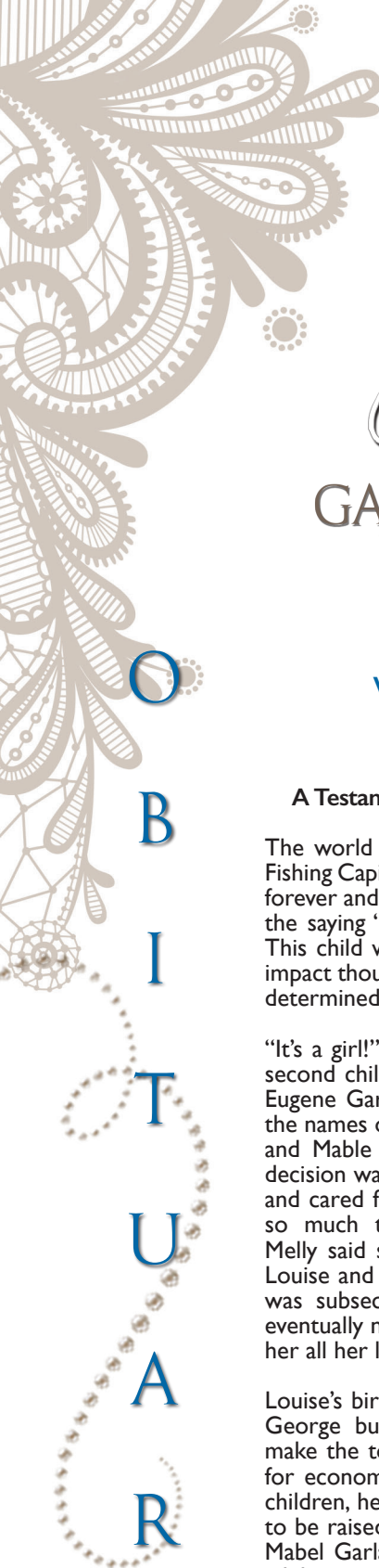


A LIFE... WELL LIVED!

Antoinette
Louise
GARLAND -
THOMAS
1952 - 2016



Antoinette Louise GARLAND THOMAS



WHAT IS LEGACY?

It is living a life that lasts...

A Testament of The Life, The Legacy, The Lady!

The world was not ready for what happened in the Fishing Capital on July 7, 1952. This world would change forever and a legend would enter whose life embraced the saying "leave this world better than you met it." This child would do just that as she would positively impact thousands and thousands of lives with her bold, determined, yet loyal and kind spirit.

"It's a girl!" These were the words echoed when the second child was born to Susan Carter aka Tiny and Eugene Garland. Given the names Antoinette Louise, the names of two of her aunts – Winnifred Antoinette and Mable Louise; she would be called Louise. This decision was made because her aunt Louise had loved and cared for her nephew, George (Louise's brother) so much that Louise's maternal grandmother Ma Melly said she must be named after her aunt Mabel Louise and was called by her second name. Her aunt was subsequently called Big Sister and Louise was eventually nicknamed Lil Sister, a name that stuck with her all her life.

Louise's birth followed very closely after her brother George but not before her father would have to make the tough decision to relocate to the Bahamas for economic reasons. Unable to manage two young children, her mother made the decision to allow her to be raised by her paternal grandparents. Sidney and Mabel Garland who raised Louise as their very own, while ensuring that her mother was very much a part of her life.

SHE LOVED HER UPBRINGING

Louise was raised as other little girls were at the time. She had to attend school and serve in the Church and community while developing a talent or hobby in her spare time. As her grandparents were stalwarts in the Mt Olivet Baptist Church, she was taught very early the need to have a personal relationship with Jesus, strong

faith and principles and the importance of serving in Church.

Louise was eventually joined in her grandparents' home by her cousins Dorn and Renae who were like her little brother and sister.

At an early age, like her grandmother and her aunts, she became the organist for her home Church in South Caicos and would also assist the Anglican Church in the community. Over the years, she would not only serve as organist but as Sunday School teacher, Usher and Financial Secretary. Louise's fiscal prudence came as a teenager when she worked as a cashier in Mr. George Ewing (deceased) store in South Caicos.

In her late teens, Louise left home in pursuit of higher education. Her travels took her to the Bahamas. She completed her teacher training at the College of the Bahamas, specializing in Mathematics and Music. Her genuine love and intimate passion for the subject of Mathematics propelled her to major in the subject at the University of Newcastle, England where she obtained her Bachelor of Philosophy degree.

Louise's thirst and hunger for education led her to pursue another degree, her Master of Education in Educational Administration at the University of Bristol. Her cycle of professional development had always taken a ten year space but she unfortunately fell short of the agreed cycle in completing her doctorate.

