

Celebrating The Life of  
*Billie Octavie Gourdine*

January 28, 1933 - September 19, 2021



**Service:**

**Tuesday, September 28, 2021 - 10:00 a.m.**

**Church of Saint Charles Borromeo &  
Chapel of the Resurrection**

**211 West 141st Street • New York, New York 10030**

*Fr. Timothy S. Wiggins ~ Pastor / Celebrant  
Deacon Rodney Beckford ~ Homilist  
Dr. BrVon Neal ~ Musician / Cantor*

# *Reflections Of Life*

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**Billie Octavie Gourdine** was born on January 28th, 1933 in New York to the late Octavie Walker Barnes and the late Wilson Walker. She attended Washington Irving High School. She met and fell in love with Harold Gourdine, affectionately known as "Sonny." They married in 1952 and were blessed with three children. She was raised and spent much of her childhood summers in Wainscott, New York; where her parents took her and where she would later take her own family to share cherished memories through the years with her extended family members.

Billie was employed as a head teller at Bankers Trust in New York in the 1970s. She was also a member of 1199SEIU. One of her brilliant ideas was to establish a network of girlfriends. They were called: "The Social Ladies." Each month, they took turns at one another's homes and established offices (i.e., President, Secretary, etc.). They would go to different events and take trips together as well. This continued for decades. Through this, she exposed her children to different facets of culture. On their birthdays, she would always treat them to a Broadway play, concert, or a trip to the museum, which enriched their appreciation of the arts.

Billie was a fabulous entrepreneur, working as a Consultant for Princess House Products (fine crystal and china) for over 25 years. By doing this, she discovered she enjoyed relating to people and developed great marketing techniques. She was able to draw people in with her vibrant personality and she was a sharp and intelligent woman. Later in life, she came across Primerica and through this endeavor, she learned the importance of being financially stable. She established her legacy by passing on information about wealth and how to acquire it to her children and grandchildren as well. She was passionate about ensuring that they would know how to set themselves up for success.

If you knew Billie, you knew that she was Johnny Mathis' #1 fan! She made sure you knew about him if you wanted to hear it or not. After attending a multitude of his concerts, she was on Cloud Nine when she finally was able to meet him several years ago.

Billie loved to travel. She was fortunate to go to Paris twice, and she especially loved having family reunions in Florida.

She was so proud of her family and their accomplishments.

She is preceded in death by her husband Harold and her son Michael; her sister Andrina and her brothers David and Johnny. She leaves to cherish her memory; her loving daughters Suzanne and Donna (Maurice); her grandchildren Janelle (Eric), Samantha, Monique, and Michael; her great-granddaughter Vanessa; her siblings Willie (Elizabeth) and Helen; her sister-in-law Helen; her brother-in-law Anthony (Linda); her sister-in-law Judith; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, family members, and friends whom she loved dearly.

Rest in heaven, dearest Mommy... until we meet again.  
Lovingly, The Family



# *Order of Service*

## **FUNERAL LITURGY**

Gathering Hymn.....“Blessed” ..... Fred Hammond

Greeting ·

Processional Hymn ..... "Amazing Grace"

Opening Prayer

## **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

First Reading:

Old Testament.....Isaiah 66:13-14/Proverbs 1:8-9 .....Samantha D. Henry

Responsorial

Second Reading:

New Testament.....Matthew 5:1-10.....Janelle L. Coleman

Romans 6:3-5 .....Monique A. Henry

Homily

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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## **GENERAL INTERCESSIONS**

## **LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

Offertory Hymn.....“What A Friend We Have in Jesus"

Communion Hymn....."Let Us Break Bread Together"

Communion Meditation ..... "He Looked Beyond"

Obituary .....Paulette Y. Daniels

## **COMMENDATION**

Recessional Hymn ..... "Soon and Very Soon" .....Andrae Crouch

Remarks ..... Donna Gourdine-Henry

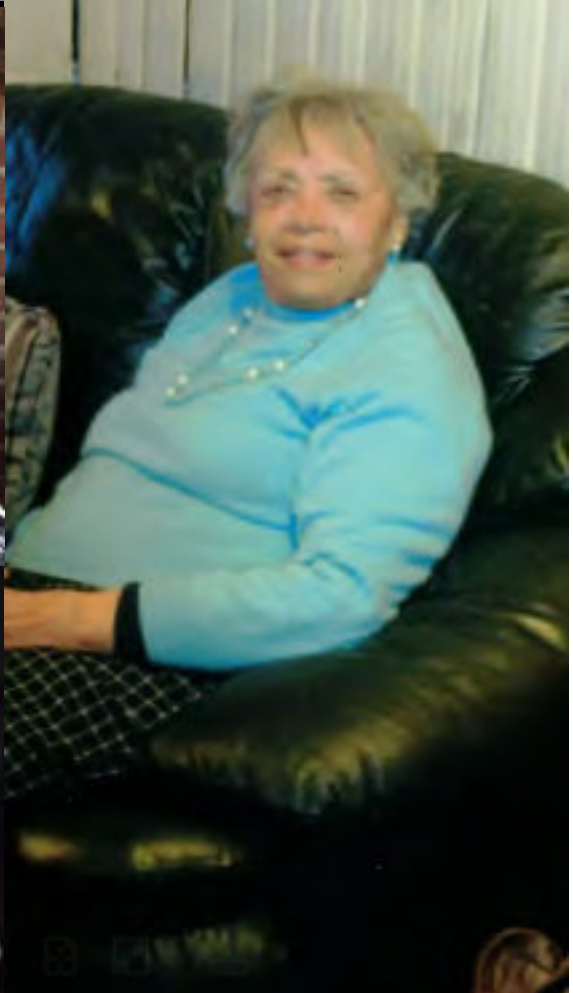
**Final Resting Place:**  
Wainscott Cemetery  
East Hampton,  
Long Island NY











# *Beyond Life's Gateway*

*Here's an open gate at the end of the road,*

*through which each must go alone*

*And there is a light we cannot see*

*Our father claims his own*

~

*Beyond the gate*

*your loved one finds happiness and rest*

*and there is comfort in the thought*

*that a loving God knows best*

~

*May God who calls our dear ones home*

*and grants them peace and rest*

*give you the strength and faith to say,*

*that He indeed knows best.*



# Father We Pray

FATHER, we pray that nothing of our life will be lost, but that it will be of benefit to the world: that all that we hold sacred may be respected by those who follow us.

We ask You that we may go on living in our family and friends, in their hearts and minds, their courage and their conscience.

*"We have loved them dearly during life, let us not abandon them until we have conducted them by our prayers into the house of the Lord."*  
St. Ambrose



## Acknowledgment

The family of the late **Billie Octavie Gourdine** 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.

**Heaven's Touch Funeral Services, Inc.**

*Maurice E. Henry*

Lic. Funeral Director & Manager

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