

## **O**BITUARY

Gloria Gwendolyn Barr Jackson was the fourth oldest of fourteen children, born to the proud parents Raymond Barr, Sr. and Maybelle Corine Barr on November 13, 1935, in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Gloria caught the eye of Luther Davis Jackson, Sr. and they were married in 1960. From this union, two bouncing baby boys were born. Rodney Lyn Jackson, Sr. (Deceased) and Luther Davis Jackson, Jr.

Gloria participated in the local public school system as a youth where she attended the renown Dillard High School. She excelled academically to become the Valedictorian for the Class of 1958. After graduation, she ventured onward to the highest hills in Tallahassee to attend Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. She earned a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, Master's degree in Guidance & Counseling, and Educational Specialist degree in Administration & Supervision.

Gloria made an impact on her community as a political activist. In fact, she served as an Elector in the Electoral College for the State of Florida. She was the first and only female African American to serve as Chairperson of the Democratic Party of Broward County. She was a Deputy Registrar for the Supervisor of Elections Office for many years. She served as a Delegate to more than seven State of Florida Democratic Conventions as well as serve on the Florida's Democratic Party Rules and Affirmative Action Committees. Gloria coordinated many presidential, gubernatorial, and local elections.

Gloria was a faithful member of Mount Hermon AME Church, Fort Lauderdale, where she formally served in such capacities as a Steward, Sunday School Teacher, Bible School Director, Calendar Club leader and a member of the hospitality committee.

Gloria Jackson was a life member of both Delta Sigma Theta, Sorority, Inc. and the NAACP. She also was a member of the Pride of Fort Lauderdale Elks Temple 395.

Formally, Gloria served on the OIC Board of Directors, Urban League Board of Directors, Early Childhood Board of Directors, Action Women's Club, League of Women Voters, Broward Federal Savings and Loan Association Board of Directors, Kids Voting Board of Directors, YMCA Board of Directors, FAMU Alumni Association, and Phi Delta Kappa.

Gloria has received awards and recognition from the following: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Community Service, Mount Hermon AME Church Calendar Club and Community Service, 100 Black Men Community Service, Broward Operation PUSH Community and Political Service, Family Health Plan Political, Charmettes, Inc. Community Service, Eta Phi Beta Sorority Community Service, National Association of Floridians Club, Inc. Community Service, H. Phillip Randolph Political Service, Venus Club Service and Leadership, Central Broward Democratic Club Political Service, Lay Community Service, and plethora more...

Gloria transitioned from her earthly home to her eternal home on Sunday, February 16, 2025. Gloria had 18 siblings, and was preceded in death by Raymond Barr, Jr., Samuel E. Barr, Sarah Barr Rucker, Richard Barr, Barbara Smith, Chester Barr, Sr., Nathaniel Barr, Debra Dassau, Calvin Barr, Anthony Barr, Reuben Bryant, Joy Barr (Sister-in-Love), Harriet Barr (Sister-in-Love), Luther Jackson, Sr.

Gloria leaves to mourn, one son, Luther Jackson (Sandra), and two grandsons, Donovan Scott Jackson and Rodney Lyn Jackson, Jr. She leaves two brothers, William Barr and Jerome Allen. She also leaves three sisters-in-love, Beatrice Barr, Beverly Barr and Essie Barr. Of course, there are a host of Nephews, Nieces, cousins and friends that are left with fond memories to cherish.





## When Tomorrow Starts Without Me

If tomorrow Starts without me, and I'm not there to see, If the sun should rise and find your eyes all filled with tears for me; I wish so much you wouldn't cry the way you did today, While thinking of the many things we didn't get to say. I know how much you care for me, and how much I care for you, And each time that you think of me I know you'll miss me too; But when tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand, That an angel came and called my name and took me by the hand, And said my place was ready in heaven far above, And that I'd have to leave behind those I dearly love. But as I turned to walk away, a tear fell from my eye, For all life, I'd always thought I didn't want to die. I had so much to live for and so much yet to do. It seemed almost impossible that I was leaving you. I thought of all the love we shared and all the fun we had. If I could relive yesterday, I thought, just for a while, I'd say goodbye and hug you and maybe see you smile. But then I fully realized that this could never be, For emptiness and memories would take the place of me. And when I thought of worldly things that I'd miss come tomorrow, I thought of you, and when I did, my heart was filled with sorrow. But when I walked through Heaven's gates, I felt so much at home. When God looked down and smiled at me, from His great golden throne, He said, "This is eternity and all I've promised you, Today your life on earth is past but here it starts anew. I promise no tomorrow but today will always last. And since each day's the same, there's no longing for the past. But you have been so faithful, so trusting, so true. Hough there were times you did some things you knew you shouldn't do, And you have been forgiven and now, at last, you're free. So won't you come and take my hand and share my life with me?" So, if tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far apart, For every time you think of me, please know I'm in your heart.