SHE LOVED HER FAMILY

Louise loved her family. She was proud to be among her mom's dozen children and equally as blessed to have strong relations with her father's family. She was held in high esteem. Many would seek her advice and practical help.

Louise loved her grandparents. She never forgot the love that her grandparents showered on her as a child and she cared for them in her own special way until they passed this life.

But she soon began a family of her own. It was News Years Day 1973, following the Old Year's Night Service

when Louise met the man that she would later marry. His name was Charles who was visiting from Grand Turk. He recalled that it was a simple request for a dance that led to love and they were married November 6th, 1976. This marriage produced two sons, Akin and Adonni. She found something she loved even more than education and it was being a mother. She loved and cared for her boys and they could depend on her. She raised them as her grandmother taught her. This love and care extended to her grandchildren when they came along. She loved her grandchildren and many would say she spoiled them but she was stern and protective. She became so involved in their lives as if they were her very own children. She opened her home to Jecannya, her first grandchild and showered her with love. There was still enough love left for all of her other grands. Her grandsons, Miles, Mason and Sydney who live overseas would look forward to their annual trips to spend time with her. When Devario came along, they were near inseparable. He lived with her and his father full time. Though stern with him, he had her wrapped around his little finger. This was evident when during his last birthday, he asked to cut his birthday cake at her cousin Sharlene's home, and there they were at Sharlene's door, cake in hand. He cut his cake and gave the first slice to his great grand aunt Louise. Little Skyy would be seen dressed like a doll and hoisted on her grandmother's hips while being brought to Church. She made time for her grandchildren and ensured that they knew she loved them.

She demonstrated her love and care for her mom and siblings. Louise took her two younger siblings William and Cynara at tender ages as her own children. She also took her niece Nikira under her wing. Nikira lived with her for a number of years. They can all remember annual trips overseas with her and how kind, nurturing and giving she was to them and sometimes the dozen children that would travel with her. In her most recent years,

she reunited with her sister Pat, they had a bond that transcended sisterhood.

Louise loved to surprise her mom in ways to make her smile and bring out that infectious laughter. They enjoyed a Mother/Daughter Cruise and when Tiny would travel to Providenciales, they would be seen together at different events.

She loved her aunts and cousins and shared special bonds with many of them. She was Miss Reliable to her aunts and a sound advisor and counselor to her cousins. She was very close with all of her cousins but had a very special bond with Karen, Cheryl, Renae and Sharlene. Joan, Edith, Terrilyn (Brenda) Sharilyn and Shyvonne also enjoyed special moments with her.

Karen recalls that before Louise left Grand Turk to teach in South Caicos she shared an inseparable bond with her and Cheryl. They would be seen everywhere together and were nick named "three peas in a pod" she recalled that many Sundays she and Louise would dress alike for Church and were known as the Garland twins.

When visiting Grand Turk she lived with her cousin Karen but without fail would always visit her sister Cynara, her aunt Sarah and cousin Edith where they would sit around, eat and talked for hours and of course her bestie Alice Williams.

Louise just loved her family and you did not have to be blood related to be considered family.

Though Louise's first marriage did not work out as she had hoped, she was not afraid to take a leap of faith again when she met and fell in love with the charming Lofton Thomas. To many they were an odd couple but they enjoyed and shared many memories that she cherished, however, that marriage ended in divorce.

SHE LOVED HER CALLING TO EDUCATION

Louise would often say that she believed with all her heart that

every child could learn and she would dedicate more than half of her life to the education of our children based on that conviction. She began her teaching career with TCI Government in 1972 and had teaching stints at the Iris Stubbs Primary School in South Caicos, Eliza Simons Primary School, Ona Grinton Primary School and the H. J. Robinson High School all in Grand Turk. Her commitment saw her climb the ladder in the field of education. She was promoted to Vice Principal at the Marjorie Basden High School in 1993 and a year later, she was named Principal, a position she served in until 1999. In 1999, she took on a more challenging task and relocated to Providenciales where she served as Principal of the Clement Howell High School. It was during her time as Principal that persons would see her strong leadership style. In 2005 she continued to excel in this area and became the first female and first Education Officer to supervise ALL private schools in the Turks and Caicos Islands. She was excited about this challenging role and would often say "she will represent them anywhere, anytime, any day — because they are ALL OUR CHILDREN".

Four years later, she was given the responsibility as Education Officer for Public High Schools, a position she retired from five years later. Her educational career as she knew it came to an end and she was retired after 41 years of sterling service. Her motivation and inspiration came from her Mathematics teacher at Pierson High School in South Caicos. Her most satisfying experience was managing the curriculum where she introduced specific subjects which represented a major change in the approach to education so as to meet the needs of tomorrow's citizens. Her most memorable experience was the introduction of Religious Education and Office Procedures which students passed at the CXC and GCE O level.

