



Ontario Jamiri Gates

May 4, 1995 - January 29, 2026

Ontario Jamiri Gates was born to Debra Gates on May 5, 1995, at the University of MS Medical Center in Jackon, MS. He was preceded in death by his cousins, Nako Gardener, James Gates, and Michael Smith, his great grandmother Jannie V. Stapleton, his great grandfather, Roy Gates, his aunt Bernice Roby and his best friend Sylvester Houston.

- A Time To Live -

Ontario was a young man of many nicknames such as Cookie, Tootie, Shugg, Big Man and he was everyone's big baby. He obtained his education at the School for the Blind in Jackson, MS and Pearl Public School District. He accepted Christ at an early age. He loved the Lord. He lived a life like no other. Ontario was the boss of everything but never wanted for anything. Whatever he wanted, he got it! He was fascinated with VCR's and floor model televisions. His favorite music to listen to was gospel. His favorite artists was Dottie Peoples, The William Brothers and Harvey Watkins. His favorite thing to watch on tv was Tyler Perry plays. Ontario was autistic. He experienced the world with a unique perspective, teaching others to slow down, listen and love intentionally. Ontario's smile was radiant, his heart pure, and his presence unforgettable. He embraced life in his own extraordinary way, reminding everyone around him that being different is not less—it is a gift. His strength, resilience, and loving nature touched family, friends, and all who had the blessing of knowing him.

- A time to remember -

Ontario leaves to cherish his wonderful memories: his parents Tony and Debra Bailey, his grandparents, Willie and Gwen Holmes, with whom he lived with as they were vital in raising him and Evon and Derry Stapleton. A great grandmother, Minnie Gates who assisted with his daily care and activities. Five Brothers, Deandre Tate, Jordan Bailey, Emahni(Hank) Whigham, Jaylen Bailey and Jagger Bailey. Two aunts, Chaprice Holmes and Lashundra Stapleton (Tremayne). Three uncles Derrick Stapleton, Bryce Stapleton (Henrietta, Daniel Collier (Victoria) and a host of family and friends.

Cemetery Details

Ponderosa Cemetery

235 Appleridge Road
Brandon, MS 39042

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 12. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Dean Memorial Funeral Home
745 Highway 468
Brandon, MS 39042
(601) 825-3884
<https://deanmemorialfuneralhome.com/>

Homegoing Service

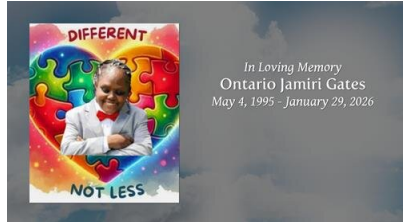
FEB 13. 11:00 AM (CT)

"Lovie" Dean Memorial Chapel
745 Hwy 468
Brandon, MS 39042

Tribute Wall



“ *Dean Memorial Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ontario Jamiri Gates*



Dean Memorial Funeral Home - February 12 at 01:31 PM



Praying for you and the family. Love ❤️ you all.

Bobbie Jean Moorehead - February 12 at 02:53 PM

SU

“ *Deborah i love you cuz... rest in internal peace lil cuz ❤️❤️❤️❤️ tario*



sunni - February 11 at 11:44 PM

CA

“ *Cathy Alexande sent a virtual gift in memory of Ontario Gates*



Cathy Alexande - February 07 at 10:20 PM

VN

“ V16-South Central VA Health Care Network purchased the Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet for the family of Ontario Jamiri Gates.



V16-South Central VA Health Care Network - February 06 at 03:48 PM

LI

“ Praying for the Gates,

LISA - February 06 at 03:46 PM

MM

“ Praying for the Gates and Holmes Family

Michelle May - February 04 at 07:14 PM

SU

“ Send my condolences to the Gates family from Sudie and Family.



sudie - February 04 at 05:15 PM



“ Sending heartfelt condolences to the Gates and Holmes Families. My Prayers for your strength sent out to each of you.



LaVerne Jones - February 04 at 04:02 PM

EA

“ *Eddie Ainsworth lit a candle in memory of Ontario Gates* ”



Eddie Ainsworth - February 03 at 08:20 PM

SL

“ *Stephanie Lamb sent a virtual gift in memory of Ontario Gates* ”



Stephanie Lamb - February 03 at 10:26 AM