



Rosanna York

February 23, 1935 - August 8, 2025

To know Rosanna York is to be embraced by a victor of joy through all circumstance. An abstrusely humorous, yet, exact truth-teller—she possessed a charm and wit, that defined her presence, and will be sorely missed in her absence. Rosanna transitioned into a new, and everlasting life on August 08, 2025. Her loving, and determinable spirit was witnessed by all, until the very moment she was called to rest in the Lord's eternal peace.

One of twelve children, Rosanna was born to Queen Esther (Edmonds) White, and Cephus, Sr., on February 23, 1935. Originally from Scotland Neck, North Carolina, Rosanna's early life was primarily spent in Washington D.C, where the White family would create their forever home.

Rosanna had a dream, and all the makings of a great novelist, as an ardent reader, wordsmith with deft typing skills. Still, it was a love story that lead her to both the devotion of her five children, and loving, 58-year-long marriage to Willie York, Sr., alongside a tenured and fulfilling career at the Federal Maritime Commission.

Settled in Southeast, Rosanna and Willie's home was a bastion of celebration, a rest haven for visitors, and a touchstone for every branch of their family. Vacations and annual road trips to Florida and South Carolina were a hallmark of the York clan, ensuring her bevy of grandchildren had special memories of

idyllic summers with their grandparents.

Rosanna's matriarchal role was deeply reflected in her service to others. A member of Mentrotone Baptist Church, she served proudly as a deaconess for over a decade, and cherished her years of fellowship in weekly bible study, and as a member of the Mentrotone Women's Choir. Having "Rose" as a friend, meant that you gained a formidable, lifelong champion. From her cohort of Iverson Mall Walkers, to her downtown colleagues, and seamstresses circle, she was known for her firm kindness, sometimes mischief, but most often laughter.

Rosanna enters heavenly peace with her husband, Willie, Sr.; her youngest daughter, Donna and eldest son, Willie, Jr.; parents and siblings: Thurman, Sr., Mable White Dathan, Mary Maxine Outz, and Leon. Her legacy is carried on in the hearts and lives of her daughter, Toya Dover; her sons, Larry (Wanda), and Kelvin (Patrice); her eight grandchildren: Kaseem, Maya, Jamal, Christopher, Erika, Jasmine, Brittany, and Jaeda; her twelve great-grandchildren: Misa, Kamylah, Aaliyah, Gianna, Jeremiah, Native, July, Truce, Khari, Nova, Nyeem and Noah; her sister, Meretha Taylor; and her brothers, Cephus, Jr., Andrew, Sr., (Marvel), Keidth (Lillie), Vernon, William (Judith), and Norris; along with a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, many loving relatives and friends.

Rosanna's life undoubtedly blessed those that knew her. Our enduring memories of her smile, warmth, hilarity, love and laughter will always remain.
February 23, 1935 - August 08, 2025.

Visitation will be held on September 19th, 2025 from 10am until time of service at Mentrotone Baptist church. Interment to Follow with her husband at Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery at 1pm.

Cemetery Details

Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery

11301 Crain Hwy
Cheltenham, MD 20623

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **19**. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Mentrotone Baptist Church
5126 B St SE
Washington, DC 20019

Funeral Service

SEP **19**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Mentrotone Baptist Church
5126 B St SE
Washington, DC 20019

Burial

SEP **19**. 1:00 PM (ET)

MD Veterans Cemetery - Cheltenham, MD
11301 Crain Highway
Cheltenham, MD 20623

Tribute Wall

CM

“ To all of Rossana's family and friends, I want to first express my heartfelt condolences, sympathy, compassion and love to each of you as we all remember and cherish the love and joy that she brought into our lives.

I first met Rossana when I worked at the Federal Maritime Commission (FMC), probably around 1978/1979, and insistently, upon meeting her, she immediately became "my other mother." Even though I only worked with her at FMC for about one and a half years, we continued to have a nurturing and loving relationship for over 45 years.

Rosanna taught me so many life lessons throughout all of the many years that I was blessed to know her. As a very young adult, she showed me what it meant to love our God and his son, our Jesus Christ, first and foremost, but also what it meant to be an intricate member of your church and community. She also taught me what it meant to love thy neighbor because I witnessed it first hand and saw how she always gave her best.

It's because of her faith that she was a loving wife, the best mother, a true friend, and a confidant.

I have so many fond memories of "my other mother," but my best memory will always be the first day that God brought her into my life.

As much as I will always love and miss you, may you now rest in peace in God's Heavenly Kingdom forever and ever. Amen! 🙏

You may be gone, but you will never ever be forgotten.

Love, your "other daughter, Celestine."

Celeste Moore - September 19, 2025 at 12:57 AM

DC

“ Donna and Stanley Cooley purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Rosanna York.



Donna and Stanley Cooley - September 18, 2025 at 09:46 AM

AB

“ Alice Blackmon purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Rosanna York.



Alice Blackmon - September 15, 2025 at 05:36 PM

RS

“ 1 file added to the album York Family Album



Raymond Funeral Service - August 18, 2025 at 12:27 PM

MD

“ Mrs. Betty O Swanson and Daughters purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Rosanna York.



Mrs. Betty O Swanson and Daughters - August 15, 2025 at 08:04 PM