



Mrs. Dorothy Augusta Cole

December 30, 1930 - March 21, 2025

Dorothy Augusta Tidwell Cole, a beloved mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, aunt, cousin, sister-in-law, godmother, and dear friend passed away peacefully in the early morning of Friday, March 21, 2025, at the age of ninety-four, with her children by her side. She lived a life filled with love, laughter, and a deep dedication to Christ, family, and friends.

FAMILY

Dorothy Augusta Tidwell Cole was born on December 30, 1930, the sixth child (fourth daughter) of Mack Clyde Tidwell and Mary Elizabeth (Mae Lizzie) Dobbins Tidwell, in Bodenham, Tennessee. All preceded her in death. She was considered such a pretty, petite infant that her eldest sister Mary Kate, would hide her in a shoe box out of fear company would try to steal her, rendering her the nickname "Shoe Box Baby"!

At a young tender age, Dorothy followed the love of her life, Lewis Leon, to Detroit, Michigan and was united in holy matrimony at St. Paul Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America. To this union three children were born: Lewis Leon, Jr., John Wayne, and Beth Deyvonne. Her husband of 62 years and middle child preceded her in death.

LIFE

Dorothy found joy in working for J.L. Hudson's/Macy's Department Store for 30+ years as a Sales Professional. Her career began during a time when

people of color were only being hired as elevator operators and cafeteria workers. After retirement she volunteered in a soup kitchen helping to feed the hungry and homeless. She often hosted gatherings, showing her love for cooking. There were weekly fish fries, Bid Whist games and especially the annual Easters, Thanksgivings, Christmas Eve, family/open house events, distinguished by a smorgasbord of delicious food like fried chicken, ham, turkey, dressing, yams macaroni & cheese, bar-be-que, her famous fried corn and cornbread. Her favorite holiday was Christmas. Her entire family, neighbors, friends, and adopted children gathered at "Dorothy Cole's" on Christmas Eve and returned for Christmas dinner. Every summer she looked forward to going to Blocks Stand and Greenhouse, returning home with one hundred plus ears of corn (mixed and white), spending the next three to four days shucking, silking, cutting off, cooking, and bagging, to share with family and friends.

Dorothy served tirelessly at St. Paul Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America for 70 years, never wavering in her commitment. On February 23, 2025, St. Paul celebrated her tireless dedication of service in various roles and auxiliaries. She was active in everything at St. Paul from participation to giving advice. For many years she was the face of the culinary department.

Legacy

Dorothy radiated love. Her journey with the Lord began at Bodenham, Tennessee First Baptist Church where she, her six siblings and mother were the choir, musicians, and choir director. Remembering the songs, "I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me", "Precious Lord", "You Can't Beat God's Giving, No Matter How Hard You Try". That song must have been implanted in Dorothy's spirit because she has been giving all her life. The song says, "the more you give, the more he gives to you". She gave and He has given her 94 years. Dorothy will be remembered for her love of Christ, love of family, love of people, love of cooking, love of gatherings... LOVE OF LIFE. She touched so many, and her memory will be cherished by all who knew her.

Her memory will forever be cherished by her children, Lewis Leon, Jr. (Gail), and Beth (her Uber drivers); four grandchildren, one brother-in-law Paul Cole of Sheffield, Alabama; two sisters-in-law, Mary Jean Cole of Sheffield, Alabama, Rosie-Mae Cole of Florence, Alabama, a host of nephews, nieces, cousins, godchildren, bonus children and many friends.

Cemetery Details

Trinity Cemetery

5210 Mt. Elliott
Detroit, MI 48211

Previous Events

Visitation

Monday, Mar. **31**. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home
17600 Plymouth Road
Detroit, MI 48227
(313) 838-9770
info@pyefuneralhome.com

Family Hour / Visitation

Tuesday, Apr. **1**. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home
17600 Plymouth Road
Detroit, MI 48227
(313) 838-9770
info@pyefuneralhome.com

Celebration of Life

Tuesday, Apr. 1. 10:00 AM - 11:15 AM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home
17600 Plymouth Road
Detroit, MI 48227
(313) 838-9770
info@pyefuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

GG

“ Gloria G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Dorothy Augusta Cole.

Gloria G. - April 01, 2025 at 09:39 PM

WM

“ Hey Ms.Cole...this is Mr.Moore...I just wanted to send my condolences to you and your family in this trying timepraying for strength and love for your entire family

william moore - April 01, 2025 at 10:36 AM

LW

“ Lester & Ethel Whitt purchased the Celestial Love for the family of Mrs. Dorothy Augusta Cole.



Lester & Ethel Whitt - March 31, 2025 at 10:28 PM

LW

“ Lester & Ethel Whitt planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Dorothy Augusta Cole.

Lester & Ethel Whitt - March 31, 2025 at 10:28 PM

RC

“ *Condolence To The Family of Mrs. Dorothy Augusta Cole
March 31, 2025*

*Elder Leon Cole and Beth,
Gail and I were deeply saddened to learn of your mother's passing. She truly embodied warmth and friendliness, leaving an indelible impression on everyone fortunate enough to cross her path. Her leadership was characterized by a quiet strength, and when she offered advice, people listened intently, knowing that her words carried profound wisdom. She radiated grace and was filled with love for her family and all of God's people.*

The loss of a parent can drastically alter our lives, just as their presence enriches our existence. In this difficult time, cherishing the beautiful memories we have of her can provide us with comfort and solace. We feel incredibly privileged to have known her, and we are confident that her spirit and the memories we hold dear will forever remain alive in our hearts.

