A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

Nell

ELIZABETH GARDINER

August 11th 1938 - October 21st 2022

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Funeral Service:
Saturday December 3rd 2022 at 10AM

Mount Lebanon Baptist Church
Bottle Creek • North Caicos

Officiating:
Pastor Derek Hamilton

Interment:
Gardiner Cemetery
Major Hill, North Caicos

Nell ELIZABETH GARDINER

"Who can find a virtuous woman?
For her price is far above rubies."
PROVERBS 31:10

Obituary

1938 - 2022

On August 11th, 1938, Delia and Nathaniel Gardiner welcomed their last beautiful baby girl into this world and named her Nell Elizabeth Gardiner. She grew up in the quiet settlement of Major Hill with her parents and her siblings. Nell attended the Bottle Creek All Age School where she obtained her formal education under the leadership and guidance of the late Raymond Gardiner and his cadre of teachers.

Nell faithfully attended the Bottle Creek Assembly until she met and fell in love with Mr. Winston Gardiner. The two were joined together in holy matrimony on December 30th, 1962, and they were inseparable ever since. They raised 3 daughters and many other children. After marrying Winston, Nell became a devoted member of the Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church where she wore many hats of honor such as **Women's Missionary Leader and Treasurer,** she would often travel to the different Caribbean islands to attend the Women's Conference held overseas. She was always excited and eager to attend these conferences where she met new sisters in Christ and made lasting friendships. It was during her visit to Antiqua that she got the vision to start a soup Kitchen to feed the sick and shut-ins of the community. She anxiously started the drive without counting the cost. In her own words she said, "The Lord will make a way". The elderly looked forward to the delicious dishes of peas soup and dough or peas and grits. She did this with the help of Sisters like Moriah, Sarah, Lois, the late Moralene, and others.

Nell was the best **Sunday school teacher**. She found so much joy in teaching the young children about Jesus. Every Sunday afternoon she faithfully held Sunday school where she taught many children Bible verses, songs and poetry and would always put on the best Christmas programs. Everyone had to say a recitation and take

part in the skits and songs.

Nell was also **a choir director**, a real songbird. She loved music and she loved to sing. One would recall her distinctive soprano voice resonating through High Rock and Upper Windsor on a Sunday morning. She was also an **avid member of the North Caicos Baptist Association Choir**.

Nell told her family that she had made a vow to God several years ago, along with other sisters from The Women's Missionary band, that they would do whatever they can to help with the construction of the New Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church. It was her mission to see the church completed and she stuck by her word. She did what she could and gave what she had towards the completion of the new Mt. Lebanon Baptist church. She never lost hope and she always said, **"The Lord will provide"**; and He surely did.

She was able to visit the new church in October of 2021 right before she became completely immobile and was so grateful to God to see the building completed, only needing tiles and chairs.

Apart from serving the Lord she also served her community. Nell started sewing at a very young age, she would make clothes for her rag dolls with scraps of cloth. Because of her love for sewing, Winston opened a shop, called Nell's Enterprise. There, Nell made countless clothing pieces from beautiful wedding gowns to gorgeous little girls' dresses. She also made school uniforms for all the schools on the island of North Caicos. Everyone in the community can speak about the clothes that Nell made for them and their children. She loved what she did and did it very well.

Anyone who knew Nell, knew that she loved children. Nell and Winston's house was never short of children. People would just leave their children there until they finish their chores at home or if they had somewhere to go. Children would run to the house to escape the belt at home. The home of Nell and Winston grew into a babysitting club for parents like, Jane & Holton Williams, Yvette & Glen Gardiner, Henrietta & William Delancy, The Late Alvera & Warren Williams, Sandra & Late Stanley Gardiner, Annal & Dock Handfield, Janabee & Late Clement Williams just to list a few. Children from all over North and Middle Caicos passed through those doors and they were fed, clothed and treated like they were her very own. She had a kind, loving and giving heart and was a nurturer by nature, there was nothing too good to give to anyone in need no matter where you came from. She touched the lives of so many people and played a vital role in bringing up many of the young men and women you see here today.

