

*In Loving Memory of*  
*Genise Austin*

**Sunrise**  
May 15, 1946

**Sunset**  
August 6, 2015



**Service**

Friday, August 14, 2015 – 10:00 a.m.

**Christ Temple Church Ministries**

260 South 20<sup>th</sup> Street  
Newark, NJ 07112

**Pastor Denise Tolbert, Officiating**

## Obituary

**Genise Austin** was a phenomenal woman who was truly blessed. She was born May 15, 1946 in Jacksonville, North Carolina to the late Rosie Bell and William T. Gainey. She was one of nine children, William Gainey Jr., Melinda Gainey, Daisy Ruth Joyner (Deceased), Glennis and Connie Gainey (Jacksonville, NC), Min. Gwendolyn Wright (Jacksonville, NC), Wanda and Kent Canady (Fayetteville, NC), Dorothy Gainey (Jacksonville, NC), Perry and Shalonda Gainey (Jacksonville, NC).

Genise attended and graduated from Georgetown High School in NC. She met her soul mate Henry Austin in Jacksonville, NC (Brown Town) Dew Drop. They later married in 1963 and settled in East Orange, NJ. Their beautiful union blessed them with nine children of their own; Mona Khadijah Austin-Cox (Jamil Cox), Abike' Austin-Edwards (Neville Edwards), Amana Austin, Jatu (Tia Austin), Seywonh Austin-Smith (Tony Smith), Juma Austin, Alshenda Austin, Tabiliah M. Austin and Tisa Austin.

While in NJ, Genise furthered her education and attended Essex County College graduating with a degree in Early Childhood Education. Genise believed in children getting love, care, attention and the best education at an early age and with that in mind she accepted a position at Head Start in East Orange, NJ. Just as much as Genise loved her own children, grandchildren and great grandchildren she also loved her classroom children and dedicated over 32 years of her life teaching her "babies" in the classroom at Head Start, only retiring once her health started to decline.

Also after moving to NJ being the devout woman of faith that she was, Genise joined the Ebenezer Baptist church under the leadership of Rev. Wesley L. Lee, however after his demise she then joined Christ Temple Church Ministries, Inc. under the leadership of Pastor, Denise Tolbert, where she was a faithful member. She delighted in hearing the word of God, singing in the church choirs, and was a prayer warrior. Her unwavering faith is what sustained her and allowed her to persevere over the most challenging obstacles life brought her way.

Genise was the type of woman that not only talked the talk but she walked the walk and she demonstrated and showed her children unconditional love. She was always there for her family and not just her own children, immediate family or the classroom babies but her

love was also extended to any person in need. She did not turn her back on anyone that needed help and is known for being the “Mother” of Eppirt Street in East Orange, NJ. She embodied the African proverb “it takes a village to raise a child” and was affectionately a second mother to a number of people within the East Orange and Newark area. You can hear countless stories from people in the community saying “Mrs. Austin fed me when I had nothing to eat” and “Mrs. Austin offered me a place to stay when no one else would”...there are endless stories of her love and generosity. So it's only fitting that Genise loved Christmas because it's a time of giving. She'd rather give than receive and she would get the biggest tree and would fill it with tons of gifts for everyone, once again not just her family but for those who she also considered family.

She also enjoyed traveling with her sister friends but nothing was like traveling back home. She looked forward to traveling back to her hometown in Jacksonville, NC to see her brothers and sisters on the Fourth of July to celebrate her mother's birthday which later became, “The Gainey family reunion”. Family was very important to Genise and she cherished family functions and events as well as getting on the phone with her sisters talking for hours about their childhood memories. She also loved to laugh and would love for you to repeat stories or jokes so she can laugh again, she was a true socialite. Genise also loved plants and has a beautiful garden. She enjoyed collecting dolls and loved taking pictures and anyone who knows her knows she loved to dress up and sport some of the sharpest hairstyles and outfits.

Genise treasuries were not stored away in places where moth and rust can get to but it was stored in the abundant love she leaves in the hearts of her family and loved ones... “real wealth” that cannot be brought or taken away only given and passed on in the legacy she leaves behind which is pure unconditional love of which only she knew how to give. When the Lord says, have you fed my sheep Genise can answer I sure did and some goats and cows too. Have you considered the poor, I not only considered them but I gave them a place to stay, Have you taken care of the widow, I've not only taken care of her but I've continuously prayed for her, Have you loved your neighbor, I have not only loved them but I've created a family out of community and have shown that community unconditional love..... “Well done my faithful servant”.

