

*Celebrating the Life & Legacy
Of
Mrs. Fessie (Grant) Kelley*



Sunrise
March 1, 1941

Sunset
July 14, 2017

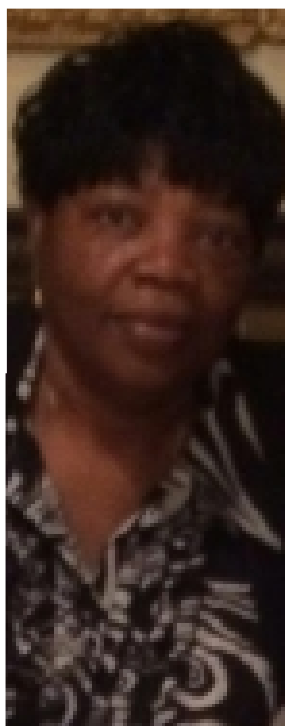
Service:
Friday, July 21, 2017 - 12:00 Noon

CARNIE P. BRAGG FUNERAL HOME

256 Rosa Parks Blvd.
Paterson, New Jersey

Rev. Randall Lassiter, Officiating

The Historic Calvary Baptist Church



Reflections of Life

Jessie (Grant) Kelley 76 years ago, the Late Ernest and Estelle (Fogel) Grant birth their only daughter, Jessie (Grant) Kelley on March 1, 1941. The apple of her parents eye, she was raised in Coney Island, Brooklyn, NY with her 7 brothers. She thrived there through school and friendships until the tender age of 18 when the family relocated to Paterson, NJ.

She grew socially and professionally, working hard to create a life for herself. She loved Atlantic City, playing the lottery – and was even a winner a few times – which only fed her joy in playing. But her greatest prize was winning the heart of her loving husband Johnnie Kelley- who she affectionately called Kelley. They met in 1960 as Jessie was walking to work. Johnnie could not resist whistling at those “pretty legs”. He finally gained her attention and a special bond was formed. They married on July 29, 1962 in a huge double wedding ceremony with their dear friends – Pete and Erma. The town showed out to celebrate their union. They would have celebrated 55 years next week, but their love will live on for a lifetime.

Employed by Paterson Public Schools for 33 years (Dale Ave, School 28 and School 4), she took great pride in serving the children and making sure they were well fed and nourished and ready to learn. The Kelley family was the first to move into the new Riverview Towers and lived there for nearly 54 years. There was a quiet sadness when they left for they had become a cornerstone in this close knit community. The fifth floor will never know the love of community like they created, but their legacy has touched so many lives. You can walk the grounds and ask anyone about the Kelleys and only get kind words and memories.

Jessie always extended a listening ear and a kind word to all. Once you met her, you became a lifelong friend. She had a quiet spirit and a loving heart and would give her last to help her family. She was a special aunt to all of her nieces and nephews and loved each one of them as her own.

Through family transitions, the one thing that remained a constant was “Aunt Jessie”. She has been a part of so many lives and touched so many people and her presence will surely be missed, but her legacy of love will remain.

Jessie experienced another relocation in May when she moved to Atlanta, GA with her husband and two daughters to begin the next phase of her life. Not knowing that the ultimate renewal was upon her, she settled into her new surroundings with her usual quiet spirit and acceptance.

In her humbleness, she never wanted a fuss for herself, but always showered others with affection and love. Shortly before moving to Georgia, she insisted that her family get together for lunch just to share a lovely afternoon. Her focus was on her husband sharing time with his family, it was a glorious day for all (even on FaceTime with those that could not attend) creating memories, laughs and sharing family stories. She loved her entire family but her greatest joy was her two baby girls known as Kim and Garnetta. She created a loving home for them and welcomed others into that family unit as well.

She was pre-deceased by her parents, Ernest and Estelle Grant; her brothers Nathaniel, Ernest, Jr., Jefferson, Matthew, Roosevelt, Walter; and step-son, Craig.

Remembering her for eternity, the love of her life Johnnie Edward Kelley, two dedicated and loving daughters, Kim (Mark) Kelley-Thaxton, Garnetta (Tony) Kelley-Nelson; loving step-children Eric (Kim), Wayne (Rolanda) and Amanda; grandchildren Garnetta Kim (Farry), Donnaye Monifah, Toni Monique, T’ajiah, Tiana, Tamar; and soon to be great-granddaughter Princess Gia; one brother, Albert; three sisters-in-law Katherine Powell, Carol Grant and Betty Grant; two brothers-in-law, Freddie (Pat) Kelley and Muhammad-Sharrieff Abdullah. She also cherished her special god-daughter Debra Morris and good friends Lou Anderson and Rena Leftwich; along with all of her nieces, nephews, cousins and Riverview Towers family.

Done by order of the Kelley Family

Order of Service

The Life & Legacy of Jessie (Grant) Kelley

Call to Order..... Rev. Randall Lassiter

Prayer of Comfort

Scripture Readings

Old Testament – Psalm 46:1-7

New Testament – I Thessalonians 4:13-18

Song of ComfortMs. Felisha Farrar

Remarks

Open to Public for One Minute Each Family

Tribute(s)Mrs. Garnetta Washington-Shennett

Acknowledgements and Reflections of Life

Mrs. Marie Harris

Sermonic Selection..... Ms. Felisha Farrar

EulogyRev. Randall Lassiter
Pastor, The Historic Calvary Baptist Church

Final Viewing

Recessional

Interment

George Washington Memorial Park
Paramus, New Jersey

Repast

American Legion Hall
180 Union Ave., Totowa NJ
973-595-9658

The Chain Will Not Be Broken

We knew little that morning
God was to call your name.
In life we loved you dearly,
in death we do the same.
It broke our hearts to lose you,
You did not go alone.
For part of us went with you
The day God called you home.
You left us beautiful memories,
Your love is still our guide,
And though we cannot see you,
You are always at our side.
Our family chain is broken,
and nothing seems the same,
But as God calls us one by one,
The chain will link again

With Thanks and Appreciation

We are grateful for all the love, support and care that has been extended to us during the passing of our loved one. Special appreciation and thanks to Rev. Randall Lassiter for your friendship down through the years and your support today.

Professional Services Provided By

CARNIE P. BRAGG FUNERAL HOMES, INC.

Caring for the Community Since 1937

256 Rosa Parks Blvd. • Paterson, NJ 07501 • (973) 278-6330

143 Myrtle Avenue • Passaic, NJ 07055 • (973) 779-1892

To send online condolences, visit www.braggfuneralhome.com

&

Gregory B. Levett and Sons Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc.

914 Scenic Highway • Lawrenceville, GA

(770) 338-5555

www.honoryou.com