In April of 2004 Nell's health took a turn for the worse, she suffered a stroke

that left her having to learn how to walk again, her left arm never regained its function. She was sad for a while because she could no longer sew anymore but quickly realized that this was not the end for her. She was always a motivator and would always tell her children and anyone she spoke to about God. She would always say **"God don't make no mistakes and he is still in control; all you have to do is trust Him!"** Her faith kept her going and being the busy independent person that she always was, having one functional hand did not stop her. She eventually learned how to maneuver around the house, she started cooking again and washing dishes, she even learned to hang clothes on the line.

She continued to attend church until her health no longer permitted. When her legs started to get weak, she would call Winston to help her balance as she moved around [her human walking stick] as she would call him. Whenever she was ready to move, she would say, **"Come on boy, hold me good!"** She always felt like only Winston was strong enough to move her around, everyone else she thought was too fragile and would cause her to fall.

In February of 2022 she contracted Covid-19, which left her right lung damaged and ended up in several trips back and forth to Provo, in and out of the hospital for treatment of pneumonia. During this time, she would always talk about how she was ready to go home to her Lord.

She would talk of angels sitting by her bedside and conversations she had with her Lord. She loved the Lord so much and she couldn't wait for the day to be with him in glory.

On October 21st at 8:25AM, Nell bid this world farewell, and slipped away peacefully to be with her Lord to experience eternal joy, to receive a brand-new body and a glorious new life.

She fought a good fight, she finished the race, she kept the faith and now she has received her crown of righteousness.

Cherish memories linger in the hearts of her:

BELOVED HUSBAND	Winston Gardiner [of almost 60 years]
DAUGHTERS	Jocelyn Handfield, Stephanie Gardiner and Vernessa Garland
SON IN-LAW	Salvatory Garland
SISTER	Iva Williams

BROTHER	Hugh Gardiner
SISTERS IN LAW	Mertis and Matred Gardiner
GRANDCHILDREN	Shaquint and Quinton Williams, Tavantae Garland

GODCHILDREN: Desie Handfield, Karen Gardiner, Shawonda Gardiner, Carney Gardiner, Patsy Gray, Jap Forbes, Charles Handfield Jr., Allenbury, Roshell Gray, Kimberley Glinton

NEICES: Beatrice, Ingrid, Doreen, Lynette, Patrice, Patricia Delia, Barbara, Elaine. Ingrid, Daenette, Lapage, Hope Hamilton, Yuolette Bassett, Roxie Williams, Edith and Alice Gray, Iona Forbes, IIanda Bassett, Delia Susan Trana, Deloris Henfield, Rosemary Jolly, Elizabeth and Judelia Gardiner, Donna Gardiner, Zalmunna Smith [Tottie]

NEPHEWS: Bue, Ariel, Shepard and Martin Gray, John C IV, Wayne and Evan Gardiner, Sidney, Terrance, Carl,Andrew, Anthony, Chan Antony & Gailey Williams, Kenneth, Luke, Charlton, Bennett, Ferrington, Pastor Howard, Joseph, Lindsey, Timothy, Hudson, Arnold, Branford, Noel Jr, Emmanuel, Harry Jr & Johnny Gardiner, Barrett James, Calvert and Garisson Lightbourne

GRAND AND GREAT GRANDNIECES/NEPHEWS: Too numerous to mention

CHILDREN SHE HELPED TO RAISE & MENTOR:
Cabrine Harvey & Jadesha Forbes, Dadaune & Deadra Taylor, Nell, Nicovia Lightbourne, Tekarrah Gardiner, Tueton and Travano Williams, Osbourne & Olivia Delancy, Lidra Ichella, Shawonda and Carney Gardiner, Karen & Delano Gardiner, Darnell Gardiner and children, the late Deann Quant's children, Aaidelange Waziri and children, Kendra Hall, Jas & Terrica Walkin, Nadia Williams, Heather & Varian, Leandra Handfield, Sharita Delancy and Crystal Landy...

SPECIAL FRIENDS: Henrietta Delancy, Yvette Gardiner, Holton and Jane Williams, Rosental Gardiner & Family, Cassandra Gardiner, Sarah Williams, Yvette Handfield, Milly Forbes. Irene Higgs, Amelia Been, Maud & Pamela Handfield, Mary Saunders, and Kezzie Handfield Margarette and Gwen Forbes...

