

## *Scriptures of Comfort*

### **PSALM 34:18**

"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

### **MATTHEW 5:4**

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."

### **ISAIAH 41:10**

"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

### **2 CORINTHIANS 1:3-4**

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God."

### **MATTHEW 25:4**

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

### *Pallbearers*

Rodney Davis Jr.  
Demetrick King  
Mason Motion Jr.  
Champ  
John Irwin  
Lavardo Wilmott

### *Acknowledgements*

The family of Joyce McKnight sincerely appreciates your prayers, sympathy, presence and wishes expressed during this time of bereavement. We are truly grateful for everyone who has stood by us. Your compassion and love will never be forgotten.

### *Interment*

Lauderdale Memorial Park  
2001 SW 4th Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33315

### *Repast*

Ebenezer SDA Church Fellowship  
Hall  
134 NW 12 Avenue  
Dania Beach FL 33004



Professional Services Entrusted to:

**McWHITE'S FUNERAL HOME**  
3501 West Broward Blvd | Lauderhill, FL 33312  
(954) 584-0047

**Satisfaction Is Our Business,  
...Because Families Deserve The Best!**

## *Celebrating The Life Of*



# *Joyce Marie McKnight*

SUNRISE: JUNE 28, 1940 - SUNSET: JANUARY 29, 2026

Sunday, February 15th, 2026  
Viewing at 9:30 AM  
Service at 10:00 AM

*Ebenezer Seventh-Day Adventist Church*  
134 North West 12th Avenue  
Dania Beach, FL 33004

A MCWHITE'S FUNERAL HOME SERVICE

# Obituary

If the life of Joyce Marie McKnight—born Joyce Marie Taylor—were written in full detail, capturing the love she shared and the lives she touched, her story would fill an entire book.

Out of respect for the space in this bulletin, we offer only a shortened version. How do you describe a woman who embodied joy, love, laughter, and safe refuge in just a few paragraphs?

How do you put into words a life so fully lived, so freely given, and so deeply felt by everyone who knew her?

The truth is, you cannot—at least not completely. And perhaps that is part of the Father's gift. If you were blessed to meet her; you already know. To many, she was known as Sister, Auntie, Grandma, and Friend. To all, she was—and remains—love in motion.

Joyce Marie McKnight was born Joyce Marie Taylor on June 28, 1940, in Smithville, Georgia, to Charlie and Louise Taylor. At the time, Smithville was a small town of just over six hundred people. Joyce was one of nine children, and from an early age, her joyful spirit stood out among them all.

As a young woman, she moved with her family to Rochester, New York, where her vibrant personality truly began to shine. There, she became a disc jockey affectionately known as "Joy the Dancing DJ." Whether at social clubs or festive gatherings, she had a special gift for bringing people together through music, laughter, and warmth—a joyful legacy that continues to live on.

The harsh New York winters were no match for her love of sunshine. Joyce and her family became snowbirds, spending summers in Rochester and winters in Florida. After many years of traveling between the two states, the family eventually settled permanently in Sanford, Florida.

While in Sanford, Joyce met and married the late James McKnight, becoming Mrs. Joyce Marie McKnight.

Upon baptism at Mars Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church, she faithfully served as an Elder, Sabbath School teacher, and Children's Choir leader. Deeply involved in her church and community, she helped establish a youth group known as "Youth Outreach and Unity". She also started a children's singing group that appeared on television, using her gifts to uplift and inspire young voices..

Despite her busy life of service, Joyce remained committed to her education. She attended Seminole Community College, earning a degree in Computer Technology, and later worked as an Electronic Technician at Stromberg-Carlson for ten years. Upon her companies' relocation overseas, Joyce didn't wait for opportunity—she created it. She returned to school, earned her LPN, and began working in the foster care system, caring for children who needed love and stability.

During that time, she felt the called to start a daycare of her own. Answering that calling, Joyce stepped away from her career and started a home daycare. It was a place of love, safety for the children in the community. If it had an official motto, many would have called it "No Kids Left Behind," because even when families could not pay, Joyce would never turn a child away.

In 2017, Joyce moved to Fort Lauderdale to live with her son and daughter-in-law. There, she became a member of Ebenezer Seventh-day Adventist Church, continuing to worship and serve with the same joyful spirit that reflected her lifelong love for God and people. She never missed a moment to praise and rejoice in the God she proclaimed.

Joyce McKnight will be lovingly remembered by her family, one sister Elizabeth Ferralez (Ernie) three bothers Johnnie Taylor, Willie James Taylor and Morris Taylor (Joyce) Two sisters preceded her in death Ruthie Mae Harris and Margaret Johnson. Two brothers preceded her in death Reuben Taylor and Hodges Taylor. Two sons Melvin known as Chuck, Rodney (Sharon), two daughters Quenette, Tracie (Keith), a loving goddaughter Cynthia. 15 grandchildren Lakisha, Angela, Michael, Rodney Jr (Jevern), Anneisha (Ben), Ashley, Jada, Jarriell, Shayla, Makia, Champ, Jannie, Roger, Shantae and Carla. 38 great grandchildren and 3 great great grandchildren. Numerous nieces and nephews, and other family members and friends

Joyce's legacy as a Sister, Auntie, Grandma, and Friend lives on in the countless lives she touched—the children she cared for, the songs she sang, the dances she shared, and the love she gave so freely. She was a light in every room, a comfort to many, and a blessing to all who knew her.



# Order Of Service

Processional.....	Pastor & Family
Opening Prayer .....	Elder Miranda Adams
Congregational Hymn.....	New Life SDA Praise Team Amazing Grace
Opening Remarks .....	Pastor Barry Bonner
First Scripture Reading .....	I Corinthians 15:51-55.....Elder James Rolle
Musical Tribute .....	Rose King
Second Scripture .....	Revelation 21:1-4 .....Cynthia Hall
Reflections/Musical Tribute.....	Family & Friends (2 minutes limit) Cynthia Hall (goddaughter)
Slide Show .....	
Offertory/Musical.....	Ebenezer
Musical Tribute .....	Anneisha Bissainthe
Obituary Reading .....	Ashley Davis
Musical Tribute .....	Meme
Prayer of Comfort .....	Elder Matthew
Eulogy .....	Pastor Barry Bonner
Congregational Closing Hymn .....	#633.....New Life Praise Team When we all get to Heaven
Acknowledgements.....	McWhite Funeral Home Staff

Recessional