



Celebrating

the life of

Alice Gaines

June 29, 1945 - May 23, 2026

Friday, June 26, 2026

11:00 a.m.

Emmanuel Baptist Church

467 N. White Road

San Jose, CA

Alice Marie Gaines

Spiritual Obituary for My Beloved Mother Alice M. Gaines Celebrating a Life of Faith, Love, and Light

In Loving Memory

Today, we honor and remember the radiant soul of my mother, whose journey on earth touched so many with her warmth, wisdom, and unwavering faith. Her presence was a blessing—an embodiment of grace, compassion, and spiritual strength. Though her physical body has left this world, her spirit remains an eternal guiding light for all who had the privilege to know her.

A Life Rooted in Faith

Alice Gaines was born in Texarkana Texas in 1945 to James and Earlene Hailey. Her father moved the family to Daggett California, then to Barstow California. At a very young age Alice began to seek the Lord and often asked him to send her a husband. After a long courtship Alice married Willie T. Gaines in 1963. Together they had one cherished daughter, Galen.

She directed the youth choir at East Barstow Baptist Church, Sang in the Adult Choir at Emmanuel Baptist church, taught Sunday school to the youth there as well. In 1981 she worked as administrative assistant at the Billy Graham Crusade in San Jose, she was the secretary to Dr Willie T. Gaines Jr. for a few years. My mother's life was a testament to the power of faith. Through every challenge and celebration, she turned to her spiritual beliefs for guidance, comfort, and courage. Her prayers were sincere, her hope steadfast, and her love for the divine unwavering. She taught us to trust in something greater than ourselves, inspiring us to cultivate our own relationships with faith.

A Heart Full of Compassion

She welcomed everyone with open arms, offering kindness without reservation. Her empathy was profound; she knew how to listen deeply and speak words of encouragement. Many found solace in her gentle presence, feeling restored and uplifted after time spent with her. Her compassion was not only a reflection of her spiritual convictions but also a beacon that drew others closer to their own hearts.

A Legacy of Light

My mother's spiritual journey was marked by acts of generosity and joy. She brought light to every room, laughter to every gathering, and wisdom to every conversation. Her spoken teachings and life—will continue to guide us. In moments of doubt, we remember her faith. In moments of sorrow, we recall her hope. In moments of joy, we celebrate her spirit.

Continuing Her Spiritual Legacy

Though we grieve her absence, we are comforted by the knowledge that her soul rests in peace, embraced by the love she cherished. Her memory will live on in our prayers, in our acts of kindness, and in our pursuit of spiritual growth. As we reflect on her life, we commit to carrying forward her legacy—shining her light into the world and touching others as she has touched us.

Mother was a unique first lady. She had an unorthodox way of doing things. One day a woman came up to her and decided to tell mother how a perfect pastor's wife should dress and act. Mother politely asked the woman had she ever been a pastor's wife? The woman replied: "No, I haven't but"... Momma interrupted her and said: "When you're a pastor's wife let's get together and revisit this conversation".

Mother, you are not gone—you are a part of the eternal. Your faith, love, and light will forever illuminate our paths. Thank you for the gifts you have given us, for the lessons you have taught, and for the spirit that continues to inspire.

"Her soul has journeyed home, but her love remains, woven into the hearts of all who loved her."

She leaves to cherish her memories with her daughter Galen Rose, son-in-law Richard Moody; brothers: Henry Hailey, Eddie Hailey, and Steven Hailey; Sisters: Dorothy Hailey, Sherrald McMurray, Valerie Williams, Christina Jackson, Yvonne Austin and a host of nieces and nephews.

Preceding her were the love of her life, husband Willie T. Gaines, her parents, James and Earlene Hailey, and siblings, Virginia Smith, Myron Hailey and Timothy Hailey.

Order of Celebration

Processional

Family

Welcome

Pastor Cynthia Jackson, Officiant

Reading of the Word

Old Testament Rev. Carlos Milsap

New Testament Rev. Joel Moore

Prayer

Pastor Wayne Jackson

Worship

Combined Voices of Emmanuel

Acknowledgements / Resolution

Sis. Sandra McNeal

Obituary

Video Presentation

Expressions

Pastor Jason Reynolds

Lady Florence Jones

Deacon Gwen Moss

Deacon James Williams

Galen Rose

Worship

Combined Voices of Emmanuel

Eulogy

Pastor Horacio Jones

Worship

Combined Voices of Emmanuel

Committal & Closing Prayer

Dr. Lyman Alexander



Repast Immediately Following
Service In The Emmanuel Family Life Center

Acknowledgements

Honorary Pallbearers

Pastor Wayne Jackson, Rev. Johnie Thompson, Deacon Darius Alexander-Jones,
Rev. Kevin Montgomery, Richard Moody, Deacon Frank Ellis

Special Thanks from Galen

Leslie Anderson: Thank you for your unwavering commitment to keeping me uplifted and motivated to act with integrity and for your prayers asking God to guide my steps throughout this journey.

Dan & Brenda Asare: I appreciate your encouragement as I serve the Lord and your steadfast support of my parents during times of both illness and health.

Shelly Chaney Floyd Jr.: Your assistance in helping me stay organized and maintain focus has been invaluable.

Rev. Wayne & Cynthia Jackson & the entire TTHM family: I am grateful for your prayers, encouragement, exemplary pastoral leadership, friendship, and the reminder—“Breathe, it is well.”

Rev. Joel Moore: Thank you for your prayers and insightful words of encouragement.

Deacon Gwen Moss: I appreciate your vision and expertise in interior design and decorations, executed flawlessly.

Thomas Penn: Thank you for your continual support while I cared for my mother, along with your thoughtful advice.

Joe Lewis: I am grateful for your frequent check-ins before, during, and after my mother's transition.

Kendra Owens: Your consistent presence and attentive listening during challenging times have meant a great deal to me and my family.

Olisha Little: Thank you for your enthusiastic and cheerful approach, which brought comfort as you helped me process emotions and sort through my mother's belongings.

Deacon James & Joan Williams: I deeply value your calls, texts, cards, and unwavering willingness to assist in any capacity.

To my husband, Richard Moody: I appreciate your lighthearted demeanor and spontaneity, which have encouraged me to step outside my routine and pause my grief, allowing me moments to appreciate life.

Pastor Horacio and First Lady Florence: for coming to visit my mother while she was transitioning, singing to her praying with her and your undying love for her as well as my father.

To all my immediate family thank you for all the encouraging calls, texts and cards, encouraging Family is everything

The family of Mrs. Gaines extends heartfelt gratitude to the Emmanuel Baptist Church family for your prayers, love, and support during this time. Special thanks to Jasmine Butler and the Worship & Arts Ministry, Dewayne Sweet and the Multimedia Ministry, the Brotherhood Ministry, the Deacons Ministry, and Imani Butler for your service and contributions in helping us celebrate her life and legacy. Your kindness and support are deeply appreciated.