- ORDER OF SERVICE -

PROCESSION OF THE FAMILY . . . . . Pastors and Immediate Family

CALL TO ORDER . . . . . Pastor Derek Hamilton

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN . . . . . "I've Anchored In Jesus"

Upon life's boundless ocean where mighty billows roll,
I've fixed my hope in Jesus, blest anchor of my soul;
When trials fierce assail me as storms are gath'ring o'er,
I rest upon His mercy and trust Him more.

I've anchored in Jesus, the storms of life I'll brave,
I've anchored in Jesus, I fear no wind or wave;
I've anchored in Jesus, for He hath pow'r to save,
I've anchored to the Rock of Ages.

He keeps my soul from evil and gives me blessed peace,
His voice hath stilled the waters and bid their tumult cease;
My Pilot and Deliv'rer, to Him I all confide,
For always when I need Him, He's at my side.

He is my Friend and Savior, in Him my anchor's cast,
He drives away my sorrows and shields me from the blast;
By faith I'm looking upward beyond life's troubled sea,
There I behold a haven prepared for me.

OPENING PRAYER . . . . . Pastor Pedro Williams

SELECTION . . . . . Mount Lebanon Baptist Choir

SCRIPTURE READING . . . . . Psalms 34 . . . . . Treco Williams

CONDOLENCES . . . . . [2 MINUTES]

OBITUARY . . . . . READ IN SILENCE

REFLECTION OF LIFE ..... Henrietta Delancy

TRIBUTE ..... The Higgs Brothers

PRAISE AND WORSHIP .....Jas Walkin & Sis. Kacy Higgs

SELECTION.....North Caicos Baptist Association Choir

SERMON.....Pastor Goldstone Williams

PRAYER FOR THE FAMILY ..... Bishop Coleta Williams

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....A&S Funeral Services

CLOSING HYMN.....“It Is Finish”

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

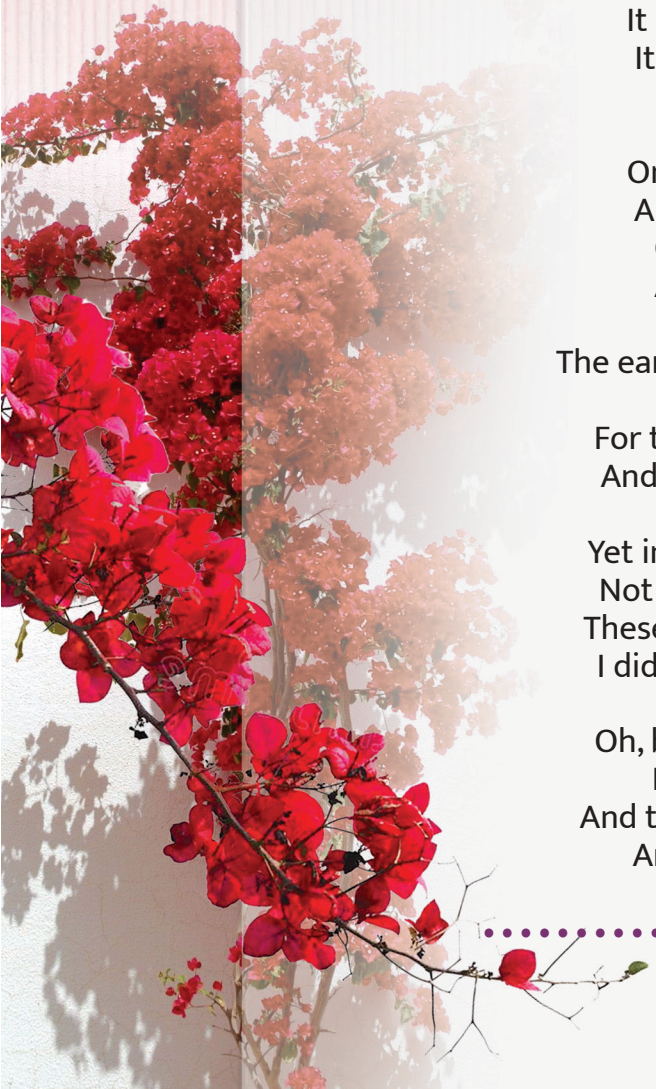
Chorus:
It is finished, the battle is over
It is finished, there’ll be no more war
It is finished, the end of the conflict
It is finished and Jesus is Lord

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.



