

Louvenia G. Offord

Evangelist Louvenia Gibbs (Lawton) Offord, 66, of Palatka, entered the sunset of life on Sunday, Aug. 21, 2011 at Putnam Community Medical Center.

A native of Folkston, Ga., she was born on Friday, Feb. 23, 1945, to Ruben and Henrietta (Little) Gibbs. Louvenia has resided in Putnam County since her early childhood and was educated in the Putnam County School District at Central Academy. At an early age, Louvenia professed salvation and received the baptism of the Holy Ghost at the First Born Church of the Living God. She has served as assistant pastor, assistant district Mother, district evangelist, missionary, choir director, and kitchen manager over the years of her faithful service. She enjoyed witnessing to everyone she met, feeding them both spiritually and physically. She also loved traveling up and down the East Coast as a farming contractor.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in eternal rest by her husband, Deacon Willie Offord; brothers, Ruben Gibbs Jr., Dewitt Gibbs and Larry Gibbs Sr., stepsons Charles Offord and Anthony B. Offord Sr.

She leaves to cherish her memories brothers Henry (Essie) Gibbs, Palatka; Daniel (Pauline) Gibbs, Palatka; Raymond (Sueko) Gibbs, Junction City, Kan.; James (Connie) Gibbs, Palatka; sister, Joyce (Marvin) Humphrey, Junction City, Kan.; sister-in-law, Roberta Gibbs, Palatka; like a sister, (best friend) Rebecca "Peaches" Bellamy, Palatka; stepson, Theodore "Ted" Offord, Fort Pierce; stepdaughter, Sharon Offord, Fort Pierce; former husband and friend, Charles H. Lawton Sr., Palatka; and a host of other relatives, church family and devoted friends.

Visitation of family and friends will be from 5-8 p.m., Friday, Aug. 26 at the "Chapel of Serenity." Homegoing celebration will be 11 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 27 at the First Born Church of the Living God, 1708 Madison St., Bishop W.L. Smith Sr., pastor, is the eulogist.

The cortege will assemble at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at her brother, Henry Gibbs,' residence, 916 N. 12th St., Palatka. Interment will be in Pattersonville Memorial Cemetery, East Palatka.

Friends may sign the Offord family's guestbook at www.flaggserenitychapel.com.

Arrangements are entrusted to the care of Karl N. Flagg Serenity Memorial Chapel, 2400 Madison Street, Palatka.