the Opportunity Industrialization Center where she was able to take refresher courses in Business Administration. This led to the start in her career in government, as a clerk-stenographer at the Small Business Administration. She would later advance to the offices of DITD under the mentorship of Bruce Thompson, Counter Intelligence Office, and finally where she retired at DIA in May of 2014.

Gerrie began her Christian walk in February of 1958. Exactly a year later she was baptized and became a member of the Scripture Church of Christ. Throughout her years Gerrie served at several churches including, Montello Avenue Baptist, Way of the Cross under the leadership of Pastor Talbot, Rose of Sharon under the leadership of Elder Leemorse Bynum and finally Willing Heart Cathedral under the leadership of Reverend Thomas Pair and now Bishop Dr. JoAnn Spruell. Gerrie was ordained as a missionary in August of 1981, but also served throughout the years on the usher board, as a musician, church clerk, choir member, Sunday school teacher/superintendent, prayer leader and minister. Gerrie attended the Wilber H. Water School of Religion and Theological Seminary where she obtained her Bachelors, Master, and Doctorate degrees. As God would have it, she graduated the same year as her children in 1997.

Gerrie moved to Washington DC in 1968. It was when she was doing one of the things she loved the most(bowling), that she met the love of her life Ellis Ruffing. After dating for several years, they were married on May 22, 1976. Of this union were born two children, Shawn Ruffing and Miesha Ruffing (Jones). Gerrie loved to bowl, volunteer, and make her famous sweet potato pies and monkey bread. She had recently begin learning how to make cakes from scratch. She loved to read and listen to music. She enjoyed shopping, going on cruises, playing cards and board games. She was a die-hard

Redskins/Commanders fan and didn't mind going back and forth with anyone about her team, especially if you were a Cowboy fan. One of the highlights of her life was her grandson, and would share with anyone who would listen how proud she was of him and all of his accomplishments. She loved to preach and loved God above everything else. She is preceded in death by her husband Ellis Ruffing and sister Debra Washington. She leaves to cherish her memories, her loving son Shawn Ruffing, her loving daughter Miesha Jones, her heart Joseph Jones Jr., her future son in law Thomas Bunch, her brother Jay Jones, her best friend Juanita McDonald, a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, friends, and her beloved church family at Willing Heart Cathedral

Johnson & Jenkins observes CDC regulations for COVID-19 pandemic.

# Cemetery Details

## National Harmony Memorial Park

7101 Sheriff Road  
Landover, MD 20785  
[http://www.nationalharmony.com/home/contact\\_us.html](http://www.nationalharmony.com/home/contact_us.html)

## Previous Events

### Visitation

**JUN 17.** 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Willing Heart Cathedral  
3110 W St SE  
Washington, DC 20020

### Funeral service

**JUN 17.** 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Willing Heart Cathedral  
3110 W St SE  
Washington, DC 20020

# Tribute Wall

MW

“ I've been blessed by knowing Dr Ruffing as a part of Willing Heart Cathedral Family, her friendship and fellowship will remain with me forever..Please except my Heartfelt Sympathy on the Loss of ur Mom and Grandmom.

Maxine Wright - June 17 at 09:32 PM

MC

“ To the Ruffing family, my heart is with you as you see your queen off to her heavenly home. No more pain, no worries, just peace. God bless and keep you.

Michele Cooper - June 16 at 07:20 PM

FL

“ From Thursday Network - Urban League purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Ms. Geraldine J. Ruffing.



From Thursday Network - Urban League - June 15 at 11:03 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ms. Geraldine J. Ruffing.



June 10 at 12:34 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Ms. Geraldine J. Ruffing.



June 09 at 11:24 PM

BT

“ Gerrie was the nicest and most dedicated person I ever had the pleasure to work with. She was my administrative assistant for 4 great years at the Defense Intelligence Agency. She was really more like my manager in that she always insured I got to my meetings on time and completed all the daily correspondence and signatures before going home.

Whenever I was frustrated with work she was always there to brighten my day with her fabulous smile and positive disposition.

We developed a mutual trust and appreciation with one another not often attained in most working relationships. She bestowed on me one of the greatest honors in my life when she asked that my wife Barb and I serve as guardians to her children until they reached 21. How could anyone say no to her?

She was fully committed to her church and children. Her efforts to improve herself and help others by getting a Doctorate in Religion only tells a small portion of her positive impact she had to all around her.

I'm pleased that we stayed in touch with each other over the past 25+ years after I retired.

Gerrie - may God be with you and keep you close. I will miss you.

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**Bruce Thompson** - June 09 at 10:54 PM

BT

“ Gerrie and I worked at the dame agency. She was a lovely person that I was lucky to know. A force of nature, consistantly positive in outlook, and a willingness to lend a hand to anyone who needed it. She was devoted to her friends and family. She had an aura of love and concern for everyone she met. She bore bad times with unfailing faith and hope. And reveled in joy when good times came her way. She knew how to live, lead, and love. Thank you, Gerry!

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**Barbara Thompson** - June 09 at 07:13 PM

DR

“ I am going to miss her. She and I have been friends for years. Her daughter calls me dad. She was an awesome minister. Take your rest my friend.

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**Dr. Richard L. Reid** - June 08 at 03:44 PM