

PALLBEARERS

Grandsons: Lorenzo Standfield, Carey Jones, Vincent Davis, Ray Taylor
Great Grandsons: Joseph Johnson, Jarrod Johnson, Marquez Wise, Alonzo Smith,
Lorenzo Stanfield, Brandon Butler, Adrian Smith, Jr.

FLOWER ATTENDANTS

Friends of the Family
The Ushers and Deaconess Ministries

Mothers Never Really Die
Death beckoned her with outstretched hands
And whispered softly of an "UNKNOWN LAND"
But she was not afraid to go
For though the path she did not know
She took DEATH'S HAND without a fear
For He who safely brought her here
Had told her He would lead the way
Into ETERNITY'S BRIGHT DAY
And so she did not go alone
Into the 'VALLEY THAT'S UNKOWN'
She gently took Death BY THE HAND
And journeyed to "THE PROMISED LAND"
And there, with step so light and gay
She polishes the sun by day
And keeps the moonbeams silvery bright...
For MOTHERS really never die
They just 'KEEP HOUSE IN THE SKY'...
And in the HEAVENLY HOME ABOVE
They wait to 'welcome' those they love

Helen Steiner Rice

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are grateful to God for a life well lived. The blessing of friends who have shown their love in so many ways during this time. We thank you for all acts of kindness that provided comfort and demonstrated your love and concern for our family in our time of need.

The Family of the late
Mother Frankie Joan Gardner Toler
"Big Momma"

Arrangements By



Buggs-Bellamy
FUNERAL SERVICES, INC.

The Family That Cares for Your Family, A Ministry of Comfort
Buggs-Bellamy Funeral Services, Inc.
2936 Jerry Lane, Jacksonville, Florida 32218
(904) 768-5000
Rev. Wilbur Bellamy, Jr., L.F.D.I.C.
Lethenia Joyce Meadows, L.F.D.
Laprinzo Banks, L.F.D.
www.buggsbellamy.com

CELEBRATION OF LIFE



Mother
Frankie Joan Gardner Toler

ALPHA
November 11, 1934

"Big Momma"

OMEGA
February 5, 2024

Saturday, February 17, 2024 - 10:00 A.M.

Mount Bethel Missionary Baptist Church
1620 Helena Street
Jacksonville, FL 32208
(904) 764-8032

Pastor Robert E. Herring, Sr., Officiant

Interment
Restlawn Cemetery South
3301 West Moncrief Road
Jacksonville, Florida 32208

LASTING LEGACY

Mother Frankie Joan Gardner Toler, the daughter of Altimeese Corbitt and Luthur Gardner, was born on November 11, 1934, in Jacksonville, Florida. She is the oldest of three children and was raised in a home by her grandmother, Lannie Corbitt, mother, Altimeese Black, stepfather, Willie Black, and two brothers; Willie Black, Jr. and Herbert Black, Sr. She and her brothers were raised mainly by their grandmother. Joan accepted Christ at a young age in Mt. Ararat Baptist Church where she was baptized into the Faith. She later moved her membership to Mt. Bethel Missionary Baptist Church which was closer to their residence.

She graduated from old Stanton High School with honors and went on to become a staunch advocate for better educational opportunities, health care and other disparities impacting the black community throughout the rural south. As a young adult, her community activism was often recognized by notable local officials such as former city mayor, Jake Godbold and the Florida Star, which was the newspaper outlet for blacks during that time. Beyond activism, Joan loved attending her home church, reading, traveling, cheering on her favorite football teams (Florida State Seminoles, Dallas Cowboys & Washington Redskins), and listening to Bobby Jones gospel whenever she could. Moreover, she loved a nice Sunday dinner especially if it included fried whiting fish, shrimp, collard greens and a Coke (Do not get her a Diet or Zero Sugar soda)!

Joan married Raymond Toler, and her family eventually grew to five boys and three girls. Her union with Ray Jacobs added more children: three girls and one boy. She became affectionately known as "Big Momma."

Over the years, many local and out-of-state residents would get to know Joan – some even knew her by various nicknames such as: "Prayer Warrior, Face, Jo, Joann, and Granny," but to us, she was our Big Momma. Her resolve and faith were always above reproach. Whenever any of us were in distress or overwhelmed by the troubles of this world, she would comfort us with the Lord's Prayer and favorite quotes such as "Prayer is the key & faith unlocks the door."

Joan lived to see 4 generations of her offspring birthed into this world. Before her passing, she witnessed her lineage grow to more than 212 direct descendants.

Joan was preceded in death by her father, Luthur Gardner, mother, Altimeese Corbitt Black (Willie), paternal grandmother, Lannie Corbitt, brother and sister-in-law, Willie, Jr and Marline Black, daughters, Carolyn Theresa Jackson (Richard), Doris Gordon (Ronald), Raynita Carn (Donald); goddaughter, Barbara Jean; granddaughter, Kisha "Cookie" Farrell; grandsons, George Ronald Davis, Quma Toler, great grands, Shekeyita Standfield, Zion Clark, and nephew, Tyrone Black.

Left to cherish Joan's memory are her children, Brenda Toler Searcy (John), Chellie Jones Harris (Kenneth), Cassandra Jacobs, and Ray Jacobs; goddaughter, Rosa Lockwood (Richard), 42 grandchildren, 144 great-grandchildren, 26 great-great-grandchildren; brother, Herbert Black (Pauline), her close friend, Mae Baker, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

To know Big Momma (Joan) was to know a great mother, sister, godmother, grandmother, great grandmother, great, great grandmother, friend, supporter and encourager, but most of all she was a Child of God. Joan's joy outside of reading and spending time with family was gardening.

Big Momma,
We love and honor you. May your Legacy live on forever in all of us.
Sincerely,
Your Descendants!

ORDER OF SERVICE

Rev. Gary Kitt, Presider

Processional.....Choir

Invocation.....Pastor Steven A. Wise, Grandson-in-Law
First Friendship Baptist Church
Brunswick, GA.

Scriptures.....Old & New Testament.....Min. Diane Jacobs, Niece

Ministry in Song.....Choir

Acknowledgements/Resolutions.....Sis. Laura Smith, Church Clerk

Remarks

As a Deacon.....Dea. Ronald Nelson
As a Friend.....Sis. Jonquill Wanton
As a Nephew.....Rev. Arron Jacobs
As a Grandson.....Bro. Carey Jones & Bro. Vincent Davis

Ministry in Song.....Sis. Elouis Randall

Words of Comfort.....Pastor R. E. Herring, Sr.

Recessional

The Repast will be in the S. A. Thomas Family Life Center