During her tenure of service she chaired the Turks and Caicos Islands CXC National Committee

for seven years. She attended the meetings of the School Examinations Committee (SEC) as the TCI representative for five years and she also attended the meetings of the Final Awards Committee (FAC) as the TCI representative for four years. SEC and FAC are committees of the Caribbean Examinations Council.

SHE LOVED HER CHURCH

Louise lived on three different Islands and as soon as she arrived on another Island, she would join the congregation there and serve where needed. She was an ardent member of the Bethany Baptist Church and faithfully attended Service each Sunday with her grandchildren. She loved to praise God through song and dance and it was evident as one could hear her singing loudly and dancing from the Usher's Bench or hear her admonishing when a song was not sung as lustily as she would have liked it to be.

She never strayed away from her grandparents' instruction. At the time of her passing, she was currently serving in four Ministries in her Church: She was chairman of the Bethany Baptist Church Planning Committee and Chairman of BEST Institute Board of Governors (Bethany Baptist Church School). She was also an active Member of the Usher Greeter Ministry and the Women's Ministry of her Church.

SHE LOVED HER COUNTRY

Louise seemed to have realized that her life would be short because she had racked up so many volunteer hours for several lifetimes. She seemed to have been on a mission to leave a legacy of service. Over the period of her life she served in many service based organizations and all can attest to her strong leadership, commitment to and drive for service. She has a legacy of service with the AIDs Committee, the PDM Providenciales Branch and the Civil Service Association. But at the time of her leaving us, she was serving as the secretary for National Trust Council and would volunteer for office hours,

President of the Enid Capron Primary School's PTA and as the Immediate Past President for Soroptimist International.

SHE LOVED HER HABITS

Louise was a professional shopper both locally and internationally, a heavy traveler and she was definitely certified in the area of shipping. Members of her family would recall fondly the time when she shipped a deep freeze home on a passenger airline from Miami. Traveling with Louise was an adventure especially when her vacation doubled as a shopping trip. But she also loved leisure travels and made friends all over the world. She vacationed just as hard as she worked.

Her love to see people save and make more of themselves saw her managing several asues and that was one her most favorite past times. She believed that fiscal prudence was key to success and believed that she helped many by encouraging them to save. But if anyone knew Louise, they knew she loved to care and groom her nails that were an unusual length. She could perform many tasks with her nails and it amazed nearly everyone she met. These were her more public habits on display. But one of her more private activity involved her managing and operating an unlicensed "interest free" loans agency. People could count on her in times of need. Her tough nature crumbled when one would need financial help. She rarely said no.

SHE LOVED LIFE

She loved life and she lived it to the fullest. She supported everything especially events relating to education, youth and Church. She could be seen everywhere with her grands or mother (when she was on Island) in tow.

CURTAINS DRAWN TO A CLOSE

On the evening of the 6th July, with her family who were at her bedside (Akin, Adonni, Tiny, Harry, Jecannya, Cheryl and Joan), they were informed by the Doctor, that the end was imminent. Doctors advised them to contact a Pastor and a funeral home because she

might not make it through the night. Pastor Sampson of the Zion Baptist Church quickly answered the call by showing up to pray and anoint her. That was a very good spirit filled time and Louise was very reflective of the gospel music that filled her room. This was evident as the tears streamed down her face.

The next day being her birthday of 7th July, her family showed up early at the hospital to spend that special day with her. They prepared the room for a birthday celebration, by displaying balloons in her favourite colours (brown, purple and blue). They sang Happy Birthday and repeatedly told her how much they loved her. Akin and Adonnie played the songs they enjoyed with their mom "I Will Always Love You and I Look To You," as they sang along and the tears streamed down her face. The family prayed and read scriptures from the Bible and reminded her that Jesus loved her.

You had to be in the moment to see Louise's reaction. She understood what was happening around her. The Doctors told them again that she might not make it through the day. Akin repeatedly told his family, that "My mom is not going to die on her Birthday!" Akin and Adonnie told their mom, that they released her and if God is ready for her, its okay, they will be alright. The family stayed with her until 10:30pm that night. She was a fighter and made it through the night.

On the morning of 8th July, her family visited her around 9am, not wanting to miss a moment with her. Akin kissed her and told her, how much he loves her. They all prayed, sang and read from the book of Psalms.

She fought as she flat line at 9 :55am but Louise continued to fight and spiked her vitals for another hour, before she simply faded away like the stars of the morning, with love ones at her side and fully conscious and peaceful to the end.

