



## Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis

November 2, 1969 - March 11, 2025

Isaiah 41:10

“Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”

Monetta Elunda Strong was born on November 2, 1969, at the University Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi, to the late Bobby Strong and Asylee Richmond (Strong) Gardner. She transitioned to her heavenly home on March 11, 2025.

Monetta confessed Christ at an early age and united with the Griffin Chapel United Methodist Church of Starkville, Mississippi, under the leadership of Elder Fred Brown, Sr. She actively participated in Sunday School, sang with the Children and Youth Choir, played the piano for Sunday School, as well as played the flute on special holidays.

An exceptional student, Monetta graduated from Starkville High School in 1987. After high school, she continued her education at Mississippi State University where she received a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. In 1989, Monetta became a member of her beloved Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated® and was initiated into the Lambda Eta chapter of Mississippi State University. She was active on the campus of Mississippi

State University as an Alumni Delegate and member of the Panhellenic Council. After graduating from Mississippi State University, Monetta was employed as a student recruiter for the University and served as secretary for the University's Black Alumni Society. She continued her postgraduate studies at Mississippi College where she received her master's degree in Educational Leadership. Passionate about working with children, she became an educator teaching in the Jackson, Shelby County, and Memphis Public Schools. Moreover, she was a teacher and assistant principal in Desoto County Schools.

In 1998, Monetta married Eric Davis. They were blessed to have a daughter, Mia Erin Davis, who is an Occupational Therapist. In 2011, Monetta and Gregory Szyszuta were blessed with a son, Zenon Gregory Szyszuta, who attends Arlington Middle School in Bartlett, Tennessee.

As an extraordinary person, dedicated to service, Monetta sought every opportunity to educate and support children through tutoring and mentoring. Because of her belief in the ideals of "service to all mankind," she engaged in community activities and remained an active member in Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Upsilon Pi Omega chapter in Starkville, Mississippi.

Monetta was an active and faithful member of Griffin Chapel United Methodist Church under the leadership of Elder Randy Jones. She was a member of United Women in Faith and the Administrative Council, the chairperson for the Singles Ministry, and routinely taught Vacation Bible School.

She leaves to cherish her lasting memory of life and love: Her caring, loving and devoted mother Asylee Richmond Gardner and stepfather Victor "Boss" Gardner; her daughter Mia Erin Davis and son Zenon Gregory Szyszuta; her brother Elijah Strong; four aunts: Martha (Zack) Cannon of St. Charles, Missouri, Yvonne (Robert) Waters of Florissant, Missouri, Fay (Walter)

Actwood of Garland, Texas, Charlotte Webb-Reed of Holly Springs, Mississippi; five uncles: Ferry Richmond of Byhalia, Mississippi, Jerry (Denise) Richmond of Holly Springs, Mississippi, William Richmond of Dallas, Texas, Thomas (Vicki) Taylor of Starkville, Mississippi, William (Marineta) Gardner of West Point, Mississippi; and a host of other relatives and friends.

# Cemetery Details

## Memorial Gardens Park

9036 Oktoc Road  
Starkville, MS

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 21. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Hairston & Hairston Funeral Homes - Starkville  
112 Earnest H Jones Jr Dr  
Starkville, MS 39759  
(662) 323-5854

## Funeral Service

MAR 22. 11:00 AM (CT)

Griffin Chapel United Methodist Church  
212 West Main Street  
Starkville, MS 39759

*Elder Randy Jones, officiating*

# Tribute Wall

BF

“ *Bessie Ferguson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis*



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**Bessie Ferguson** - April 04, 2025 at 08:18 PM

KC

“ *My prayers are with you and the rest of my family*



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**Kentoria Carter** - March 22, 2025 at 07:43 PM

QM

“ *Queen Malone sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis*



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**Queen Malone** - March 22, 2025 at 02:27 PM

JW

“ We are saddened by the passing of Monetta. She was kind, sweet, helpful and respectful. Heaven as gained a very special angel. Remembering all of you in our prayers. May our Father in Heaven grant each of you peace, comfort and strength.  
Jimmy and Cindy Wilbourn



Jimmy and Cindy Wilbourn - March 22, 2025 at 11:42 AM

JC

“ I remember Monetta when we all lived in Rolling Hills subdivision back in the 70's. She was such a sweet young girl and went on to continue this in her adult life. My sincere sympathy to Ashalee and Elija as I remember them well growing up too. She had so much to give to the world and her life was cut too short.

Judy A Cascio - March 22, 2025 at 09:28 AM

MS

“ Macie Sanders lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis



macie Sanders - March 21, 2025 at 08:39 PM

AA

“ My condolences goes out to the family we will miss Monetta Ann Arbuckle and famiy



Ann Arbuckle - March 21, 2025 at 07:52 PM

TA

“ Extending deep and heartfelt sympathy to the family and host of friends. RIH Monetta



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**Tamara Allen** - March 21, 2025 at 07:03 PM

RF

“ Ronald Brooks and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis.

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**Ronald Brooks and Family** - March 21, 2025 at 06:45 PM

RF

“ Ronald Brooks and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis.