OPENING REMARKS . . . . . Pastor Evan Williams

OPENING HYMN . . . . . "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 hilltops 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 Savior 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.

GRAVESIDE HYMNS

"IT'S ALRIGHT NOW"

There was a time I traveled, 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

Chorus:
It's alright now for I am in my Savior's care
It's alright now my Savior hears and answers prayer
He'll walk beside me 'Til I climb the heav'nly stair
And ev'rything is alright now

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

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

"IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL"

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

Refrain:
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 hath 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!
Blessed hope, blessed rest of my soul!

And Lord, haste the day when the 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

"EASTERN GATE"

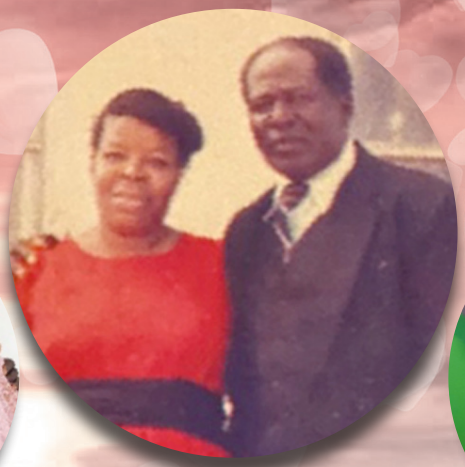
I will meet you in the morning,
Just inside the Eastern Gate.
Then be ready, faithful pilgrim,
Lest with you it be too late.

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.

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



To My AMAZINGLY BEAUTIFUL Wife

Tribute

There are no words that can describe
What it meant to have you by my side
The joy you brought, the laughs the tears
Has been a part of me for all these years

You were such a beautiful soul inside and out
That's why I chose you without a doubt
You were everything God designed you to be
Your light shined so bright for everyone to see

I'll tell you what I miss the most,
The pet names you called me, I like to boast
Like Winky, Old brand and Vindor to list a few
And so much more I was to you

Till death do us part was what we said
But death has only separated us physically instead
You'll be with me always and forever
Nell you are my beautiful treasure

As hard as it was to let you go
I had to because I love you so
I couldn't stand to see you in pain
The way I felt, I cannot explain

You did everything you came to do
You were loving and faithful and kind and true
This is not goodbye for me my love
We'll see each other again up above

Sleep on my queen and just so you know
I love you so very much, today tomorrow and forever

Love

WINKY

To My Mom

Thank you for everything you were to me and all the love you gave through the years. It's harder than I thought it would be. I miss you every single day and there is not a day that goes by without thinking about you. I'll let you go without any regrets, knowing that I did everything thing I could to show you I love you while you were here.

Mom this house feels crazy without you. It's like I still can't believe that you are gone. But I know that this was better for you. What comforts me, is to know that you are singing with the angels "Glory Hallelujah" praising your Lord for all of eternity.

REST IN PERFECT PEACE MOM...
I will always love you and never will forget
the memories we have.

Love
LALA

For My Mommy

Mommy for 32 years I've never had to do a day in this life without you, I don't know how I'm ever going to cope without you, not hearing your voice every day, not hearing your laugh or hear you telling me, "God is in control, he don't make no mistakes, all you have to do is trust him". The lessons you have taught me and the values you have instilled in me, will never leave me. I will never go a day without thinking of you, you were my angel here on earth and I know you will continue to watch over me from heaven.

Thank you for being the best mom any child could ever want and need, I don't have the words to describe what you are and will always be to me. Thank you for the love that you showed to Tory and for always keeping us covered in prayer and even though Tavantae has only known you for a short time, he loves you so much.

As much tears as I have cried, I cannot be selfish, you were with me for all of my important moments, and I am grateful. I really am happy that you are resting in the arms of your savior. No more pain, no more bad days. Continue to be proud of me mommy which I know you were. This is not goodbye, for we will meet again someday just inside the eastern gate.

Sleep on mommy, take your rest. I love you soooooooo much, but Jesus loves you best.

