



## Joan G. Scott

August 10, 1940 - November 1, 2025

QR CODE: <https://www.flipsnack.com/alcbf/joan-gooden-scott-flipbook>

Joan Gooden was born on August 10, 1940, in Austin, Texas, to Horace Lee Spencer and Emma Uneta (Gooden) Brown. She was the first child of all her siblings. Joan accepted Christ at an early age and was baptized at the age of seven at First Baptist Church, under the leadership of the late Pastor Robert E. Lee. She stayed a faithful member until later joining Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church, where she was an active member of the Mission, attending the annual St. John Baptist Convention. Even when her health declined, Joan continued to praise and serve God in every way she could—remaining steadfast in her faith. Joan attended L.L. Campbell Elementary, Kealing Junior High School, and L.C. Anderson High School, graduating from the Class of 1959, and proudly wore her black and gold. She was dedicated to her old alma mater, LC Anderson High School, and attended their reunions

annually. Joan's favorite quote, which she lived by, was "Anything worth having is worth working for" (Andrew Carnegie). She continued her education, attending Texas Southern University and the University of Houston in Houston, Texas, and later completing her associate's degree in general studies from Austin Community College. She then earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from St. Edward's University. Joan had a passion for learning that she carried throughout her life and career.

Joan was known for her strong work ethic. She spent 27 years at Austin State Hospital, providing support and care to individuals with mental health and intellectual disabilities within the Texas Department of Mental Health. Subsequently, she transitioned to a career in education, serving as a permanent substitute teacher in multiple schools within the Austin Independent School District.

Through her compassion, patience, and dedication, Joan made a significant contribution to the academic and personal development of numerous students. After 21 years with AISD, Joan concluded her tenure, leaving a distinguished record of service and commitment to educational excellence.

Joan was an esteemed member of the VFW Auxiliary Lodge 8787, where she actively participated in service and community engagement. She played a foundational role in establishing the Organ Family Reunion Picnic, which originated in 1982 and

remains ongoing to the present day. Her appreciation for family gatherings and momentous events was evident through her involvement. Additionally, Joan served as a volunteer with the American Red Cross, demonstrating a strong commitment to assisting others and contributing to her community.

Joan was an individual who devoted her life to diligent work and the pursuit of education. She held a strong belief in the value of learning and the significance of perseverance. Recognized for her distinctive blue eyeshadow, auburn hair, red lipstick, and welcoming demeanor, Joan regularly participated in Juneteenth events at the corner of Chicon and 12th Street, where she engaged with her community and honored her heritage—a tradition she maintained until her health declined.

Joan married Jerome Simmons on July 25, 1959. To this union, she had four children: Michael, Anthony, Vincent, and Angela Simmons. Their marriage concluded in divorce in November 1968. Joan welcomed her fifth child, Yolanda Simmons, in August of 1971. She consistently

demonstrated dedication to her family by working diligently to support her children and instilling in them the values of faith, hard work, and perseverance.

In June 1972, Joan married Ireland Lee Scott, who was serving in the U.S. Army at the time.

Throughout her years as a military spouse, she accompanied her husband and children to various postings, including Fort Knox, Kentucky, where she prioritized family cohesion and upheld foundational values. After four years, the family returned to Austin, Texas, resettling near Bergstrom Air Force Base. Joan Scott demonstrated strength and resilience, and her commitment to her principles and faith had a profoundly positive influence on both her family and the wider community.

Joan's life was one of service, strength, and grace. She will be remembered as a devoted mother, loving sister, proud grandmother, faithful servant of God, and a pillar of her community.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Horace Lee Spencer Sr., and Emma Uneta Brown; her beloved son, Michael Simmons; her siblings, Herman Gooden Sr., Pearlina Brown, Kermit Spencer, Sandra Spencer, and William Brown.

Joan leaves to cherish her memory her children: Anthony Simmons, Austin, TX; Vincent Simmons (Barbara), Cedar Park, TX; Angela Simmons, Pflugerville, TX; and Yolanda Tolbert (Virgil), San Marcos, TX. Her siblings: Gwynne Willis (Bernard), Poughkeepsie, NY; Wanda Batson (Henry Sr.), Houston, TX; Kenneth Spencer (Angela), Spokane, WA; and Riley Spencer, Austin, TX. Her grandchildren: Brittany Guice, Starnisha Bodie, Paulette Hausley, and Michala Simmons. She also leaves behind a host of great-grandchildren, great-great-

grandchildren,  
nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends who will remember her kindness,  
strength, and faith.

# Cemetery Details

## Evergreen Cemetery

3304 E12th & Airport Blvd  
Austin, TX 78721

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

NOV 13. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

A Life Celebration by Franklin – Austin  
16912 N. IH 35  
Austin, TX 78728  
(512) 365-6000

## Celebration Service

NOV 14. 11:00 AM (CT)

Mt. Zion Baptist Church  
2938 E. 13th Street  
Austin, TX 78702

# Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



A Life Celebration by Franklin - November 14, 2025 at 05:34 AM



“ Lavonne Williams lit a candle in memory of Joan G. Scott



Lavonne Williams - November 13, 2025 at 09:52 PM



“ My hope, Revelation 3,4  
..... and he will wipe out every tear from their eyes and death will be no more neither one mourning nor outcry nor pain be be anymore. The former things have passed away.”



Bernard & Gwynne Willis - November 13, 2025 at 02:10 PM

L9

*Joan it's been years I was married to Michael you was the mother in law a mother to me just the best cheers now how good u was to me I love you rest in heaven beautiful mother in law lois*

**L9us** - November 13, 2025 at 07:56 PM

LJ

*Lois*

**Lois jones** - November 13, 2025 at 07:57 PM

LJ

*Cheers of joy u gave me*

**Lois jones** - November 13, 2025 at 07:58 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joan G. Scott.*



November 13, 2025 at 10:57 AM

GF

“ *Gooden family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joan G. Scott.*

**Gooden family** - November 13, 2025 at 10:57 AM

NV

“ Northside Atlanta - Courtney, Iren, LaShanda, Prinnesha, Sabrina, Shakia, Shakelia, Shanna, Terris & Venita purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Joan G. Scott.



Northside Atlanta - Courtney, Iren, LaShanda, Prinnesha, Sabrina, Shakia, Shakelia, Shanna, Terris & Venita -  
November 12, 2025 at 08:36 AM



“ We are thinking of you and the family during this difficult time. Our warmest condolences.

- The Young Family - Dre & Deb



Debbie Young - November 11, 2025 at 11:22 PM

YV

“ Your neighbors, Tiz and Vince purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Joan G. Scott.



Your neighbors, Tiz and Vince - November 11, 2025 at 10:48 PM

YV

“ Your neighbors, Tiz and Vince planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joan G. Scott.

Your neighbors, Tiz and Vince - November 11, 2025 at 10:48 PM

YT

“ *Miss you so much* ”



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**Yolanda Tolbert** - November 11, 2025 at 01:25 PM