



## Leona Cooksey

April 5, 1933 - May 9, 2008

Leona Wilson "Mama" Cooksey She was the most precious wife, devoted mother, loving grandmother, great-grandmother and best friend anyone could ever have. At 2:00 p.m. on Friday, May 9th, 2008, "Mama" Cooksey, a licensed Pentecostal minister, became an angel in heaven at the age of 75. She was a native of Toone, Tennessee and resided in Baton Rouge for 30 years before moving to Independence. "Mama" Cooksey was well known as being the lead guitar player for the Cooksey Family Gospel Singers. Being the First Lady of Blue Grass Music for Louisiana, she was inducted into the Blue Grass Hall of Fame. "Mama" Cooksey was a member of the Faith Apostolic Church and she lived the life she professed. She is survived by the love of her life for 58 years, L. J. Cooksey, Sr.; one son, L. J. "Butch" Cooksey, Jr. and his wife, Charlene, all of Independence; two daughters and sons-in-law, Linda and D. L. Hudson, Jr. of Holden, Cathy and Junior Carrier of Independence. "Mama" Cooksey is also survived by a sister-in-law, Audrey Wilson of Central, Louisiana, numerous nieces and nephews along with 8 cherished grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren. Seven sisters, six brothers and several nieces and nephews preceded her in death. Relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral services from the Faith Apostolic Pentecostal Church in Holden on Monday, May 12th at 10:00 a.m. with visitation beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 11th. Conducting the religious services will be Rev. Marlin Arceneaux assisted by Rev. Marvin Wilson and Sister Margie Sullivan. Interment will be in Twin Pines Cemetery.

She will be sadly missed by all those who were honored to be a part of her life. Condolences and other information available online at [www.bgthompsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.bgthompsonfuneralhome.com) Arrangements have been entrusted to Brandon G. Thompson Funeral Home of Hammond.