With our deepest sympathy,

Rev. Mark and Gail Chapman

Rev. Mark Chapman - March 31, 2025 at 04:34 PM

KC

“ Mrs. Dorothy was just as beautiful on the inside as she was on the outside—a true beacon of light and love. From the moment I met her, I began to call her "Mom." I want to thank her daughter, Beth Cole, for sharing her mother with me. I will never forget your mom's warm and beautiful spirit. May the peace of the Lord be with you and your family.

Love,
Katrina Clark

Katrina M. Clark - March 31, 2025 at 12:12 PM

LH

“ Our prayers and condolences go to family members and friends in the passing of Sis. Dorothy Cole. Sis. Cole was a very pleasant woman and offered a smile of love when we saw her. God bless and comfort the family now and days ahead.

*Purchase Presbytery Members
Moderator, John Sparks*

Lucille Hayes - March 31, 2025 at 11:55 AM

TC

“ The Wilbon children. purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Dorothy Augusta Cole.



The Wilbon children. - March 31, 2025 at 09:51 AM

RD

“ To Beth and the Cole family, May you always cherish the precious moments and great times with your mother. She was a special, kind hearted person that we shared over the years of living in the neighborhood with loving and friendly people. May God comfort and keep you. Be Peaceful, Regina DuBose and the Hinkle Family.

Regina Alexis Hinkle DuBose - March 30, 2025 at 11:20 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Dorothy Augusta Cole.



March 30, 2025 at 08:03 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mrs. Dorothy Augusta Cole.

March 30, 2025 at 08:03 PM

CM

“ To Elder Cole and family, we send our condolences on the passing of your mother. We are praying God's peace, that passes our understanding, will guard your hearts and minds. Rev. Christopher and Stephanie Martin, Hiwassee Presbytery

Christopher Martin - March 30, 2025 at 03:51 AM



“ Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Mrs. Dorothy Augusta Cole.



March 29, 2025 at 07:31 PM



“ It was our absolute pleasure getting to know Mrs. Dorothy Cole, better known to us as Louis's Mother. We worked with Louis for 13 years in the GM Student Corps program at the Osborn High School. We began work as colleagues and we quickly became family. Louis shared many memories of his Mother and we could feel how much he loved her. So we deeply share his grief in the loss of his beloved Mother. We pray for his strenght and comfort during this very difficult time.

Eddie & Deborah Eastern-Hall

Deborah Eastern-Hall - March 29, 2025 at 07:21 PM



“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Dobbins - March 29, 2025 at 07:02 PM

EE

“ Eddie & Deborah Eastern-Hall purchased the Joyful Memory for the family of Mrs. Dorothy Augusta Cole.



Eddie & Deborah Eastern-Hall - March 29, 2025 at 05:34 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Dorothy Augusta Cole.



March 29, 2025 at 04:08 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mrs. Dorothy Augusta Cole.

March 29, 2025 at 04:08 PM

MS

“ I had the opportunity to serve with Sis. Cole on the Missionary Ministry as well as other church activities and personal interactions and I was never disappointed. Her encouragement, support and gentle spirit was always a delight and I am so thankful and blessed that God allowed our paths to cross.
Thank You Sis. Cole,
Mary Sanders

Mary Sanders - March 28, 2025 at 06:55 PM

MS

“ Another Servant is gone from us! Sis. Cole received her send off with a huge celebration with Friends & Family, received her flowers which she was able to enjoy & was very happy. Now she has been retired from her earthly service and will enjoy her heavenly benefits. Sis. Cole will be missed by many but her memories will remain in our hearts forever. Rest on Sis. Cole!
Love You,
Mary Sanders

Mary Sanders - March 28, 2025 at 06:13 PM

NA

“ Dear Ann, Ralph Jr and Oliver James, and family, please accept our sincere prayers of condolences in the transition of your Mother's last surviving sister, Dorothy Cole. May it be comforting to know that others care and praying for God's peace today and in days ahead.
The Gordon and Savage family

Natalie - March 28, 2025 at 12:05 AM

TC

“ To Elder Leon Cole and family, It is with heartfelt sympathy to hear the passing of your loving Mom, Sis. Cole was someone with such a beautiful, kind and loving spirit! I will miss her, she always would give me compliments about the food I cook! May God give you and your family strength, comfort and peace during this time. “Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.” God Bless,
Elder Terista Cooper, Faith CPCA

Terista Cooper - March 26, 2025 at 10:14 PM

CW

“Elder Cole, Beth, and the Tidwell Cole families, we offer our condolences and prayers to you at the transition of your beloved mother. Mrs. Cole exemplified grace, elegance, and the Christian spirit. Her gracious presence will be sorely missed at the General Assembly.

Grace and peace,
Craig A. White, Huntsville, Alabama

craig a white - March 25, 2025 at 11:22 PM

CF

“Elder Cole and Sister Beth, Words cannot express how I really feel. Sister Dorothy was such a joy to be around and I always told her I wanted to be like her when I grow up. She was truly a beautiful person. I know this is a tremendous loss for your family and to our family, too. Please know that, the Holy Spirit is our Comforter – He Leads us, Guides us, Strengthens us, and Encourages us. We love you and may God continue to comfort your family. ~ Charlie and Yvonne Frierson

Charlie and Yvonne Frierson - March 25, 2025 at 05:01 PM

TP

“Mama Cole, you have always been a mother to me. For that: I am forever grateful. You are an extra layer of comfort and warmth in my life. Thank you for being the most awesome mom figure that I could have ever imagined. I'll love you forever! Rest in Heaven.

Terry Phillips - March 25, 2025 at 04:47 PM

MJ

“ *I am praying for strength and comfort for the family of Mrs. Cole. Her presence will be greatly missed at the General Assemblies. She was a very friendly person.*

Michael L. Jones

Michael Jones - March 25, 2025 at 04:02 PM