



Mrs. Tyrona Nelson

June 7, 1943 - November 12, 2025

Tyrona Belle Doneghy Nelson was born to the late Cornelia Gentry and John Lewis Doneghy Sr, both from Richmond, KY.

She was immersed in the Christian community from childhood, which would be her life-long support. Tyrona graduated from Eastern Kentucky University where she earned a bachelor's degree in early childhood physical education. She was the first black female basketball player in the state of KY. Tyrona was employed by the Fayette County Board of Education where she taught in more than a ½ dozen schools. She instructed over 5000 students, many calling her their "favorite" gym teacher, beloved by students who remember and love her no matter their age.

She was committed to her students and cherished her 40 years of service. Tyrona was a valued and lifelong member of the United Women of Faith, formerly United Methodist women. She served over 40 years as a board member, 35 years on the local level and 5 years on the national level. Community Action was another organization in which she was passionate. Tyrona recently received accommodation for 35 years of service.

Blessed with a very large and loving family, she married her best friend and partner for life, Horace Bush Nelson Sr. at the age of 21. Married for 61 glorious years, Horace and Tyrona raised three children with patience, discipline, humility and love.

Instilling in them the importance of respecting themselves and others, and more than anything, to cherish and honor the bond of family.

Tyrone is survived by her husband, Horace B. Nelson Sr, a son, Horace Bush Nelson Jr. (HB), and two daughters, Sabrina Lee (Ansara) and Daphanie Briscoe (Darrell). She is also survived by three grandchildren and eight great grandchildren, Taylor Jackson (Kennidy, Kamryn, Juviel and Luka), Ty Alexander Nelson Briscoe, and Kori Jackson (Ava, Kai, Khaleesi, and Nova. She is survived by two sisters and three brothers.

Deborah Raybun (Trey), Karen Doneghy-Horrington (Robert, Jeremy), John Doneghy Jr. (Melanie, Johnathon and Channe) and Patric Doneghy. Tyrone was also survived by a host of many other loving family members.

John 3:16

For God so love the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **22**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Wesley United Methodist Church
1825 Russell Cave Rd
Lexington, KY 40511

Funeral Service

NOV **22**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Wesley United Methodist Church
1825 Russell Cave Rd
Lexington, KY 40511

Tribute Wall

AS

“ Alvin & Chrysanthia Seals planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Tyrona Nelson.

Alvin & Chrysanthia Seals - November 21, 2025 at 12:27 AM



“ Forever Our Angel Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Tyrona Nelson.



November 21, 2025 at 12:27 AM

RB

“ It was my great honor and privilege to serve as the pastor at Haven (Cadentown) UMC from 1992-1995. Tyrona was the backbone of the congregation and dearly loved by my young family. She directed and had a huge positive impact on my early days of pastoral ministry as I was a student at Asbury Theological Seminary. She was not afraid to offer correction and love as she helped me form my understanding and experience of pastoral ministry. The entire family and extended family were very dear to us and we carry only good and positive memories.

Rev. Kevin and Kim Bushart

Rev. Kevin and Kim Bushart - November 20, 2025 at 12:02 PM

MC

“ *She was such a beautiful lady and my Gym Teacher at Ashland Elem. On behalf of the Morton Family (from Cadentown) we send our condolences and prayers to the Family.*

Michelle Morton Combs

Michelle Morton Combs - November 20, 2025 at 08:45 AM