Love

VERNESSA

To My Momma

For all those times you stood by me
For all the truth that you made me see
For all the joy you brought to my life
For all the wrong that you made right
For every dream you made come true
For all the love I found in you
I would be forever thankful,
You're the one who held me up, Never let me fall
You're the one who saw me through, through it all
You were my strength when I was weak
You were my voice when I couldn't speak
You were my eyes when I couldn't see
You saw the best there was in me
Lifted me up when I couldn't reach
You gave me faith 'cause you believed
I'm everything I am because you loved me
Thank you for loving me!!!

Love always...

SHERRY

To Our Grammy

The love of a grandma is so unique. God must have given us grandmothers to bring excitement to our lives, to make us complete and to love us unconditionally.

Grammy you were our best friend in every sense. From Shaquint, I'll miss our talks and spending my lunchbreak with you every day. From Quinton, I'll miss our silly photoshoots together and sitting on your lap [you never taught I was too big to sit on your lap]. From Tavantae, I'll miss laying beside you in your bed and playing with the teddy bears together.

We love you Grammy, you were truly a gem to us, and we are thankful for all the great memories we shared together that we will hold in our hearts forever. Thank you for your prayers, your care, concern, your unconditional love and everything you have ever done for us. To say that we will miss you is an understatement.

Rest in peace Grammy, we will never forget you and we will love you forever.

SHAQUINT, QUINTON & TAVANTAE

The World's Best God Mother

Goddie, as we have called you over the years, the bond between us was so strong that even our children grew up calling you Goddie. The love that you showed us, was more than that of a God Mother, it was the love of a MOTHER.

You taught us to pray, to memorize bible verses, to sing songs and showed us how to put on a performance for our Christmas programs. We can say that we had the best childhood anyone can ask for.

We built numerous doll houses in the back yard, climbed many trees, one of our favorites was going over the bay and back with all the Windsor kids. Because of you, to this day the sisterhood and brotherhood relationships still exists with all of us Windsor children.

Weekends were our favorites, because we got to spend a longer time with you. If there were holidays, we wouldn't go home until Monday late evenings. We never knew if you got tired of us because you never showed it.

You were a MOTHER to many children, you were humble, kind and most of all caring.

We loved you from day one and you loved us and our children unconditionally to the very end.

Love always

DON, KELLY, DWAYNE, SHAWN, BRANDON, KAREN, DARNELL, KENDRA & LANO.

Just Over in the Glory Land

You took my tiny hands in yours,
You nursed me, that I know.
You helped my mother nurture me
She really wanted me to grow.
You watched my tiny steps, each one,
And caught me when I fall.
You knew the meaning of real love,
You didn't hold back, at all.

Beautiful dolls with satin shoes,
Believe you me, I was always ecstatic and so enthused.
Lovely dresses with quinolyn too,
Big broad sashes, and oh, you always knew just what to do.
Creative, artistic, meticulously detailed,
You even made wedding dresses with unusually long trails.
It seemed you held a magic wand, Aunt Nell,
But I came to realize that your talent and abilities were
designed by God's majestic hand.

You became my counsellor, encourager and friend,
And always reassuringly reminded me that
On God I can depend,
"Trust God, Hope; girl, where is your faith?
Pray, leave things to Him, and then patiently wait."

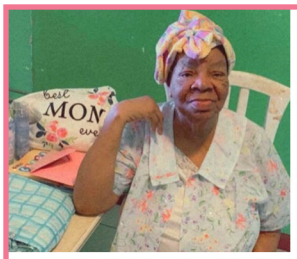
Mother, doctor and teacher to many,
Your home was their home
You never turned away any.
Love and compassion you showed to all,
Even the sick and shut-in, you responded to their call.
You were committed to God's service,
determined and true,
No wonder, the young and the old both looked up to you.

Your work here is done, your battles you've won.
Golden slippers, now, you're all dressed in white,
Perfect body, Aunt Nell, you are an angelic sight.
At home with your God, contented and free,
You are now rejoicing, 'cause that's where you were so eager to be.

I know assuredly, we'll meet again,
Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!
Just over in the Glory Land.
You were a sweetheart. Thank you.

