

*Celebrating the Life
of
Chereese Josey*

Sunrise
February 26, 1957

Sunset
April 25, 2021



Service:

Saturday, May 8, 2020 - 12:00 p.m.

Gospel Cathedral Baptist Church

300 South 12th Street Newark, NJ

Rev Dr. T. Durr, Pastor

Min. S. Durr, Assistant Pastor

Obituary

Chereese Bonnie Josey, affectionally called CJ; was born February 26, 1957 to the late Odessa Josey-White and Leroy Cunningham Sr. in Newark, NJ.

Education

CJ, as she was affectionally called; attended the Newark Public Schools graduating from West Side High School. In 2011, Chereese attended St. Peter's College in Jersey City, NJ to which she proudly made the dean's list.

Spiritual Journey

At an early age Sister Josey, accepted CHRIST in her life beginning with her fellowship at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church. Following in the footsteps of her grandparents she joined Mount Moriah Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. Moreland.

In 1976, Sister Josey then joined Overcome Baptist Church under the leadership of her uncle the late Rev. Elliot Goethe. She would later serve under the leadership of both the late Rev. Eugene Woodson and the late Rev. Johnnie R. Peterson. She served faithfully on auxiliary boards such as the Unity Choir, Junior Choir along with being the Church Secretary and Announcer.

In 2003, Sister Josey joined Gospel Cathedral Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. Dr. T. Durr. She would go on to serve on the Hospitality Committee. She would later fellowship at Greater Mount Moriah Baptist Church and Shiloh Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. O'Day before relocating to North Carolina. Once in North Carolina she would fellowship faithfully at the New Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor Anthony Talmadge, until she returned to New Jersey.

Marriages and Unions

Chereese met Oscar Calhoun Sr. in 1975 and the two were married the following year. That union produced three children; Oscar Jr., Orlando and Anja Calhoun.

In the summer of 1983, Chereese was reacquainted with high school classmate Connie Robertson and to this union her youngest child Amber was born.

Later In 2005, Chereese met and wed Stephen Brown. Although their union was short lived, the two had an unwavering support for one another.

Career

Ms. Josey was her professional staple name. She worked as an administrator assistant in many legal sectors such as the Newark Municipal Court, Ruddy & Ruddy Law Firm, and Division of Newark Child Support. After, her sixteen-year tenure as a school clerk with Newark Public Schools, she decided to combine her passion for children and culinary arts to pursue her true passion as a cook within Newark Public Schools

Life's Journey

Chereese was a woman who loved the open road (a true road runner) taking in the beauty of this country's beautiful landscaping. One of her desires was to purchase land to build a lasting home for her off springs. It was that desire that lead her to Grand Prairie, Texas in July of 2009. Although her desire did not come into fruition, it didn't discourage her to try again. So, in October 2017, she along with her daughter Anja and grandsons relocated to Fayetteville, NC. Although Chereese loved the new start and all the new possibilities, she would have to return to NJ when her son Orlando was injured in a car accident in 2019; that he would later succumb to. It was during this time that Chereese decided to remain in NJ to provide support to her baby girl Amber.

Momma Josey

Chereese had such an undeniable love for children; whether it was a child from the neighborhood, school or simply one of her children's friends who needed guidance or a meal. She gained a special love for a few who became her god-children Jerome, Christopher, Christina, Laquine, Renee and Brittney.

Legacy

Chereese was loving, charismatic, compassionate, wise, spiritual, humble person. She gave the best advice always saying, "Don't let anyone send you to hell". It is the motto that carried her through the many pains she bearded. Chereese loved to watch her NY Giants play faithfully. She was a true music aficionado with jazz and house music becoming her favorite genres. A dancer and shopper at heart. Most of all she was known for her legendary collard greens and sweet potato pies. Chereese was an all-around impeccable woman.

She leaves to honor in her memory her children Oscar (Jr), Anja (LaToya) both of Fayetteville, NC; and Amber "Her Sunshine" of Newark. Dad, Robert White Sr. of Philadelphia, PA. Sisters Linda (South Jersey), Darlene, Brenda and LuLa all of Maryland; Sayshan (Xavier), Yvette and Monica all of NJ. Brothers Willie Josey (Gloria) of Barnegat, NJ and Donald White of Irvington, NJ, Larry Cunningham (Cecilia) of Hillside, NJ and Leroy Cunningham Jr. of Maryland. Grandchildren Seirra, Jaire, Jaily, Za'isha, Za'Erah, Matthew, Joshua, Malachi, Ali, and Joshua Charles. Great-grandson Ezekiel.