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**Ronald Brooks and Family** - March 21, 2025 at 06:45 PM

GB

“ My prayers and condolences to the Taylor and Gardner Family at this time of bereavement

*Gloria Malone Blunt*



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**Gloria M Blunt** - March 21, 2025 at 12:16 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis.*



March 21, 2025 at 10:55 AM



“ *The Szyszuta and Toohey Families purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis.*



**The Szyszuta and Toohey Families** - March 21, 2025 at 08:27 AM



“ *Thinking and praying for the family. My sincere and deepest condolences. Continue to be there for each other and hold on to those precious moments and memories made together.*



**Nana Purnell Barnes** - March 21, 2025 at 06:49 AM



“ *Sending My Condolences and Prayers to The Family from Minister Brenda Kemp & Family.*



**Brenda Kemp** - March 21, 2025 at 06:16 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis.

March 20, 2025 at 11:22 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis.



March 20, 2025 at 11:22 PM



“ *Maggie Cooks lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis*



**Maggie Cooks** - March 20, 2025 at 11:17 PM



“ *My deepest condolences and sympathy goes out to the family praying for strength doing this difficult time 🙏*



**Clara Dancer** - March 20, 2025 at 11:01 PM

ER

“ *Elgin Rucker sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis*



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**Elgin Rucker** - March 20, 2025 at 06:52 PM

PW

“ *Pamala Williams lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis*



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**Pamala Williams** - March 20, 2025 at 06:50 PM

HG

“ *Helen Glenn lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis*



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**Helen Glenn** - March 20, 2025 at 06:22 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis.*

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March 20, 2025 at 03:39 PM



“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis.*



March 20, 2025 at 03:39 PM



“ *Karen Gandy sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis*



**Karen Gandy** - March 20, 2025 at 11:24 AM



“ *Annie Norman sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis*



**Annie Norman** - March 20, 2025 at 10:05 AM



“ *Sending my heartfelt condolences to the entire family* 🙏🙏🙏



**Ann Bishop-Harris** - March 20, 2025 at 04:56 AM

PC

“ *Sending prayers and condolences to comfort your hearts. Always in Christ,  
Pastor Tommy L. Cox & Mrs Yvonne B Cox & Family*



Pastor & Mrs Tommy L Cox - March 20, 2025 at 01:19 AM

CH

“ *I will forever cherish her memories. Praying for comfort and strength to her entire family. ❤️🙏*



Cynthia Harris - March 20, 2025 at 12:48 AM

VS

“ *Vera Self lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis*



Vera Self - March 19, 2025 at 11:48 PM

CC

“ *Carlene And Tevin Chandler lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis*



Carlene and Tevin Chandler - March 19, 2025 at 11:06 PM

CJ

“ Clara B. Jones sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis



Clara B. Jones - March 19, 2025 at 07:36 PM



“ 75 files added to the album Life Tributes



Hairston & Hairston Funeral Homes - March 19, 2025 at 06:19 PM

VG

*My prayers goes out to the entire family*

Verneice Griffin - March 21, 2025 at 05:39 PM

VF

“ Our sincere condolences to the family. May God strengthen you at this time of sorrow

Vickie petty and family - March 19, 2025 at 02:39 PM

LG

“ So sorry to believe my cousin Monetta has transitioned. Last time I saw her at church we talked a few minutes about her children and her brother. She was full of joy , laughter and cheer! May God provide the family with strength , comfort, peace, and understanding during this difficult time. Linfred M Crawford, Stone Mountain GA.

Linfred M Crawford Stone Mountain GA - March 19, 2025 at 02:39 PM

JA

“ Jenette Ashford-Peters lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis



Jenette Ashford-Peters - March 19, 2025 at 02:27 PM

TN

“ Tangie Amos Neal lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis



Tangie Amos Neal - March 19, 2025 at 12:10 PM

DF

“ Doris C Garmon & Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis



Doris C Garmon & family - March 19, 2025 at 11:43 AM

WO

“ *Walter And Lois O'Neal sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis*



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**Walter and Lois O'Neal** - March 19, 2025 at 09:11 AM

HG

“ *Helen Glenn lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis*



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**Helen Glenn** - March 19, 2025 at 12:20 AM

YE

“ *Yolanda Ellis-Mullen lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis*



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**Yolanda Ellis-Mullen** - March 18, 2025 at 06:22 PM

WC

“ *Walter And Gloria Conley lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis*



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**Walter and Gloria Conley** - March 18, 2025 at 05:23 PM

AB

“ Sending my heartfelt condolences to the entire family



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**Ann Bishop-Harris** - March 18, 2025 at 05:05 PM

BH

“ BARBARA WILLIAMS HILL sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis



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**BARBARA WILLIAMS HILL** - March 18, 2025 at 10:26 AM

SJ

“ Sincerely, Family of Tylene Johnson purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis.



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**Sincerely, Family of Tylene Johnson** - March 18, 2025 at 12:00 AM

AR

“ Allen And Cynthia Robinson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Monetta Strong Davis



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**Allen and Cynthia Robinson** - March 17, 2025 at 11:45 PM

DH

“ I remember when you were a young lady, your dad (Bobby) and I would talk most of the time about his baby girl at Rust College. You were an image of your dad. Monetta, I/we will miss you my sister, YES LORD!!! The Harrell Family!!!

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**Dennis C Harrell** - March 17, 2025 at 11:04 PM