



## Connie Delores Williams Boyle

April 19, 2024

Connie Delores Williams Boyle transitioned on Friday, April 19, 2024, leaving behind a towering and enduring legacy. Born on May 23, 1934, in the cradle of segregation in Covington, Louisiana, Connie emerged radiantly, with her spirit intact and her path illuminated by the very trials meant to confine her.

Raised in the Black Methodist Church, where the hymns ascended like hopeful prayers, Connie's formidable intellect was apparent early on. She graduated as the valedictorian from her segregated high school—a testament to a mind unbounded by the constraints around her.

At Dillard University, where she majored in English on a partial scholarship, Connie's resilience shone as brightly as her intellect. She served as an editor for both the University's newspaper and the University's yearbook, roles that demonstrated her superior writing acumen and astute leadership. Living off-campus with her older sister, Vivian, due to limited resources, she put herself through college by working as a short-order cook at various diners and restaurants, which honed her outstanding culinary skills. Connie also worked as a teaching assistant in the English Department, and because of an extraordinary work ethic and a deep commitment to excellence, Connie graduated cum laude in 1955.

After her graduation from Dillard University, Connie's passion for English led her to the classroom where she served as an educator at Samuel J. Green School for almost 30 years, teaching 8th and 9th grades. There, she did not merely teach English and Louisiana history; she breathed life into prose and

poetry for her students. Connie shared her perfect diction with her students by teaching speech and drama, and her students were able to recite poems from memory and perform flawlessly in plays, expanding her students' imaginations and exposing them to worlds different than their own. Her classrooms were arenas of intellect and empowerment, where debate was as much about dignity, respect, and confidence, as dialogue.

Never straying from the frontlines of education and notwithstanding her formidable leadership skills, Connie chose the trenches over administration, dedicating her life to the empowerment of Black children through education. Her belief in the transformative power of knowledge was rivaled only by her love for her family. Married to Ernest Boyle, Jr. for almost 62 years, she found joy and strength in their shared journey, raising two children, Wardell and Kim, with an unyielding devotion to family and community values.

Connie Boyle's life was a symphony of courage, integrity, and an unwavering commitment to the future—a tapestry woven with the threads of spirituality, family, community, and an enduring love for her people. Her legacy, marked by her two children, three grandchildren, one great grandchild, and the countless students who found in her both a mentor and a mirror, reflects a life lived with monumental grace, selflessness and indomitable purpose.

Connie Boyle's Celebration of Love and Life will be held under the soaring ceilings of Lawless Chapel at her alma mater, Dillard University, 2601 Gentilly Blvd. on Saturday, April 27, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. Visitation will begin at 12:00 pm. In lieu of flowers, the Boyle family asks that you consider honoring Connie's memory with a contribution to the Ernest and Connie Boyle scholarship fund at her beloved Dillard. Checks should be made payable to Dillard University: (In memo section, please note: The Ernest and Connie Boyle Scholarship Fund) Dillard University Office of Development, 2601 Gentilly Boulevard New Orleans, LA 70122. Interment: Mt. Olivet Cemetery. Arrangements by D.W. Rhodes Funeral Home, 3933 Washington Avenue. Please visit [www.rhodesfuneral.com](http://www.rhodesfuneral.com) to sign the guestbook.



# Cemetery Details

## Mt. Olivet Cemetery

4000 Norman Mayer Ave.  
New Orleans, LA 70122

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 27. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Lawless Memorial Chapel (Dillard University)  
2601 Gentilly Blvd  
New Orleans, LA 70122

## Funeral Service

APR 27. 1:00 PM (CT)

Lawless Memorial Chapel (Dillard University)  
2601 Gentilly Blvd  
New Orleans, LA 70122

# Tribute Wall

AF

“ *Al Perkins and Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Connie Delores Williams Boyle.*



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**Al Perkins and Family** - April 28, 2024 at 08:22 AM

AF

“ *Al Perkins and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Connie Delores Williams Boyle.*

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**Al Perkins and Family** - April 28, 2024 at 08:22 AM

DA

“ *David purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Connie Delores Williams Boyle.*



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**David** - April 27, 2024 at 10:31 AM

DG

“ *We lift you in our Easter during this difficult time. May the soul of Connie Boyle rest in almighty God's perfect peace.*

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**Deborah & Cary Grant** - April 27, 2024 at 08:46 AM

TF

“ The Blunt Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Connie Delores Williams Boyle.



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The Blunt Family - April 26, 2024 at 09:00 PM

TF

“ The Blunt Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Connie Delores Williams Boyle.

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The Blunt Family - April 26, 2024 at 09:00 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Connie Delores Williams Boyle.



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April 26, 2024 at 11:26 AM

LE

“ Leilani & Elizabeth planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Connie Delores Williams Boyle.

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Leilani & Elizabeth - April 26, 2024 at 11:26 AM

NC

“ NAACP Office of the General Counsel purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Connie Delores Williams Boyle.



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**NAACP Office of the General Counsel** - April 25, 2024 at 06:58 PM

DH

“ Deepest sympathy to my friend Kim and the entire Boyle family. Mrs. Connie Boyle was a joy to know. I often enjoyed long chats with her, even when I had actually called to talk with Kim. Mrs. Boyle was the epitome of the wise and proper school teacher who still made younger people feel comfortable and happy in her company. RIP Mrs. Connie Boyle—work well done on this earth.  
Dr. Brenda Garibaldi Hatfield  
Gonzales, LA

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**Dr. Brenda G. Hatfield** - April 25, 2024 at 04:31 PM

TM

“ May your light and legacy continue to shine bright. You will be missed. My sincere condolences to the entire Boyle family.

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**Tanya Martin** - April 25, 2024 at 12:33 PM

YF

“ Your Times and Christophe Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Connie Delores Williams Boyle.



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**Your Times and Christophe Family** - April 24, 2024 at 10:19 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Connie Delores Williams Boyle.



April 24, 2024 at 08:13 PM



“ Milton Brown and Tracy Colden purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Connie Delores Williams Boyle.



Milton Brown and Tracy Colden - April 24, 2024 at 07:19 PM



“ Milton Brown and Tracy Colden planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Connie Delores Williams Boyle.

Milton Brown and Tracy Colden - April 24, 2024 at 07:19 PM



“ Kimberly Jackson purchased the Your Light Shines for the family of Connie Delores Williams Boyle.



Kimberly Jackson - April 24, 2024 at 07:15 PM

KJ

“ Kimberly Jackson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Connie Delores Williams Boyle.

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**Kimberly Jackson** - April 24, 2024 at 07:15 PM