

*In Loving  
Memory  
of*

**Sunrise**  
*April 22, 1963*

**Sunset**  
*August 28, 2011*

*Belinda A. Jackson-Jefferson*

Saturday, September 3, 2011 - 9:00 a.m.

**PARADISE BAPTIST CHURCH**

348-352 15th Ave. • Newark, NJ

*Rev. Jethro James, Officiating*

## Obituary

God blessed the world for us all when **Belinda Ann Jackson-Jefferson**, daughter of the late Nettie B. Jackson and Henry Raines, was born on April 23, 1963 in Newark, NJ. Belinda was the youngest of Nettie's three children. She loved her older sister, Geraldine very deeply and saw her older brother, (the late) James as her hero. Belinda attended Abington Ave. Elementary School and Science High School in Newark, NJ. Belinda later attended Essex County Vocational School to obtain her certification in Licensed Practical Nursing.

Belinda loved her family and was dedicated to providing a better life for her three daughters, Tyisha, Jacqueline and Kelly. As a single parent, she worked several jobs, finally deciding to devote herself to a career that would allow her to provide her family with the life she felt they deserved. But, one that also allowed her the opportunity to do one of the things she loved most, selflessly helping others. She went back to school and trained to become a Licensed Practical Nurse. She worked for several health providers over the years including Clara Maass Medical Center, Beth Israel Hospital and Daughters of Israel, before settling into her position as school nurse at East Orange Early Childhood Development Center.

In 1987, Belinda's mother, Nettie, introduced her to the love of her life. Jesse Jefferson dropped off Nettie at her home after a dialysis treatment, and was in typical Nettie fashion "Wait! Don't leave yet.....Let me introduce you to my daughter...." Belinda and Jesse began dating shortly after and their love affair began. On February 14th, Valentines Day 2004, Belinda married her love and best friend, proudly becoming Mrs. Jackson-Jefferson.

Belinda had a naturally kind heart and a beautiful spirit that would immediately light up a room. Rarely would you see her without that trademark smile. She was a very confident and selfless woman. Nothing lit up Belinda's heart more than the love that she had for her four grandchildren, Courtnee, Khalil, Kelysse and Zyana. Nanny, as described by her grandchildren, was always beautiful, kind, helpful and wonderfully loving. There was nothing that she wouldn't (and didn't) do to give her grandbabies an amazing life.

Belinda leaves to cherish countless memories: her life partner and husband, Jesse; daughters, Tyisha, Jacqueline and Kelly; sister, Geraldine Jackson; grandchildren, Courtnee, Khalil, Kelysse and Zyana; sisters-in-law, Marion, Diane and Cynthia; brothers-in-law, David and Brent; and a host of nieces, nephews cousins, other relatives and friends. Belinda touched many lives and maintained lifelong friendships, but few more special than the relationships she shared with her best friends, Daphne and Dawn.

Belinda... An amazing soul and blessing to everyone she's ever touched. God's gift for all of us to know. Our angel.

# *Order of Service*

**Processional**

**Prayer of Comfort**

**Selection**

**Scripture Reading**

**Old Testament - Psalm 23**

*Shani Latimer (God-daughter)*

**Special Remarks**

*Dawn (friend)*

**Selection**

**Acknowledgements**

*Tia Cooley (Granddaughter)*

**Poem**

*Courtnee Jackson (Granddaughter)*

**Obituary**

**Eulogy**

*Rev. Jethro James*

**Recessional**

**Interment**

Glendale Cemetery  
Bloomfield, New Jersey

*Immediately following the interment, the repast will be held at:  
682 Park Avenue • East Orange, NJ 07017*

# *No Regrets*

If I knew it would be the last time I'd see you fall asleep, I would tuck you in more tightly and pray the Lord, your soul to keep,

If I knew it would be the last time that I see you walk out the door, I would give you a hug and kiss and call you back for more.

If I knew it would be the last time I'd hear your voice lifted up in praise, I would video tape each action and word, so I could play them back day after day.

If I knew it would be the last time, I could spare an extra minute or two to stop and say "I Love You", instead of assuming you would KNOW I do.

If I knew it would be the last time I would be there to share your day, well I'm sure you'll have so many more, so I can let just this one slip away.

For surely there's always tomorrow to make up for an oversight, and we always get a second chance to make everything right.

There will always be another day to say our "I love you's", And certainly there's another chance to say our "Anything I can do's?" But just in case I might be wrong, and today is all I get, I'd like to say how much I love you and

I hope you never forget, Tomorrow is not promised to anyone, young or old alike, And today may be the last chance you get to hold your loved one tight.

So if you're waiting for tomorrow, why not do it today? For if tomorrow never comes, you'll surely regret the day, That you didn't take that extra time for a

smile, a hug, or a kiss and you were too busy to grant someone, what turned out to be their one last wish.

So hold your loved ones close today, whisper in their ear, Tell them how much you love them and that you'll always hold them dear, Take time to say

"I'm sorry," "please forgive me," "thank you" or "it's okay". And if tomorrow never comes, you'll have NO regrets about today.



## *Acknowledgement*

Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair.

Perhaps you sent a floral piece If so, we saw it there.

Perhaps you spoke the kindest words as any friend could say.

Perhaps you were not there at all just thought of us on that day.

Whatever you did to console our hearts, We Thank You, Whatever the part.

### **Professional Services Provided By**

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE  
130 Main Street  
Orange, NJ  
973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street  
Newark, NJ  
973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME  
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