



## Iona Ruffin Clanton

March 25, 1934 - July 5, 2016

Iona R. Clanton, age 82 of Portsmouth, VA was born on March 25, 1934 in Pleasant Hill, NC and fell asleep in death, July 5, 2016 at Maryview Medical Center. Iona moved to Newport News in 1949 with her parents, Gracie and Charlie Nixon, Jr. Iona was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Alphonso T. Clanton and her sisters, Willie Mae Spellman and Ruby N. Boisseau. Remaining family members who cherish her memory are her half-sister, Ethel Futrell; one daughter, Laverne (David), five sons, Donald T. Clanton (Yvonne), John K. Clanton (Darlene), Anthony Clanton, Wayne Clanton and Lynn Clanton. Also there are grandchildren, Ashonti, Kimberly, Lorenzo, Kevin, LaCretia, and Michel Jamal. Iona also leaves behind great grandchildren, a host of nephews, nieces, cousins, two brothers-in-law and many dear friends. Iona was an excellent example of a Christian wife and mother with a quiet and mild spirit. She was known for their friendly smile and she loved serving. Her children fondly remember spending many, many hours searching through fabrics and patterns at local shopping centers.

Iona served Jehovah faithfully since her baptism on July 3, 1951. She was a member of Victory congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses in Portsmouth, VA. She enjoyed and loved helping people in the community become familiar with the good news of God's Kingdom. She displayed the "pioneer spirit" by taking time to vacation pioneer and later auxiliary pioneer from time to time. Even when her health was failing she could be seen going from door to door,

despite in a wheelchair. Iona was known for faithfully attending meetings, assemblies and conventions, even when she was heavy with child, returning home just in time to give birth. Later in years from her sick-bed, she looked forward to listening in via telephone to encouraging talks, comments and demonstrations presented by the local congregation and she greatly enjoyed and appreciated Jehovah's provision of JW broadcasting. We will miss her kind, generous and caring spirit. Her works will not be forgotten by us and most importantly, Jehovah will not forget her works.

Special thanks to her caregivers who really extended themselves in the care and concerns of Iona during her failing health.

# Cemetery Details

**Private**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

JUL **13**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

J.T. Fisher Funeral Services  
1248 N. George Washington Hwy.  
Chesapeake, VA 23323  
(757) 487-3700  
info@jtfisherfuneralservices.com  
<https://www.jtfisherfuneralservices.com>

### Memorial Service

JUL **23**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses (Portsmouth)  
4050 Elliott Avenue  
Portsmouth, VA

# Tribute Wall



“ J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Iona Ruffin Clanton



---

**J. T. Fisher Funeral Services** - July 13, 2016 at 04:48 PM

BC

*What a beautiful tribute to a Loyal, sweet, kind Servant of Jehovah God . She was so caring and humble. She will be missed by both family and friends. Keep looking forward to the Day of Resurrection when we will see her again.*

*Barbara Cross-Jones*

---

**Barbara Cross-Jones** - September 18, 2016 at 08:44 PM

AH

“ *To the Clanton family I am deeply saddened to hear of your mother passing away in death. I have known her for so many years since she and my mom were friends as I was growing up. I know it feels as if your pass is being erased but remember this in Jehovah's organization your pass will soon be part of your future. May Jehovah give your family the strength to continue on until you see her again. What a mild and beautiful sister and friend. She will be missed! Ann Holley Harrison*

---

**Ann Holley Harrison** - July 18, 2016 at 09:26 PM

LJ

“ *The obituary reflects the marvelous qualities demonstrated by your mother towards family, friends and neighbors. Aunt Iona loyally served Jehovah with his organization and she looked to the future with full confidence as Jehovah fulfills his promises for us to enjoy “The real life,” as the apostle Paul called it.—1 Timothy 6:19. Looking forward to being reunited in the new world.*

---

**Lorenzo Spellman, New Jersey** - July 18, 2016 at 08:30 PM

KS

“ *I loved Iona very much. She was a very faithful sister, loving aunt and one who was truly cherished. She set a fine example in attending her meetings and she even participated in the ministry until she could not any longer. It is without a doubt that Iona will be missed but it is only for little while. I am confident in the way she lived that Jehovah has her in his memory. Now that she her sisters ,mother and father are gone it is saddening but I am also happy that we all serve Jehovah and we have a hope .*

*May Jehovah be with the Clanton family but the resurrection is not far off and we will see everyone that are sleeping rise up and I will fight to be there for that time.*

*Keith Spellman*

---

**Keith Spellman** - July 12, 2016 at 10:41 AM



“ 28 files added to the album Life Tributes



---

**J. T. Fisher Funeral Services** - July 12, 2016 at 10:32 AM



“ *Our sincere love and sympathy go out to the family. Our families go back many decades. Sister Iona will be missed. Please continue to remember and trust in Jehovah's promises.*  
*Jimmy and Cheryle Johnson*

---

**James and Cheryle Johnson** - July 07, 2016 at 08:05 PM