**MAY HER SOUL REST IN PEACE
AND RISE IN GLORY!!!**

LEFT TO CHERISH HER MEMORIES

- MOTHER:** Susan Carter
- CHILDREN:** Akin and Adonni Garland
- ADOPTED CHILDREN:** William and Cynara John (who are also her brother and sister)
- GRANDCHILDREN:** Jecannya, Miles, Mason, Sidney, Teniah, Davario, Skyy, Christian and Gideon
- GOD CHILDREN:** Lekensay Missick, Tamia Thomas, Anron Malcolm and Theresa Andrews
- SISTERS:** Audrey, Patricia, Marilyn and Inethe
- SPECIAL SISTERS:** Karen Missick, Cheryl Astwood-Tull and Renae Fulford
- SPECIAL ADOPTED SISTER:** Alice E. Williams of Grand Turk
- BROTHERS:** George, Thomas, Carl, Franklyn, Harry, Logan and Lucky Garland of Abaco, Bahamas
- BROTHERS IN LAW:** Philmore Russell
- SISTERS IN LAW:** Cecille Wilson and Teri Todd
- SPECIAL BROTHER:** Dorn Fulford
- AUNTS:** Rosina Carter, Sarah Missick and Louise Cartwright
- NIECES:** Sheneka Johnson-Roper, Larissa, Deanna, Lameka, Melissa John, Melissa Thomas, Nikira, Terrisha, Tracia, Georgette, Keisha Brewer, Carla, Loandra
- SPECIAL NIECE:** LeShelle, Leroisia, Ashlar, Laci, Vesi and Colea
- SPECIAL ADOPTED NIECES:** Teresa Andrews, Tessa Brooks, Tanisha and Tesharna Williams
- NEPHEWS:** Jovard, Delano, Dawshawndre, Nervard, Nicolas, Rashad, Malik, Rashaun, Rasheed, A'tienne, Maquin, Meko, T-Jon, Urik, Bently, Eldridge, Ricardo, Geraan, Giovanni, Cameron, Carlos, Hunter, Mason, Garrett, Richard, Lamard, Stephanado & Stephano Bethel.
- SPECIAL NEPHEWS:** Leshun, Levard, Lerano, Donovan Fulford, Dorn Fulford Jr. & Carrick
- GRANDNIECES:** Danielle, Wynter, Akia, Benisha, Benika, Emma, Deandra, Denisha, Deaisha, Nikia, Nikayla, Tajah, Skyler, Lakia, Kentavia, Kimmy, Destiny, Jhatori and Paris Lightbourne.
- GRAND NEPHEWS:** Lewell Jr., Tanazah, Treavaungh, Jovard Jr., Rickio, Deshawn, Delano Jr., Lucan Jr., Latrell, Jared, Traydecio, Stephano and Ramon Bethel
- GREAT GRAND NIECE:** Ajah
- SPECIAL COUSINS:** Edith, Brendalee, Sharilyn, Joan, Shyvonne, Hon. Sharlene Cartwright-Robinson, Rhesa, Idalia, Anecia, Charmaine Bethel, Gloria Hanchell, Katie Carter, Cecelia Farrington, Marionette, Alicia and Almaida Wilson
- COUSINS:** Eugene Garland and family, Cornell Ingram and family, Patricia Ingraham, Sherman Missick and family, Richard Ingham and family, Lindsay Ingham, Leroy Tull, Derek Ingham and family, Mervyn Ingham and family, Kevin Ingham, Lorne Robinson, Kwasi Ingham and family, Rhesa Cartwright, Terence Astwood and family, Steven Astwood and family, Audley Astwood, Jordan Sutton and family, Jordanno Sutton, Anitra Harvey and family, Audra Burrows and family, Aleno Todd and family, Cheryl Turner and family, Gertrude Mills and family, Hon. Norman Saunders and family, Alden Durham and family and Fred Basden and family and especially The "Sidney and Mable Garland Clan" Family Chat Members.
- SPECIAL FRIENDS:** Eulee Powell, Tammy Smith, Sherma Jennings, Ms. Sandra Walkin, Angela M Lightbourne, Florence Kalinda, Patty Smith, Pansy Quant, Edgar Howell, Mark Garland, Reinwald Lewis and David Bowen (Education), Romaine Pratt, Lydia Parker, Hugh Adams, Dorothea Malcolm, Beatrice Wilson, Cillon McKennley, Kaira Gadberry, Peggy Kelly and a host of other relatives and friends too numerous to mention.



- ORDER - *of Celebration*

MUSICAL PRELUDE

PROCESSION..... The Family

OPENING SENTENCES..... Rev. Derek Hamilton

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

“Great is thy faithfulness,” O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been Thou forever will be.

