

Rebecca's Story

Rebecca Frances Jones entered this temporal life on Saturday, February 24, 1940, in Orlando, Florida. She was the daughter of the Late Elder Samuel M. Jones and Rev. Pearl Harper Jones. Born into a family of Fire Baptized Holiness preachers, Rebecca began her Christian walk at home around the table with her siblings and parents, the foundation of the amazing wife, mother, and grandmother that she became. Rebecca's childhood days were spent in a variety of cities where her father was assigned to pastor, including Jacksonville, Florida; Cleveland, Ohio; and eventually settling in White Plains, NY where she graduated High School in 1957. She often shared stories of her upbringing as a preacher's kid in a large family in the segregated South. She reminisced about sharecropping and picking cotton and tobacco to support the family.

During her Junior year in High School, Rebecca met the love of her life, Willie "Frank" James. They began courting and entered the joys of marital bliss on August 22, 1959. To this union were added, one daughter, Jacqueline, and one son, Kevin. Rebecca worked as a telephone operator for AT&T, and at Reader's Digest all while continuing her education in Business Marketing and Administration at Mercy College, raising children and being a devoted wife. Being employed by IBM for over 30 years, Rebecca broke barriers becoming one of the first African American female executives in the company. Career advancement within IBM allowed Rebecca to travel extensively and even required a short stint in Dallas, Texas. After retirement, she continued in the workforce at the Ossining Union Free School District as a Media Specialist and Technology Assistant, from which she also retired. Becky and Frank had a love for travel and could be found living between New York and North Carolina. As a Girl Scout Troup Mother, Rebecca arranged many youth outings and supported the youth whenever possible in community and church events. She always had a word of encouragement and dropped wisdom nuggets whenever she had an audience.

Rebecca dedicated her life to serving God and accepted Christ as her savior at a young age. She was a lifelong member of the Fire Baptized Holiness Church of God of the Americas. She was quite active in many church functions often traveling to conventions, between New York and Florida, The Virgin Islands, and Jamaica. She was a faithful member of Greater New Zion FBH Church in White Plains for over 50 years. During her travels, she attended Maiden Mt. Olive, and Mooresville Mission, or found the nearest FBH Church to worship. She served the local church in many capacities including, Church Secretary, Trustee, Deaconess, Mother Board Chairwoman, and the New England District as District Secretary, Convention Secretary, Ambassador for Christ, and YPI Supervisor. Mother James supported her son's ministry efforts and often fellowshipped with his family during services. She kept Christ at the center of her life and maintained the standard of Holiness as a gracefully articulated, yielded, and anointed vessel of Sanctification and honor. She was such a beautiful Godfearing humble and gentle spirit, with an abundance of class, style, and grace!

And so it was, on the afternoon of March 1, 2024, the Angel of the Lord stopped by Atrium Health – Carolina's Medical Center in Charlotte, NC, and called one of God's servants, Mother Rebecca Frances Jones James, from this temporal life into the victorious, triumphant, and eternal Life! In addition to her parents, Rebecca was preceded in death by her daughter, Jacqueline Coleman, and 16 siblings, Samuel, Daisy, Annie, Mary, Martha, Thelma Lee, Mertice, Stella Mae, Beatrice, Earnest, RB, Thomas, Ruth, JoeAnna, Daniel and Willie Kaye. She leaves to cherish fond memories and with hopes to see her again in the great getting up morning, Her Husband of 64 years, Willie "Frank" James, Son & Daughter in Law, Kevin and Andrea James of Lincolnton, NC; One Son in Law: Dondiego Coleman of White Plains, NY; One Sister: Esther Carter of Ellenwood, GA; 5 Grandchildren: Dajuan James (Tenaé) of White Plains, NY; Carmelia Gilliland (Bryan) of Newton, NC; Myrical Johnson (Crosby) of High Point, NC; Destynee Jones (Tyree) of Greensboro, NC and Angelique James (Joshua: Fiancé) of Denver, NC; 9 Great-Grandchildren: Jordan, Caleb, Josiah, Nylia, Nariyah, Karrington, Kensington, Jeremiah, and Brielle; 4 Grand-dogs: Kiarra, Simba, Oatmeal, and Biscuit; one adopted granddaughter: Olivia Bivens (Scott) of Greensboro, NC; 3 adopted grandchildren: Isabella, Peyton, Jamison; 2 Sisters in Law: Mildred Jones of Spring Lake, NC and Barbara James of Silver Spring, MD.; and a host of nieces, nephews, Godchildren, relatives, and friends.

