



Dora F. McKinzie

May 1, 1948 - March 17, 2026

Dora Frances McKinzie was born on May 1, 1948, in Clio, South Carolina to the late Francis E. Smith and the late Martha E. Smith Fitzgerald. Dora, lovingly called “Mae”, is the oldest of ten siblings. Together, she and her husband of 51 years, Willie, raised their children, Wilbert, Willie, Pamela, and LaTysse, and nurtured many more. Dora was a member of St. Luke Christian Community Church for over 60 years.

Dora loved spending time with her family and friends. She had a strong passion for travel and adventure, and especially dancing.

Dora was a truly remarkable woman whose presence had the power to elevate any environment she graced. With a radiant smile that illuminated every room and a charming personality that effortlessly drew people in, she embodied warmth and kindness. She embodied the essence of a true matriarch, guiding her family with unwavering love, grace, strength, resilience, integrity and wisdom.

Dora is preceded in death by her late husband, Willie McKinzie, Sr., grandson, Nairee English, parents Francis Smith and Martha Smith-Fitzgerald (stepfather Jerry Fitzgerald), sister Darcell Mitchell; and three brothers, Frank, Marvin, and Kenneth Smith.

She leaves to cherish her memory, her four children Wilbert McKinzie, Willie McKinzie, Jr. (Nadege), Pamela Davis (James) and LaTysse McKinzie-Mack (Marcus); Ten grandchildren: Tahkee, Esquire, Anthony (Alexandria), Jabree, Brittany, Oinye, Alyssa, Genessa and Jaden; ten great-grandchildren: Mahki, Mahlani, Jayden Anthony, Harlowe, Hendrix, Jayden, Ajanae, Amara, Ari and Ah'Niyana; And her four-legged son, Bugs; Goddaughters: Michelle Hill (Richard), Deitra Redd, Deeneen Redd, Khaliyah Campbell and Terri Martin. Godsons: Joseph Smith and Ronnie Thomas (Cheryl). Bonus daughters Eugenia Bright and Alisha McKinzie. Two brothers, Donnie Smith, and Nathaniel Smith, Three sisters: Deretha White, Sarah Taylor (Ron) and Cathy Smith; sister-in laws: Judy Smith, Nada Smith, Martha Prince, Thelma Price, JoAnn Price (William), Ava McKenzie and Courtney McKenzie; brother in-laws: Jimmy Ray McKenzie (Nylon), and Bobby Joe McKenzie (Justine), Claude McKenzie (Gaye), and Edward McKenzie. Her special friend Winston Gacutan, and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, and life-long friends.

Cemetery Details

PRIVATE

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR **14**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Luke Community Christian Church
317 Central Avenue
Chester, PA 19013
(610) 876-5197

Tribute Wall



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dora F. McKinzie.

April 14 at 12:27 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dora F. McKinzie.



April 14 at 12:27 PM



“ Dear Family & Friends,
Please know that Dora has been and will remain one of GOD's True Jewels of Love, that HE Shared with us, for many years.💕
With much respect & Love,
Deborah Anderson & Children

Deborah Anderson - April 10 at 08:20 PM



“ Sending our sincere condolences to LaTysse and the family. Dora was always a ray of sunshine wherever she went . Praying the Lord gives you comfort and strength as only He can.



Louella Foster-Williams - April 10 at 04:57 PM

JS

“ *Janelle Shavers lit a candle in memory of Dora F. McKinzie*



Janelle Shavers - April 10 at 10:31 AM

BF

“ *Dora was an original member of the McCullough Middle School staff. She was our bright face and voice that greeted students, parents, and staff in the main office our first year. She could always be counted on to greet you with compassion and kindness. She was a calming force in our first year of chaos. As she moved to other locations in the building, she brought that compassion and kindness with her. May she rest in peace and may the memories of her bring comfort to all.*

Sincerely, Betsy Fleetwood

Betsy Fleetwood - April 06 at 04:25 PM

CL

“ I had known Dora , many of us called her Mae since we were teenagers. I truly consider her as a lifelong sister and friend. One memory of Mae that will always remember is that in August of 1968 Mae worked in Philadelphia just a few doors from the Military Induction Center. I was able to stop at Mae's workplace for a cup of coffee before I headed to the Airport. Over the years that topic would come up occasionally. I would remind Mae how much it meant to see a familiar face before I headed off for Basic Training. Mae was truly one of the most generous and kind hearted persons that I have ever known. Mae will be truly missed by many people. Farwell my friend, I pray that God has welcomed you into his Kingdom to reunite and reside with love ones that have gone on before you. 🙏🙏🙏

Calvin Laws - April 04 at 11:35 AM



Ms Dora was like a 2nd mom to me. She welcomed me into her family with opened arms and treated me with kindness. I've know her for over 10 years and after I moved away she stayed in touch with me. Her birthday is the day before mine so we always texted one another with "happy birthday" messages. She would often send me text messages that she was thinking of me and she loved me. How broken my heart 💔 is knowing she has passed away. But I know that God has welcomed her into his arms. 🙏 She loved everyone and everyone loved her. 💖 She was one in a million. Rest well beautiful Dora McKinzie 🙏

Kerbi Brown - April 07 at 11:28 PM

KG

Mae was an amazing lady. Always pleasant and caring. I remember us going to Vegas with Fran and Cassie. We were the Golden Girls. So much fun. Will miss you sweet lady. Rest in Peace.

Kitty Gerst - April 09 at 02:33 PM

IC

I've known Dora since high school. She was so joyful, polite and it was a pleasure to be in her presence. She will truly be missed.

Irene Clements - April 14 at 04:21 PM