I love you dearly,

YOUR NIECE, HOPE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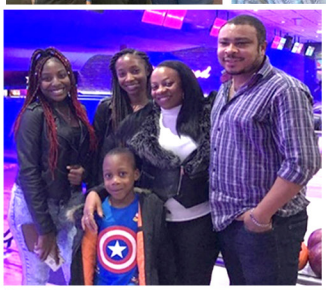
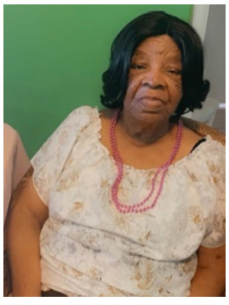
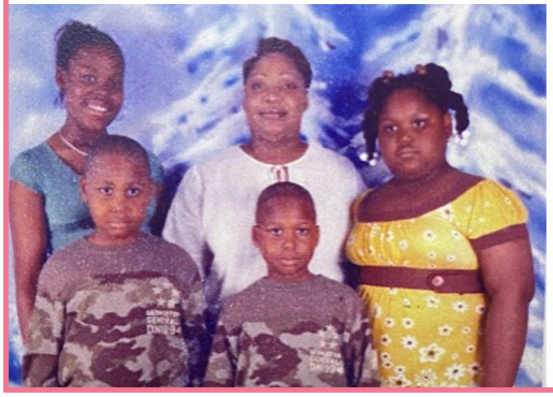
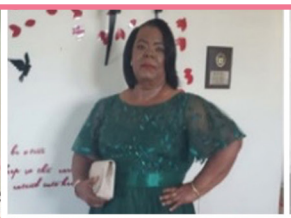
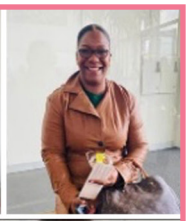
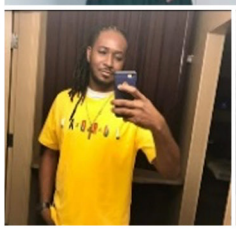
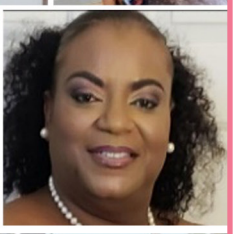
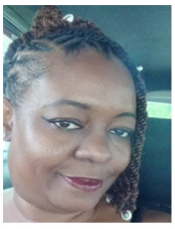
MOM

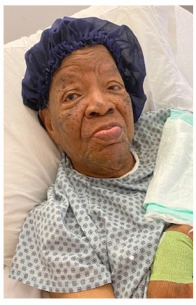
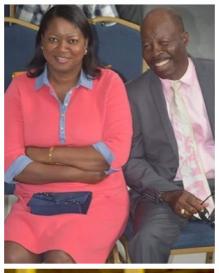


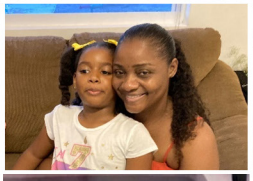


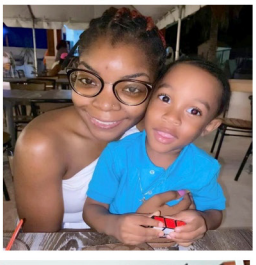


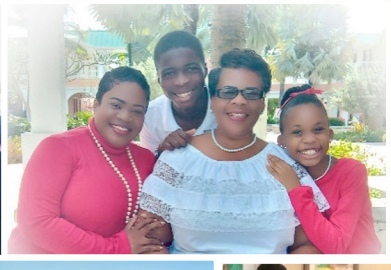





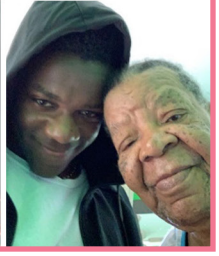










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PALLBEARERS

Osbourne Delancy | Tueton Williams | Delton Robinson
Travauno Williams | Eric Robinson | Cameron Gardiner

USHERS

Terrica Walkin | Latarika Selver | Laquisha Taylor

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To Henrietta Delancy and Yvette Gardiner for always being present and showing up whenever we called no matter the time. Thank you guys so much, we love and appreciate everything you did.

Farewell to a wife, Mommy, Grammy, Goddie, Sister, Auntie, Cousin and Friend, until we meet again.

May your soul rest in eternal peace.

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