

*Ms. Gradine Laster Fearby* was born on June 8, 1956 in Sumter County, Georgia, the daughter of Mr. Willie Lee Laster and Mrs. Grace Marie Hawkins Laster, both who precede her in death.

Gradine was a proud 1974 graduate of Americus High School. She attended Georgia Southwestern College and later earned an Associate degree from Darton College.

Gradine loved people and was a true mover and shaker in her early years. This was especially evident in her long and dedicated employment at the Georgia Department of Labor where she served as an Employment Specialist in the Americus office, until her retirement on June 1, 2005.

Gradine loved her family and friends and she was equally loved in return. She and her sisters shared a very close bond, often traveling, sharing and supporting each other. To know Gradine is to know she and her sisters, fondly known as the “Laster Trio Traveling Sister Team” were often seen together.

Gradine was a member of the Mount Salem Baptist Church where she faithfully attended and served as President of the Usher Board. Gradine embraced her community and often served in various capacities throughout her life to improve the community. She also enthusiastically served as a member of the Eastern Star Americus Chapter #26 for the past twenty-four years, and a member of the Progressive Usher’s Union.

Left to cherish her sweet memories are three devoted and loving sisters: Gloria Jean (John Thomas) Brown, Las Vegas, NV Diana Laster and Lulean Laster, both of Americus, GA; two nieces: Tomeka Michelle Brown, Las Vegas, NV and Jessica Marie Clayton, Dacula, GA; one nephew, Cory Labryll (Sekethia) Laster, Macon, GA; one great nephew, Marquailis Labryll Kitchens, Augusta, GA; two great nephews, Cory Labryll Laster, Jr. and Caden Alexander Laster, both of Macon, GA; one great niece, Grace Marie Laster, Macon, GA; a special cousin, Kelvin “Kal” Simpson, whom she cherished like a nephew; Rachel Nolley who was her very faithful cook and Lawanda Laster, her talented hairdresser; and a host of cousins, other relatives and friends.