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

“Great is thy faithfulness!” “Great is Thy faithfulness!”
Morning by Morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided-
“Great is Thy faithfulness,” Lord unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

OPENING PRAYER..... Deacon Willette Swann

1ST SCRIPTURE READING.....JOHN 14:1–6Ms. Loandra Carter (Niece)

A FAVORITE SONG OF THE DECEASED Mrs. Angel Coleby-Taylor

(PAST STUDENT, C.H.H.S.)..... “I LOOK TO YOU”

*(This song was played and sang over and over by Akin and Donnie,
while visiting their Mom in the hospital, especially
the day of her birthday and the morning she departed this life.)*

2ND SCRIPTURE READING.....PSALMS 91Mr. Perry Missick (Cousin-In-Law)

SELECTIONMs. Lakia Saunders (Grand Niece)

SPECIAL TRIBUTE Mr. Edgar Howell (Friend/Co-Worker)

REMARKS Hon. Sharlene Cartwright-Robinson
Leader Of The Opposition

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN “And Can It Be”

And can it be that I should gain
An int'rest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis mystery all! The Immortal dies!
Who can explore His strange design?
In vain the firstborn seraph tries
To sound the depths of love Divine!
'Tis mercy all! let earth adore,
Let angel minds inquire no more.
'Tis mercy all! let earth adore,
Let angel minds inquire no more.

He left His Father's throne above,
So free, so infinite His grace;
Emptied Himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race:
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
For, O my God, it found out me.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
For, O my God, it found out me.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray,
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness Divine,
Bold I approach the eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.
Bold I approach the eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ my own

TRIBUTE Soroptimist Club

SELECTION The Garland Family

TRIBUTE Mrs. Cheryl Astwood-Tull

TRIBUTE Bethany Baptist Church Ministry
Deacon Theo Durham

TRIBUTE National Cancer Society

OBITUARY Mr. David Antonio Bowen
Friend & Co-Worker

SELECTION Mr. O'Brien Forbes

SELECTION Bethany Baptist Combine Choir

SERMON Rev. Derek R. Hamilton

PRAYER FOR COMFORT Rev. Dr. Goldstone Williams

BENEDICTION



RECESSIONAL HYMN "It's All Right Now"

There was a time I travelled
A lonely sinful road
Beneath a heavy burden bending low
But now all things are different
For Jesus took my load
It's alright now I'm His I know

A-down a lonely pathway
Without a friend to guide
I walked in sin and sorrow all alone
'Til Jesus came and found me
And drew me to His side
It's alright now for I'm His own

Chorus:
It's alright now
For I am in my Saviour's care
It's alright now
My Saviour hears and answers prayer
He'll walk beside me
'Til I climb the heavenly stair
And everything is alright now

No more in sin I wander
No more in darkness roam
The Lord has placed
My feet on higher ground
Each day new heights I'm gaining
My soul is nearing home
It's alright now I'm heaven bound



- GRAVESIDE - *Service*

"EASTERN GATE"

will meet you in the morning,
Just inside the Eastern Gate;
Then be ready, faithful pilgrim,
Lest with you it be too late.

Keep your lamps all trimmed and burning;
For the Bridegroom watch and wait;
He'll be with us at the meeting
Just inside the Eastern Gate.

Refrain:
I will meet you, I will meet you
Just inside the Eastern Gate over there;
I will meet you, I will meet you,
I will meet you in the morning over there.

If you hasten off to glory,
Linger near the Eastern Gate,
For I'm coming in the morning;
So you'll not have long to wait.

Oh, the joys of that glad meeting
With the saints who for us wait!
What a blessed, happy meeting
Just inside the Eastern Gate!

"GLAD REUNION DAY"

There will be a happy meeting in heaven I know,
When we see the many loved ones we've known here below,
Gather on the blessed hill-tops with hearts all aglow.
That will be a glad reunion day.

Chorus:
Glad day, a wonderful day,
Glad day, a glorious day
There with all the holy angels and loved ones to stay,
That will be a glad reunion day.

There within the holy city we'll sing and rejoice,
Praising Christ the blessed Saviour with heart and with voice
Tell him how we came to love Him and make Him our choice.
That will be a glad reunion day.

When we live a million years in that wonderful place,
Basking in the love of Jesus, beholding His face.
It will seem but just a moment of praising His grace.
That will be a glad reunion day.



“IT IS FINISHED”

There's a line that is drawn through the ages
On that line stands an old rugged cross
On that cross, a battle is raging
To gain a man's soul or it's loss

Chorus

It is finished, the battle is over
It is finished, there'll be no more war
It is finished, the end of the conflict
It is finished and Jesus is Lord

On one side, march the forces of evil
All the demons, all the devils of hell
On the other, the angels of glory
And they meet on Golgotha's hill

The earth shakes with the force of the conflict
And the sun refuses to shine
For there hangs God's son, in the balance
And then through the darkness He cries

Yet in my heart, the battle was still raging
Not all prisoners of war had come home
These were battlefields of my own making
I didn't know that the war had been won

Oh, but then I heard the King of the ages
Had fought all the battles for me
And that victory was mine for the claiming
And now praise His name, I am free.

“UNTIL THEN”

My heart can sing when I pause to remember
A heartache here is but a stepping stone
Along a trail that's winding always upward,
This troubled world is not my final home.

