



**RITA FAYE "RITA
PAPA" WOOTEN**

Rita Faye "Rita Papa" Wooten was born on August 25, 1959 in Houston, Texas to the late Millard D. Wooten and Susie Jackson Wooten. At the age of nine her family moved to Crockett, Texas where she attended school until the eleventh grade. In 1975 her family returned to Houston which allowed her to graduate from Kashmere Gardens Senior High School.

As an infant she was christened at Miles Chapel CME Church-Houston. She graduated from Paul Quinn College-Waco, Texas and decided to make Crockett her home. It was then that she joined St. Andrews AME. Rita was dedicated and always willing to serve the Lord. Her love for God encouraged her to serve as a stewardess, youth director, choir member, and she strongly supported the praise dancers.

Rita's love of children directed the path of her life. Because of one of her "Boys" she became an assistant scoutmaster and soccer referee. She was a good school bus driver. This was proven when she was transporting a group to Houston. The bus was side swiped

on Interstate 45 throwing her from the driver's seat. Her familiarity with the road allowed her to safely stop the bus while sitting on the floor. She was awarded a plaque for heroism by the then Superintendent, Dorman Jackson.

Rita taught in Trinity ISD, Lufkin ISD (under the leadership of Dr. Sharon Ross) and was employed by Crockett ISD at her untimely demise. The family would like for you to remember that Rita never met a stranger and she was always willing to offer a helping hand.

She leaves to bereave her death and cherish her memory; sisters; Carolyn S. (Larry) Williams, Patricia A. McAllister and Beverly J. (George) Davis-our fifth wheel-Deanna Wooten; stepmother: Hortence Wiley Wooten; stepsister Jhonnie Manning; stepbrother: Henry (Norma) Wiley, aunts: Emma Lou Walton, Lola (Henry) Reece Sr., Earlie C. (Justin) Blanch, Sadell Henry, Mamie R. Wooten, and Vernice Singleton; uncle: Rector (Mable) Wooten, godchildren: Cori Wooten, Megan Davis, and Herman Washington; a host of relatives and friends, with two nephews who were like sons: "Lil" George Davis and Shawn Wooten.

Funeral Services were held Saturday, November 4, 2006, 11am, St. Luke Baptist Church, 315 South 2nd, Crockett, Rev. Ralph P. Taylor, pastor and Rev. Horace Charles, Eulogist. She was laid to rest in Forrest Lawn Cemetery, Crockett.

Casketbearers were; The "Boys," Sgt. Tyrone Y. Williams, Marvin Jones, Erick D. Wooten, P.O. Kevin A. Williams, George L. Davis III, Joseph McAllister II, Cleotis "Frog" Hickman, Curtis Lockhart.

**McClain-Clebourn Funeral
Service**