Order of Celebration

Apostle Preston D. Smith, Sr. Officiating

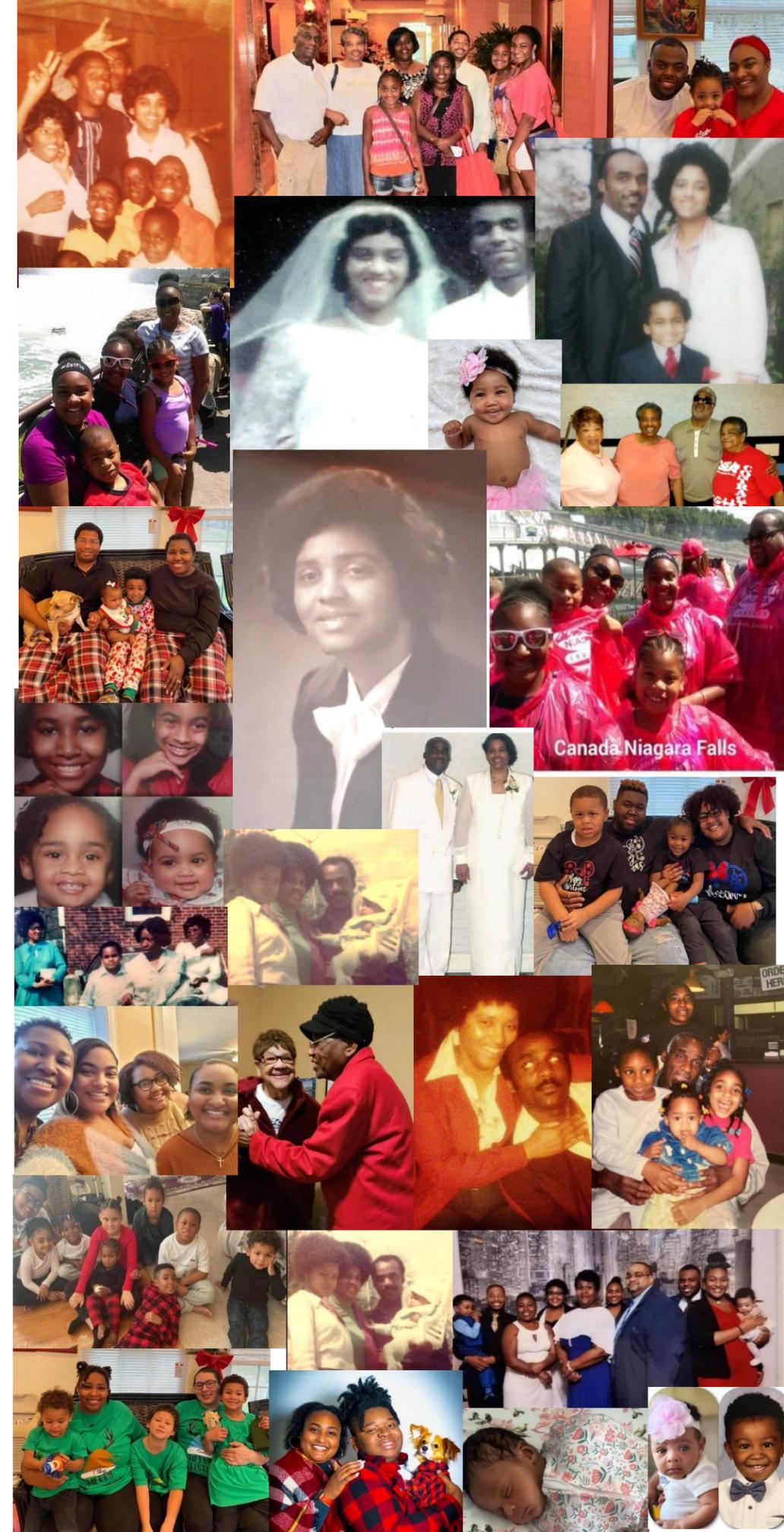
Prelude	
Processional	Clergy and Family
Viewing and Visitation	11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Closing of the Bier	"Celebration Worship Medley", Elder Calvin J. Lynch
Call To Worship	Apostle Preston D. Smith, Sr
Opening Selection	"Spirit", Evangelist Sherry A. Smith
Old Testament Reading, Psalm 1	Rev. George L. James, Nephew
New Testament Reading, Matthew 5:1-12	Elder Troy Bethune
Prayer of Comfort	Elder W. Gerard James, Nephew
Musical Selection	"Down Through The Years", James & Henry Family
Resolutions and Acknowledgements	
Life Reflections	
From The Nieces	Barbara Craig
From The Nephews	Murdock Williams
From Friends of the Family	Bishop Eric Agee
From The New England District	Pastor Margaret Hodges
From The Western NC District/Mt. Olive	Mother Jacqueline B. Elliott
From Greater New Zion	District President Alfreda Poinsette
From The District Elders and Former Pastors	Elder Henry L. Cobbs
From Her Husband, Son, and Grands	
Musical Tribute	Rev. Patricia D. Gillman, Niece
The Eulogy	Elder Mark A. Ballew, Ruling Elder NED FBHC
Recessional	Flower Bearers – Nieces Pall Bearers – Nephews

Committal and Interment

Maiden Rosenwald Cemetery
503 South D Ave. Maiden, NC 28650

The Repast

St. James AME Zion Church
501 South D Ave, Maiden, NC 28650





I LOVE MY Mother

*Servant of God, well done!
 Rest from thy loved employ!
 The battle fought, the victory won,
 Enter thy Master's joy.*

Acknowledgments

Dear Family and Friends,

To you who were so thoughtful in helping here and there,
 To you who looked to heaven and whispered a silent prayer.
 To you who watched and waited as the hours slowly passed,
 To you who held our trembling hand and stayed to the very last.
 To you who cooked and you who served, and to you who provided it all,
 To you who answered the telephone and talked to those who called.
 To you who wept along with us, or sent a flower so sweet,
 To you who whispered in our ear, "Someday again you'll meet."
 To you our dear friends, to each of you, we have only words of praise.
 To you, may God be mighty good, throughout the rest of your Days.

The Family of Mother Rebecca F. James

Service of Comfort Provided by:

: Ebony & White's Funeral Services, Inc.
 1139 E. Pine Steet | Lincolnton, NC 28092 | Phone 704-732-1041
 "Dedicated to Those We Serve"
www.ebonyandwhitesfuneralservicesinc.com

*Servant of God...
 Well Done!*



Rebecca Frances Jones James

February 24, 1940 – March 1, 2024

**HOMEGOING CELEBRATION
 SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2024**

12:00 PM

Mt. Olive FBH Church
 Maiden, NC

National Mother Jacqueline B. Elliott, Pastor