Chorus

But until then my heart will go on singing,
Until then with joy I'll carry on,
Until the day my eyes behold the city,
Until the day God calls me home.

The things of earth will dim and lose their value
If we recall they're borrowed for awhile;
And things of earth that cause the heart to tremble,
Remembered there will only bring a smile.

But until then my heart will go on singing,
Until then with joy I'll carry on,
Until the day my eyes behold the city,
Until the day God calls me home.

This weary world with all its toil and struggle
May take its toll of misery and strife;
The soul of man is like a waiting falcon;
When it's released, it's destined for the skies.

But until then my heart will go on singing,
Until then with joy I'll carry on,
Until the day my eyes behold the city,
Until the day God calls me home.

“WHEN WE ALL GET TO HEAVEN”

Sing the wondrous love of Jesus,
Sing His mercy and His grace.
In the mansions bright and blessed
He'll prepare for us a place.

Refrain

When we all get to Heaven,
What a day of rejoicing that will be!
When we all see Jesus,
We'll sing and shout the victory!

While we walk the pilgrim pathway,
Clouds will overspread the sky;
But when travelling days are over,
Not a shadow, not a sigh.

Let us then be true and faithful,
Trusting, serving every day;
Just one glimpse of Him in glory
Will the toils of life repay.

Onward to the prize before us!
Soon His beauty we'll behold;
Soon the pearly gates will open;
We shall tread the streets of gold.

“IT IS WELL, WITH MY SOUL”

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say,
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

Refrain

It is well, with my soul,
It is well, with my soul,
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

For me, be it Christ, be it Christ hence to live:
If Jordan above me shall roll,
No pang shall be mine, for in death as in life
Thou wilt whisper Thy peace to my soul.

But, Lord, 'tis for Thee, for Thy coming we wait,
The sky, not the grave, is our goal;
Oh trump of the angel! Oh voice of the Lord!
Blessèd hope, blessèd rest of my soul!

And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with my soul.

T
R
I
B
U
T
E
S



Antoinette Louise Garland

*a.k.a. Mommy, Mom, Grandy, Aunt Sister, Lil Sis,
Mrs. Thomas & Mrs. Garland*

No matter who you are you knew her by one of these names but I just knew her as MOM. I can say I lost the most important person in my life. I will miss the late night calls, just to find out how the boys & I were doing, to talk about Family, T.C.I. politics and most of all- at 6 am every Birthdays from the time I knew myself she song to me on my Birthday. I knew she love her Grandchildren more than words can say. "Akin, I only have Donni & You" but as the Grands came she shown more and more her love was endless. I thought I knew my mom better than anyone and what she did for the community but I am just fully understanding the world of people she has help in so many ways, I can't fathom. Life is what you make of it, if you only look for the bad in it that is what all you will see. Always look for the good in a person even when their only showing the worst of themselves. I remember her saying; it is not what you have in life but how you use your life to help others.

There are so many things I wish I could have shared with my mother because she knew me better than I knew myself. Life as we know it has and will change but everything I have learn will live through me & Family. Mom went home on July 8, 2016, after a battle with cancer. She will be Miss,

Love and never forgotten, Forever.

You Son Akin A. Garland

My grandma or known as many names
Aunty sister, Mrs. Thomas or Mrs. Garland.
if you knew her it was an honor
to know Mrs. Louise Garland Thomas
and maybe some people thought
be a curse to know her to because
when you did something wrong and
my Grammy knew about it, you knew
she was coming fast and hard for you.
But if you really got to know my grandma,
Mrs. Garland every time you seen her
it's like seeing an angel and
she would just lighten your day up
because my Grammy never look in the bad
in you she looks for the Good
in you and let me tell you, she jealous,
her family especially her grandchildren she
loved them like they were their own.

And my grandma,
Miss. Louise Garland was just not
my grandma she was more than that to me
she was a mentor, a teacher,
and more especially a mother.
So Grammy I want you to R.I.P.
and may your soul rest
and I will always love you
Until I see you again.

Sincerely, your grandson
Miles Garland



Name Louise after me,
It became quite an issue,
So Big sister was me and
Little sister was you!
You were special I an extraordinary
Way and you stop t visit many a day.
Always on time, you were really late.
Mabel, I will hear you yelling as you enter the gate.
With something in hand without fail.
Nearly always a paper, saying
"Girl they got big sale."
You were my personal shopper
Finding things, just for your aunt

Our connection still lives on
Although you're far from here

We miss the times that we once had
But one day, once again
We will hold you close and laugh with you
We just wish we knew when

Each moment 'til that day arrives
Until our time is through
We will miss you more that words can say
An always think of you

We will look for you among the stars
And each dawn's pastel sky
And whisper words of love to you
But never say goodbye

