

## <u>Obituary</u>

**Jessie "GeeGee" Brown Silas** was born on September 21, 1935 in Sumter County, South Carolina to her late parents Charlie and Sarah McDaniel. She had two brothers, Elijah and Clarence and one sister, Carola who all preceded her in death.

She attended public school in both South Carolina and New York. During a brief union in marriage, she had one daughter, named Tamalynn who everyone called Bunny.

Jessie participated in all kinds of sports, especially Basketball and Track and Field through the P.A.L. of New York. She would make lifelong friends as she played these sports.

If you knew GeeGee- you knew she had a passion for dancing, she became a part of a dance troupe named The Parkettees around 1960. While dancing with this troupe she would get to travel the world and tour with groups like the Temptations, Joe Frazier, Joe Tex, and James Brown just to name a few. GeeGee even won the harvest moon ball jitterbug contest at Madison Square Garden and went on to dance on the Ed Sullivan Show because of this. GeeGee was lucky enough to also perform for President John Kennedy. During the troupe's tour of Africa she had the pleasure of dancing in front of Haile Selassie, who was at the time, the Emperor of Ethiopia.

Jessie moved to New Jersey in the early 70's and of course she kept right on dancing until she was stricken with a brain aneurysm. She bounced back from that but had to limit her dancing. Around this time she met Charles "Charlie" Silas, with whom she fell in love with and after several years he became her husband. They were love birds from day one. Jessie found herself dancing less and less due to illness but didn't worry because she knew she had Charlie right there by her side.

Although there were no children born from this union of marriage, they were able to raise three doggies, Cognac and Ninja who are deceased now and Funny Face, who has had the run of the house since day one.

Jessie and Charlie were inseparable even when she took ill this last year. Charlie was always there for her as she was for him. It was hard to see her so sick, but even in sickness, Charlie never let her forget he loved her and wouldn't leave her side but on September 26, 2012, God finally called her home to eternal rest.

Jessie leaves to cherish her memories: her devoted and loving husband, Charles; sisters-in-law, Eliza, Catherine, Louise, Grace and Ruby (George); brother-in-law, Donald (Mattie); a "brother", Paul (Thelma) Mickens; a daughter, Tamalynn (James); stepdaughters, Ellen (Delmore), Lillian (Robert) and Irene; three grandchildren, Fyzard, Michael and Brianna; two nieces, Sheila and Michelle (Clayton); dear friends, Lonnie and Debra Youngblood and those in her group, the Parkettes along with a host of cousins, other relatives and friends.

# Order of Service

#### Processional

Scripture Reading Old Testament - Isaiah 40:28-31 New Testament - John 6:35-40	
Prayer	
Musical Selection	Lonnie Youngblood
Poem	Karen Coy
Reading of Obituary/Cards	Bruce Woodley
Solo	Jonathan Yelverton
Poem	Alice Blue
Music Selection	Lonnie Youngblood
Reflections/Word of Comfort	
Solo	Jonathan Yelverton
Final Viewing and Farewell	
Recessional	

<u>Cremation</u>
Rosedale Crematory Orange, New Jersey

## When I'm Gone

Release me, let me go.

I have so many things to see and do,
You mustn't tie yourself to me with tears,
Be happy that we had so many years.

I gave you my love, and you can only guess
How much you gave me in happiness.
I thank you for the love you each have shown,
But now it's time I traveled on alone.

So grieve awhile for me, if grieve you must, Then let your grief be comforted by trust. It's only for awhile that we must part, So bless the memories within your heart.

I won't be far away, for life goes on.
So, if you need me, call and I will come.
Though you can't see or touch me, I'll be near.
And if you listen with your heart,
you'll hear all my love around you soft and clear.

And then, when you must come this way alone,
I'll greet you with a smile and say, "Welcome Home".

~Mary Helen Raymond

### Acknowledgement

The family wishes to express their deepest and most sincere thanks to all who shared with them in this time of sorrow.

May God bless and keep you in a most gracious way.

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