



## Mrs. Datikka "Tikka" Tennell Peebles

July 12, 1979 - August 25, 2025

Mrs. Datikka Tennell Peebles, 46, of Edwards, IL transitioned to her heavenly home at 11:44 pm on Monday, August 25, 2025 at OSF ST. Francis Medical Center.

Datikka, affectionately known as Tikka, was born on July 12, 1979, in St. Louis, Missouri, to the union of Thertha Holt and Dennis Thomas. From a young age, Tikka's loyalty and dedication were evident. As the eldest granddaughter of Leona Edison and daughter of Thertha, she was fiercely protective of her cousins and her younger brother, Rodney Holt II, who preceded her in death. This unwavering commitment to her family defined her character throughout her lifetime. Tikka accepted Christ early on and was baptized at Liberty Baptist Church. As a child, she loved to dance, cook, and was an avid reader, often finishing four novels a week.

Tikka attended Riverview Gardens High School and was admired by friends and family for her beauty, style, wit, and humor. Known for her straightforward nature, she always stood up for what was right, gave generously, and was a fierce advocate for others. Her passion for learning led her to Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE), where she graduated on May 7, 2005, with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Management Information Systems.

Tikka's love for technology led her to a successful career as a Business Analyst at Dell Computers until her passing. At Dell she was an influential leader, she was part of Dell's Graduating Aspiring Leadership Program and serving as a co-lead for the Black Networking Alliance Community Service Pillar. In 2018 Tikka and her husband also began a successful real estate investment business, a new passion that allowed her to build a legacy for her family.

On August 19, 2010, Tikka's greatest joy arrived with the birth of her son, Jeremiah "JP" Alexander Peebles. She poured her heart and soul into raising him to be a strong Black man and instilling a core foundation of excellence. She kept him busy by enrolling him in sports, clubs, and community service.

On March 1, 2017, Tikka married her beloved husband, Jason Peebles. They moved to Peoria, Illinois, later that year. Although she was initially reluctant to leave her home, Tikka thrived in building a new life for her family. She continued to support Jeremiah and was a dedicated presence in his school, serving on committees for the Dunlap Grade School Parents Club and Dunlap Valley Middle School Parents Club.

### A Life of Service and Civic Engagement

Tikka's commitment to her community was truly remarkable. She was a pillar in Peoria, actively involved in countless organizations. She believed in surrounding herself with like-minded people who were compassionate and dedicated to service. She was a proud member of the Peoria Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., where she served on the Emergency Response Team, Program Planning and Development, National Panhellenic Liaison and was a co-chair for multiple fundraising efforts. She also belonged to the Order of the Eastern Star Silver Star Chapter #74, serving as Sunshine Committee Chair, on the Education & Scholarship Committee, and Community Service committee.

Her dedication to civic engagement was extensive. As a graduate of the Peoria Civic Leadership Academy, she was a member of the Peoria County Joint Commission on Racial Justice and Equity Committee, where she worked to bridge the digital divide by providing free computer classes and vouchers. She was a Deputy Registrar for the Peoria Election Commission and a member of the League of Women Voters, where she co-led mock elections and registered voters. Datikka was also the Asst. Secretary and Executive Committee member of the NAACP.

Tikka also served on the Mayor's Advisory Committee for Citizens with Disabilities and volunteered with Unity Point In-School Health Advisory Board as a parent liaison. Tikka was a compassionate mentor to young girls through the Young Lives Mentoring Program and Sunflowers Mentoring Program, where she later served as Board Secretary. She also volunteered with Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children (CASA) and supported the Dream Center Peoria and It Takes a Village for community events.

A dedicated member of her faith, Tikka was active at St. Paul Baptist Church, where she was a greeter, a member of the event planning team for the Marriage and Women's Ministries, and a lead planner for the Grown-ish Teen Summit. Tikka's love for books led her to start the "Soulful Readers Book Club for Women of Color," where she found new friends and sisters.

Tikka was a genuinely caring person who loved her family and was deeply committed to

improving her community. On August 25, 2025, Tikka was called to serve with the Lord in the Kingdom of Heaven.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Thertha Holt; her brother, Rodney Earl Holt, Jr.; and her father, Dennis Thomas.

She leaves to cherish her precious memories: her grandmother, Leona Edison; her husband, Jason Alexander Peebles; her son, Jeremiah "JP" Alexander Peebles; her aunts, Ozell Leflore and Brenda (Earl) Kerr; her uncles, Arthur Leflore and Charles Wright; her brother, Dennis Echos; her sister, Milka Brooks; her niece, Jordyn Ward; her nephews, Rodney Holt, III, Shawn Wilson, and Bryson; and her cousins, Keva Williams, Michelle (Terris) Rainey, Marlon Nash, and Dural Williams.

Tikka's legacy of service and love touched countless lives, and she will be deeply missed.

Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be shared at [SimonsMortuary.com](http://SimonsMortuary.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 5. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Paul Peoria  
114 W. Forrest Hill Avenue  
Peoria, IL 61604

## Funeral Service

SEP 5. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Paul Peoria  
114 W. Forrest Hill Avenue  
Peoria, IL 61604

# Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Webcast in memory of Mrs. Datikka "Tikka" Tennell Peebles*



**Simons Mortuary** - September 05, 2025 at 11:43 AM



*Beautiful Service! We love you, Tikka!*

**Jaye Ross** - September 05, 2025 at 01:56 PM



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Datikka "Tikka" Tennell Peebles*



**Simons Mortuary** - September 05, 2025 at 11:43 AM

KC

“ *Jason and JP. Tikka brought so much joy to those she encountered. Meeting her was a wonderful blessing and I am better for it. Always in my prayers. ❤️🌹*



**Kimberly Cary** - September 06, 2025 at 06:28 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



**Simons Mortuary** - September 05, 2025 at 05:35 PM



“ Dear Jason and Jeremiah,

*Words cannot fully express the sorrow we feel at the loss of our dear friend, Datikka. She was a beacon of light in our lives and brought an undeniable joy to everyone she encountered. Her smile had the power to brighten up any room, and her kind words always seemed to come at just the right moment.*

*Datikka's love for you both, her husband and son, serves as a beautiful example to all wives and mothers. Her devotion and warmth were evident in everything she did, and her memory will continue to inspire us all.*

*If there is anything you need, please do not hesitate to reach out to her friends here in Saint Louis. We are all here to support you in any way we can.*

*With heartfelt condolences,  
Jaquanda and Jenaye Ross*

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**Jaye Ross** - September 05, 2025 at 01:40 AM

NN

“ Nadege & Jaden NEPOS purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mrs. Datikka "Tikka" Tennell Peebles.



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**Nadege & Jaden NEPOS** - September 04, 2025 at 01:00 AM

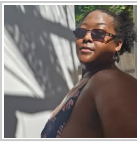
SB

“ Soulful Readers Bookclub purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mrs. Datikka "Tikka" Tennell Peebles.



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**Soulful Readers Bookclub** - September 03, 2025 at 04:56 AM



“ I still can't believe the news. When I first saw it i just knew someone was playing. You will truly be missed. Your heart and honesty has not been matched. You don't find many people like Tikka and when you do you hold on to them. I would have never knew meeting you all those years ago at Boeing that we would still be friends today. My heart breaks knowing I will not get that checkup call from you just checking in and seeing how life is going. You were an amazing blessing to whom ever you crossed paths with and this will take some time to get over. Love you friend.

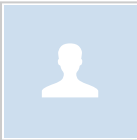
Crystal Jackson - September 03, 2025 at 12:14 AM



“ Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Mrs. Datikka "Tikka" Tennell Peebles.



September 03, 2025 at 12:03 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mrs. Datikka "Tikka" Tennell Peebles.



September 02, 2025 at 01:02 PM



“ Jason, My Deepest sympathies to you in this time of grief. Lossing my wife is one of my greatest fears and I can't imagine the burden you are bearing. my prayers for you and your family.

Todd Moser - September 02, 2025 at 09:30 AM



“ James & Judy Jackson purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mrs. Datikka "Tikka" Tennell Peebles.



James & Judy Jackson - September 02, 2025 at 07:58 AM

RS

“ Regina, Jennifer and Stephany purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mrs. Datikka "Tikka" Tennell Peebles.



Regina, Jennifer and Stephany - September 01, 2025 at 02:07 PM

RS

“ Regina, Jennifer and Stephany planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Datikka T Peebles.

Regina, Jennifer and Stephany - September 01, 2025 at 02:07 PM



“ Phyllis Williams lit a candle in memory of Datikka Peebles



Phyllis Williams - August 31, 2025 at 04:59 PM

DE

“ Datitka was such a special spirit; she will be missed. Heaven gained an Angel!!



Deborah Easley - August 31, 2025 at 08:33 AM

PH

“ Tikka you got me to read so much more and get interested in particular authors! Thanks for rekindling my love for books and reading! You will be so sorely missed but I will continue to read in your honor! Love you Tikka. Take your Eternal Rest now! 🥹🥹

Phyllis - August 29, 2025 at 11:00 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Datikka "Tikka" Tennell Peebles.*



August 29, 2025 at 07:22 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mrs. Datikka T Peebles.

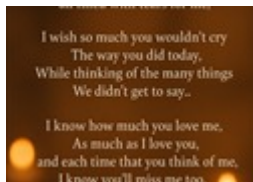
August 29, 2025 at 07:22 PM

MR

“ *Tikka,  
With every smile, step, and milestone, I'll cherish the beautiful memories we've shared throughout our lives. You blessed this world with your intelligence, generosity, compassion, leaving an everlasting mark on all who knew you.*

*I will love and miss you forever!*

*Your cousin, Michelle, and the entire Rainey family*



Michelle Rainey - August 29, 2025 at 11:45 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mrs. Datikka "Tikka" Tennell Peebles.*



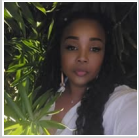
August 29, 2025 at 09:50 AM



“ You became one of my favorite coworkers despite us never having met in person. We even kept up regular phone calls after we both moved on to better roles, and even eventually after I left the company. You were always a bright light to my day, and someone I knew I could go to for advice or even to just chat about life in general. I'm at such a loss without hearing your voice. Rest in power, my friend.



Josh Brunner - August 29, 2025 at 09:46 AM



“ I miss you so much friend! Thank you for the stamp you placed on my heart and in my life. Praying for you Jason and JP



Lois Herrod - August 28, 2025 at 11:57 PM

TR

“ Teri Rainey purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Datikka "Tikka" Tennell Peebles.



Teri Rainey - August 28, 2025 at 05:21 PM

RA

“ Renee Adell lit a candle in memory of Datikka Peebles



Renee Adell - August 28, 2025 at 05:17 PM