



Mrs Tonia Odessa Caldwell

July 16, 1964 - September 29, 2025

With heavy hearts and deep love, we announce the passing of Tonia Odessa Caldwell, who departed this life on September 29, 2025, at 61 years of age. She was surrounded by family, love, and memories too strong to fade.

Tonia was many things—a proud and outspoken woman who never minced words, a devoted mother who stood tall for her children, a loving Nene, a caring Ton Ton, and a fiercely loyal friend to many. She lived life exactly how she wanted to—boldly, honestly, and unapologetically.

You never had to wonder where you stood with her. She would tell you—straight up. Her words could be sharp, but they were always real, and often exactly what you needed to hear (even if you didn't know it yet). She didn't believe in sugarcoating anything, but behind that bluntness was a heart full of love, laughter, and generosity.

As a mother, she was the backbone and the safe place to her daughters. As a Nene and Ton Ton, she was the protector, the side by side driver, the snack giver, and she always had a lecture ready—depending on your behavior. She showed up—for holidays, birthdays, tough times, and everyday moments— and she made sure everyone knew they were loved and taken care of even if it came with a

little toughness.

Her presence was powerful. Her love was fierce. Her absence will be felt in every room she once lit up, in every phone call, and in every moment we wish we could hear her honest words just one more time.

She was preceded in death by father Jimmy Yates and granddaughter Madilyn Jeffers.

She is survived by husband Kim Caldwell; her mother, Shirley Yates; two daughters Kayci Hillhouse (Aaron), Layci Jeffers (Dillon), grandchildren Shyanne Hillhouse and Grayson Jeffers; a sister Tania Hanna, and a sister in love, Lorrie Roland, along with many nieces and nephews, and a host of friends who will carry her memory in their hearts forever. She left behind a legacy of strength, honesty, and unconditional love.

Pallbearers are Aaron Hillhouse, Dillon Jeffers, Josh Hanna, Richie Jones, Joey McRaney, and honorary pallbearer Lee Roland.

Cemetery Details

Caldwell/Freeny Cemetery

Carthage, MS

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 30. 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Wilcox Funeral Home
106 S Jordan Street
Carthage, MS 39051
(601) 267-8081
wilcoxfh@netdoor.com
<https://www.wilcoxfuneralhome.com/>

Service

OCT 1. 10:00 AM.

Wilcox Chapel

Tribute Wall



“ *Condolences, family.. Thursday, we have some unfinished business when I get there!* ”

Rusty Thaggard - October 01, 2025 at 03:15 AM



“ *Purple Violet Yellow Wildflower Mix (Silk Cemetery Flowers) was purchased for the family of Mrs Tonia Odessa Caldwell.* ”



September 30, 2025 at 10:30 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mrs Tonia Odessa Caldwell.* ”

September 30, 2025 at 10:30 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs Tonia Odessa Caldwell.* ”



September 30, 2025 at 01:29 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mrs Tonia Odessa Caldwell.* ”

September 30, 2025 at 01:29 PM

BM

“ *Barbara McDill lit a candle in memory of Mrs Tonia Odessa Caldwell*



Barbara McDill - September 30, 2025 at 12:37 PM

RG

“ *Renell Gipson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs Tonia Odessa Caldwell*



Renell Gipson - September 30, 2025 at 10:28 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs Tonia Odessa Caldwell.*



September 29, 2025 at 10:21 PM



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

September 29, 2025 at 10:21 PM

AJ

“ *Annette Joyner lit a candle in memory of Mrs
Tonia Odessa Caldwell*



Annette Joyner - September 29, 2025 at 08:25 PM

BM

“ *Barbara McDill lit a candle in memory of Mrs
Tonia Odessa Caldwell*



Barbara McDill - September 29, 2025 at 07:10 PM