Mom and Family



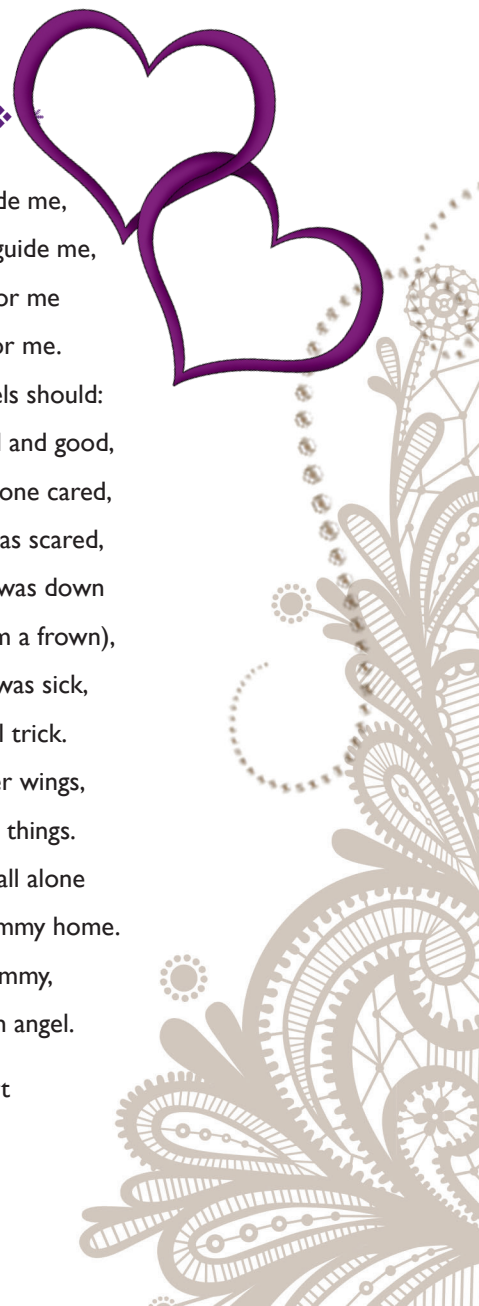
I had an angel here beside me,
Sent to Earth to help and guide me,
An angel always there for me
Sent to love and care for me.

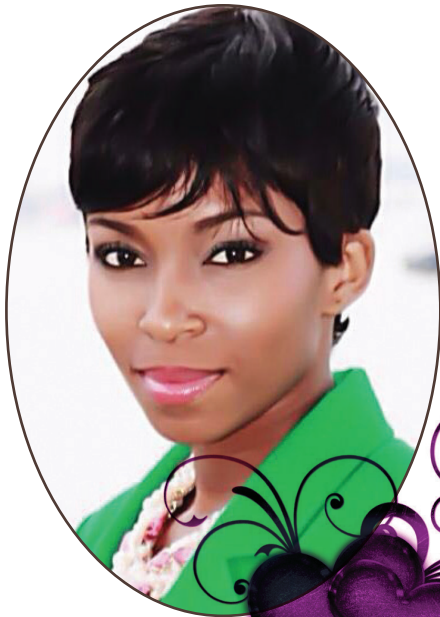
She did the things that angels should:
She taught me what was bad and good,
She gave me hope when no one cared,
She held my hand when I was scared,
She cheered me up when I was down
(She could make a smile from a frown),

She doctored me when I was sick,
And many another angel trick.
Today my angel earned her wings,
Her halo, harp and other things.
But today I'm not lost or all alone
For today God took my Grammy home.

You are no longer Grammy,
You are now my guardian angel.

Forever in my heart
-Je'Cannya





She was 'Ms. Thomas' during school hours and 'Aunt Sister' at home

During my five years of high school, very few people referred to me by my actual name. I was more commonly referred to as "Ms. Thomas niece", almost as if I didn't have my own identity. One day at school, I was caught lingering outside my classroom with many other students, and to prove that she showed me no favoritism towards me at school, she made me kneel in the school's central assembly area. My aunt took me everywhere. I was her little reflection, until her oldest grandchild, Jecannya Garland was born and completely stole the show.

My aunt was the real IRON LADY, a veteran no-nonsense educator who shaped the lives of thousands of young men and women during her tenure as principal of Marjorie Basden High School and Clement Howell High School. She fought a long and extremely hard battle, but did so with the spirit of a warrior.

Take your rest, aunt sister.

Nikira



When I Am Gone

When I am gone, release me – let me go!
I have so many things to see and do
You must not tie yourself to me with tears,
Be happy that we had so many years.
I gave you love, you can only guess,
How much you gave me happiness
I thank you for the love each have shown,
But now it's is time I travelled alone.

So grieve awhile for me if grieve you must,
Then let your grief be comforted by trust.
It is only for a while that we must part,
So bless those memories within your heart.

