



## Laura "Bea" Owens

August 14, 1931 - October 25, 2024

Laura "Bea" Owens, 93, daughter of the late James Tompkins and Anna Laura Tompkins Hayes, went to meet her Lord and Savior "Face to Face" on Friday, October 25, 2024. She was preceded in death by the love of her life, her husband, Richard V. Owens; her brothers, James L. Tompkins, Robert "Bobby" Tompkins, William Price Tompkins, and Harry Eckenroth "Ecky" Tompkins; her cousins who she loved like brothers, George Tompkins, Jr., Ollie P. Tompkins, Kenneth Tompkins, and Ralph Tompkins; and a special niece, Paula Tompkins Smith.

Before leaving to enjoy new challenges and endeavors, Laura was a long-term employee of The IBM Company. Her contributions over the years helped establish IBM as a leader in the industry and built the foundation for an exciting, new beginning for the corporation.

After the death of her father, Bea spent some of her formative years at the "Lexington Colored Orphan Home," now known as the Robert H. Williams Cultural Center.

Around the age of 10, she moved to Little Arkansas with her mother and stepfather. After

returning to Lexington, she united with the East Second Street Christian Church under the tutelage of her "Guardian Angel," Rev. O. B. Garner. Later she was led by the Holy Spirit to join her husband at First African Baptist Church where she was a faithful and devoted member. She had a heart to serve and the voice of an Angel! Granny Bea, Momma Bea or Queen Bea, as she was affectionately known, loved and cared for all her babies from the neighborhood, church, schools, and communities near and far!

A special thank you to the "Daughters of Oakwood."

She leaves to cherish her memory, her children, Diana Gentry, Calvin Mason, Barrie

Tompkins, Terona (Brian) Johnson, John (Annette) Murray, Robert Murray, Stacy R.

Owens, Tracy Owens Holmes, and Jamie (LaRon) Owens-Patton; "granddaughter," Lisa

(Lulu) Duvall; her grandchildren, Dietrich Murray, Charisse

(Bernie) Lyle, Richard (Cassandra) Mason, Stefan (Dana)

Mason, Derek (Flora) Mason, Tracey Murray, Barry (Bebo)

Tompkins, Jr., Alexandria Tompkins, Kimberly Whitley,

Kapri Burnett, Kyla Burnett, Marcus Owens, Aaron Holmes,

Jr., and Lauran Owens-Mundy; as well as a host of great-grandchildren, cousins, nieces, nephews, and all of those who

knew and loved her as Momma Bea.

# Cemetery Details

## Camp Nelson National Cemetery

6080 Danville Rd  
Nicholasville, KY

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

NOV 4. 12:00 PM (ET)

First African Baptist Church  
465 Price Rd  
Lexington, KY 40508-1057  
(859) 252-7191

*Visitation 10:00 am until time of service*

# Tribute Wall

RS

“ *Bea was a people person and always had a smile on her face. She was role model when it came to see the glow on her face when she talked about her children as they loved her . She showed what it meant in loving one another, , looking out and supporting one another.. She left a beautiful legacy when it came to family and not to leave out her beautiful voice. She and my husband would have more fun in asking her to hit him a note an d she got a kick just doing it . at the store, or anywhere we saw her. I know anyone around thought they were in for a concert and had to leave leave being so,. so dis-appointed. Bea;s personality was one you will always remember. Stacy, Tracy, J Jamie and John and family I am so sorry for yo9ur loss. You have some big shoes to follow but you already show it. May God Bless you all in keeping up her legacy in church and wherever you go letting her light shine singing and saying a kind word of encouraging many to not quit.*



*Love to all and Deepest Sympathy*

*Sis Ruth Scott*

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**Ruth Scott** - November 05, 2024 at 11:30 PM

GH

“ *Remember Ms Bea from our neighborhood very nice .*

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**Gary Hall** - November 04, 2024 at 08:47 AM

CH

“ *Sis. Owens was a fun loving Christian woman. She loved God, the Holy Trinity, her Church home and her family. She loved to sing in the choir and work with the young adults. She will be missed but the fruit of her labor is everywhere! Now she can rest for some day we will see her again!!!*

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**Cheryl Hawkins** - November 02, 2024 at 06:03 PM

RH

“ *What a life well lived. She was the sweetest. And as the obituary says...she had (and still has) the voice of an Angel. Prayers for all the family. Ruth Ann Harper LCP*

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**Ruth Ann Harper** - November 01, 2024 at 03:21 PM