

## **Obituary**

On Tuesday, October 24, 1933, the wonderful blessing of the life of Marie Therese Audette Jean entered this world. She was born the second of five children to her parents, the late Aline Georges and Fernand Jean, Pilate Haiti.

Odette Began her early life in Haiti in boarding school wherein she received a wonderful religious, roman catholic education. Audette's mother passed away at a young age, therefore Audette took on the task of raising her three youngest siblings on her own, which was no small feat.

Later on in life, Audette went on to marry Supreme Court Justice Emile Jonassaint. They were married in the National Palace in Port-au-Prince Haiti, what is equivalent to the White House here in the United States. From that union, three children were born: Garvey, Gregory, and Nadege Jonassaint. That marriage unfortunately ended in divorce.

In 1968 Marie Therese Audette immigrated to the United States. She thought it best to come to the United States alone, settle in, and return for her children. Upon arrival, when obtaining identification, she was informed that she had too many names and therefore she needed to pick a first and a last name. Marie Therese Audette Jonassaint selected "Audette Jonassaint", which phonetically sounded like "Odette Jonassaint" to the department of motor vehicles customer service representative, and thus Odette Jonassaint was born!

Once Odette settled into her new country, Odette began a new phase in her life when she joined in holy matrimony with Edmond Villard Sr. Once married, they both worked together and saved enough money for travel arrangements to have Odette's children that previously remained in Haiti to come to the United States. Soon after, Odette and her Husband, Edmond Villard Sr., welcomed two children born: Marie Laurence Villard and Edmond Villard Jr. into the world. Odette and her husband Edmond raised their blended family, Garvey, Gregory, Nadege, Marie, and Edmond Jr., on Ocean Avenue in Brooklyn, NY, and later in East Flatbush, on East 38th Street. There they enjoyed building a lifetime of treasured family memories.

Odette worked as a nursing assistant at River Manor Nursing Home in Brooklyn, NY for many years. She was also was a member of the Holy Innocents Church in Brooklyn, NY. The church also had a grammar school where all her children attended.

Odette or Cayot, as she was affectionately known by family and friends was always known as a great cook. Her Thanksgiving, Easter, and Christmas feasts were always amazing! She always added extra sprinkles of love in the gravy!

Left to mourn the loss of her infectious smile in this world and carry on her legacy of love are: Siblings-Evelyn Champagne, Marie Denise Jean, and Jean Claude Jean; Children left to mourn - Garvey, Gregory, Nadege, Marie, and Edmond Jr., and their respective spouses. Grandchildren left to mourn - Carelle, Brenden, Eric, Christina, Garvey (GR), Maxim, Gregory Jr., Cherise, Debra, Kimberley, Derek Jr., Lindsay Lee, Ricardo, Corey, Bradley, Mathew and Chelsea. Great grandchildren left to mourn: London, Troy, Roy, Liam, Ava, and Jeramiah. In addition, left to mourn are a whole host of Cousins, Nieces, Nephews, friends and neighbors.



## I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free I'm following the path God laid for me I took his hand when I heard Him call I turned my back and left it all. I could not stay another day. To laugh, to love, to work or play. Tasks left undone must stay that way, I found that peace at the close of day. If my parting has left a void, Then fill it up with remembered joy. A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss, Oh, yes these things I too will miss. Be not burdened with times of sorrow, I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow. My life's been full, I savored much. Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch. Perhaps my time seemed all too brief, Don't lengthen it now with undue grief. Lift up your heart and share with me, God wanted me now, He set me free!

## <u>Acknowledgements</u>

The family would like to express sincere thanks and appreciation to all our friends for their well wishes, words of comfort, prayers and other acts of kindness during this time of sorrow.

Funeral Arrangements Entrusted To

Perfect Peace Funeral Homes Inc.

2200 Clarendon Road Brooklyn, NY 11226 Floyd W. Gilmore, President



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