



Mrs. Royce Conner

May 30, 1949 - October 18, 2025

Royce Yates Conner, 76 was born in Lexington, Ky on May 30, 1949, to the late Russell and Susie Yates. She was married to the late James Ray Conner of Lexington for 29 years.

She passed away at home with her family on Saturday, October 18, 2025, after an extended illness. She was a graduate of Paul Laurence Dunbar class of 1967. She was a former civil rights activist.

She retired from GTE at early age of 55 and then devoted her time and talent to cooking at Club 333. She later found herself being a caregiver in her later years.

She confessed her hope in Christ at early age at the Antioch Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of the late P.K. Finley. She was over the culinary committee and fed thousands before her health removed her from that position. She took many under her wing whom she would instruct on how to stretch a dollar and feed the multitudes. It was her passion to cook and watch people enjoy her labor. She loved to cook for others, and I don't think anyone ever complained. Often to share her expertise with those who needed them, especially with her children.

She was a fun loving, gentle-hearted and free-spirited person who enjoyed her family and living life to the fullest.

She was also a part of several social clubs, Kharisma club and the Gentlemen's social club. She joined the Bluegrass Temple in May of 1997. She was well known for her bus trips going to many cities. A good time was

always had on her party buses!!! Her smile could light up a room instantly. She never met a stranger and would do whatever she could day or night for those in their time of need.

She was preceded in death by her son John G. Bentley Jr., her sisters Darlene Sloan and Barbara Yates, brother, James Cleveland. She leaves to cherish her memory her daughters Niko Williams and Tamika Bentley, her son Damon (Maleah) Gray. Her grandchildren:

Kyndal, Kamarri, Dasia, Damon Jr, Darrell, Keyon, Kaden Gray, Dasia Priddy, Kimarrion Booker and K'lee Greenberry. 11 great-grandchildren, her sister Mattie K. Yates, special nieces, nephews and cousins. Close friends were Sheila Coles, Vichie Williams and Davina Herron. Many people came to know and love her in life often calling her "MOM".

Cemetery Details

Cove Haven Cemetery

984 Whitney Avenue
Lexington, KY 40508

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **24**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church
437 Ferguson St
Lexington, KY

Visitation

OCT **25**. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church
437 Ferguson St
Lexington, KY

Funeral Service

OCT **25**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church
437 Ferguson St
Lexington, KY

Tribute Wall

TF

“ Trista and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Royce Conner.

Trista and family - October 24, 2025 at 10:56 PM

TF

“ Trista and family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mrs. Royce Conner.



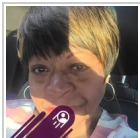
Trista and family - October 24, 2025 at 10:56 PM

SR

“ Stella & Mark Rowan purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mrs. Royce Conner.



Stella & Mark Rowan - October 24, 2025 at 10:41 AM



“ Royce our days and life move on so rapidly and it is with sadness I say goodbye but will always hold our fun memories from bus trips to Hagerstown to our simple phone conversations. Wishing you peaceful eternal rest and love. Sharon aka Fluffy.



Sharon Keys - October 24, 2025 at 04:18 AM

SK

“ Sharon K. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Royce Conner.

Sharon K. - October 24, 2025 at 04:00 AM

DH

“ Deidra Harris purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mrs. Royce Conner.



Deidra Harris - October 23, 2025 at 08:50 PM

NW

“ We had the BEST MOM that loved us hard...RIH Pretty Girl



Niko Williams - October 23, 2025 at 08:44 PM

FV

Beautiful Mother, beautiful family. Gone from here...but Heaven is so much more beautiful now as well.

Freida Vinegar - October 25, 2025 at 08:10 AM

LJ

A BEAUTIFUL FAMILY. ROYCE HAS ALWAYS BEEN A BEAUTIFUL SOUL. GONE BUT NEVER FORGOTTEN.

LINDA JONES-WHITE - October 25, 2025 at 12:56 PM

BL

*To the family.
I am sorry for your loss, I worked with Royce at GTE, a very nice person. May you RIP.*

Blanche Long-Edwards - October 28, 2025 at 05:13 PM