I will not be far away, for life goes on,
So if you need me, call and I will come.
Though you cannot see or touch me,
I will be near

And if you listen with your heart,
you will hear,
All of my love around you, soft and clear.
Then when you must come this way alone,
I will greet you with a smile
and welcome you home.

Always said "I will, never I can't."
My big shirts and coloured shoes
You knew what I'd like,
And you knew what to choose.

I church when you saw me, you would
Always hail, smiling and waving
those long fingernails.
I will miss you Louise,
from sitting on my bed,
Oh what a great time we had.

I wish you were here
I wish you were here my sister my dear
Life without you just doesn't seem fair
I wish you were here my sister my dear
I would tell you I love you
and show you I care
If only I knew the end was so near,
there's nothing I would not have done
for you my sister my dear
Our evenings together,
the time that we'd share,
fond memories of you,
I will always hold dear
The love that you showed me,
no one can compare,
oh how I wish you were still here
my sister my dear.
Sleep on my dear sister,
I will see you again.

Louise was her name
Many students called her
Mrs. Garland, most Mrs. Thomas
But Lil sister was what we
called her affectionately
And she was loved and
cherished in our family!!
A great cook and an even better host
Ask anyone she never liked to boast
A hard worker
Encouraged us all
Always the 1st we would call
If a family member was to fall
She was our organizer for most events
Travel agent,
Personal shopper,
#1 Loans officer,
Employment advisor
Government policies /Information officer
Our most trusted family friend to the end.

She was the glue that kept us together
The "shelter" we sought
Thru' the "storms" that we weathered.
She was a private person
But humble and kind
She was the most loyal friend
A person could find
A strict disciplinarian
No nonsense person for sure
With a heart of gold
And oh so pure
We mourn you lil sister(our sister)
yes we do.
We all experienced your love,
in more ways than one
You will be missed
Cause we loved you to bits
For all that you've done
A hero unsung
We'll never forget
For our hearts you won.
We really loved you, that's true!!
There will never be another like you!

From
The Sidney and Mable Garland family chat!!!



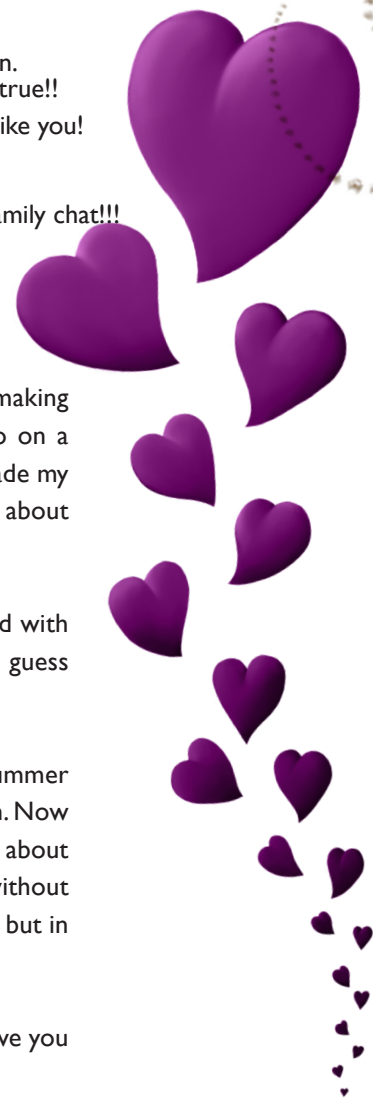
As I saw Carnival Sunshine sail away, I remember my sister Louise Garland making plans for our five graduates who graduated from high school this year to go on a cruise for their graduation gift. Trust me it would have been a great cruise. It made my heart come full again because you not only thought about yourself you thought about everyone.

You took me as your daughter since I was eight years old, I explored the world with you, you taught me everything I know and mold... me into the lady I am today. I guess I got being strong from you. For that I give you all the thanks.

Louise Garland today and always I would cry for you. I can remember every summer you would take about 12 children Miami with you and we would have lots of fun. Now when time to come home she was the only one with all the black bags must be about 2 bags per child. I always wonder what she had to buy. But she wasn't lil sister without the bags. Trust me every child had what they wanted. Oh she would make noise but in the end she bought it all.

As the ship sailed away I said sleep on my dear sister/mother take your rest I love you but Jesus love you best.

I love you Louise Garland!
FROM: CYNARA









*Antoinette Louise Garland
Was a bluetiful soul;
Her loyalty to others
Was a thing to behold!*

*Just call her Ms. Management,
She answered to that;
Taking on responsibilities,
Wearing hat after hat!*

*She was also Ms. Reliable
Her word was her bond;
If she committed to something,
Consider it already done!*

*If you didn't really know her,
You'd call her Ms. Smart Mouth;
For she spoke her mind freely,
With brutal honesty no doubt.*

*But if you were blessed,
To be one of her friends;
You'd love her like we do,
Our bluetiful PDM friend!*

From the PDM family