One aunt Ethel Goethe-Newark, NJ, and one uncle Lenwood Jackson (Mary)-Georgia, two god-sisters Shanell Hutchinson and Thyrecia Spight. Best friends Brenda Sandford, Yvonne Jackson and Carol Mack and a host of family friends and loved ones.

She was preceded in death by parents Odessa Josey-White and Leroy Cunningham Sr.; son, Orlando Calhoun, grandparents Rosie L. & Stonewall Jackson. Siblings Robert White Jr. and Eylese Josey-White.

Order of Service

Praise and Worship

Scripture.....Evangelist Stuckey
Evangelist Mason

Prayer of Comfort..... Evangelist Goethe
(Aunt)

Selection..... Pastor Keith Oden
St. Mary's Baptist Church

Poem Ali Collins Jr. "AJ"
(Grandson)

Reflection.....(two minutes)..... Jaire White
(Grandson)
Tamesha Campbell-King
(Friend)
Anja Calhoun
(Daughter)

Obituary

Acknowledgements &
Resolution Jailyne McBurrows-Calhoun
Za'Eisha Fraizer
(Granddaughters)

Selection..... "This Morning When I Rose" Matthew Calhoun
Malachi Kelly-Calhoun
(Grandsons)

Eulogy..... Rev. Dr. T. Durr
Gospel Cathedral Baptist Church

Final Viewing

Benediction Rev. Dr. T. Durr

Repast

VFW Hall

33 South 21st Street – Kenilworth, NJ

3:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Interment

Fairmount Cemetery

Newark, New Jersey

To My Best Friend/Sister:

I miss you today, and I will miss you tomorrow. My heart is filled with sadness, my tears is filled with sorrow. But I give thanks for the time we shared. And though I can't see you, I know that you are always there. GOD has you in HIS arms, I have you in my heart, until we meet again.

Love you always and forever!
Carol



Dear Mommy,

I never thought that I would be writing this letter so soon. When we began this journey, we had no idea what was ahead of us. All we were concerned about was getting through to the finish line. We instantly had a moment of prayer and vowed never to give up on one another. Determined to never leave your side I prepared myself that day and thereafter for the unforeseeable future. I recalled our very first chemo treatment to our last doctors visit we fought a good fight. I am proud of you Mommy, at no point was this an easy fight.

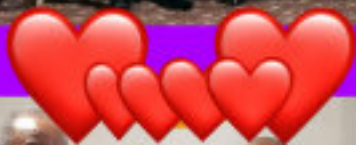
Mommy I was not ready for you to leave me just yet. Just one more conversation, another piece of advice, a little more time, I need you Mommy. There is so much more for us to do. My heartaches every night for you and my tears are uncontrollable. I just want My Mommy I cry out. I know I can't have you back, your up there with my big brother. Kiss him for me and tell him I love him too. My puzzle is incomplete, but I know we will all be back together when the time comes



Mommy You Are My Favorite Gurl

XOXOXO
Sunshsine

Precious Memories



Typicals of Grandma

By AJ

Everyday after school, I run to the living room for you to help me with my school work. First thing you say is “Ali turn on General Hospital.” As soon as I sit down and open my book you would say “Go get Grandma a ginger ale.” “Now I’m hungry and thirsty too Grandma” I would say, and you would tell me to bring you all the stuff I need to make a turkey and cheese wrap.

“Grandma, I’m never going to go outside, am I?”, would be my question and you would say “G-baby outside isn’t going anywhere”. “Grandma we already know the baby is Michael’s and yet we still have to watch General Hospital everyday” I would said religiously.

Grandma I miss you every day. I promise to watch General Hospital, but only on rainy days and now tell TiTi Mommy what happened.
I love you and I already miss the Typicals of Grandma every afternoon.

Acknowledgment

The family wishes to thank all of you for your prayers, messages of comfort and the many other acts of kindness shown during our hour of bereavement. May God continue to bless you in a very special way.

Professional Services Entrusted To

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www.honoryou.com