Genise will be greatly missed by those she leaves until she meets again, her devoted and loving husband of 51 years Henry Austin, her 9 children, 32 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren, 7 siblings, sisters-in-law, Geneva Brazil, Anne McCoy (Deceased) and brother-in-law, Anthony Austin, nieces, nephews and a whole host of family and friends.

## Order of Service

Officiating..... Pastor Denise Tolbert

Favorite Hymn..... Musician

Scripture Reading

Old Testament - Proverbs 31:10-16.....Min. Gwendolyn Wright

New Testament.....Min. Phthya Austin

Prayer of Comfort.....Elder Ossei Owusu

Solo.....La'Kima Spruell

Acknowledgements.....Peter Mark Edwards

Obituary.....Rabbia Mitchell

Reflections Family & Friends  
(2 minute limit please)

Solo.....Rev. Dr. Linda Gray  
Ass. Pastor of Providence Missionary Baptist Church

Eulogy.....Pastor Denise Tolbert  
Christ Temple Church Ministries, Inc.

Benediction & Recessional

### **-Entombment-**

Hollywood Memorial Park  
1500 Stuyvesant Avenue  
Union, NJ 07083

### **Repast to be held at:**

Christ Temple Church Ministries Inc  
Dr. Willie C. Talbot, Sr. Pastor  
Denise Tolbert, Pastor  
260 South 20th Street  
Newark, New Jersey

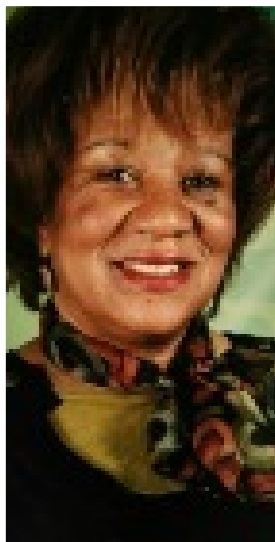
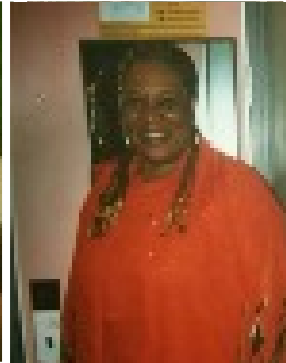
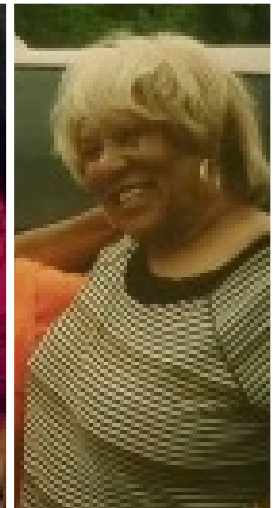


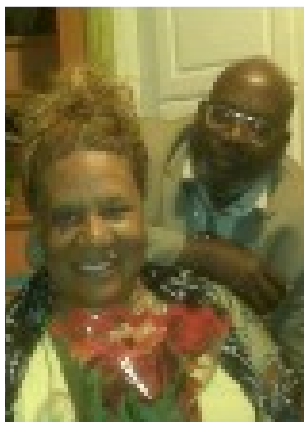
## *Beyond The Sunset*

*Should you go first and I remain to walk the road alone, I'll live in memories garden dear, with happy days we've known In spring I'll wait for roses red, when faded, the lilacs blue. In early fall when brown leaves fall, I'll catch a glimpse of you.*

*Should you go first and I remain, for battle to be fought each thing you've touched along the way will be a hallowed spot. I'll hear your voice, I'll see your smile though blindly I may grope, The memory of your helping hand will buoy me on with hope.*

*Should you go first and I remain, one thing I'll have you do: Walk slowly down that long long path, for soon one day I'll follow you. I want to know each step you take, so I may take the same. For someday down that lonely road you'll hear me call your name.*





## *Pallbearers:*

Jatu Austin  
Juma Austin  
Neville Edwards

Gregory Austin  
Mark Austin  
Anthony Smith

Jatu Zaire Austin, Jr.  
Aquil Austin  
Anthony Smith, Jr



## *The Master Called*

*I'm sorry I had to leave you.  
My loved ones, oh so dear.  
But you see, the Master called me,  
His voice was very clear!  
I had made my reservation  
A heaven bound ticket for one,  
And I knew that He would call me  
When He felt my work was done.  
I know that your hearts are heavy  
Because I have gone away,  
But when the Master called me,  
I knew that I could not stay.  
Yes, I'm sorry I had to leave you  
My loved ones, oh so dear,  
But, you see, the Master called me  
And, now I'm resting here.  
Yes, I've crossed on over to glory  
And to you all I say  
Just stay in the hands of Jesus  
And we'll meet again someday.*

*-Author unknown*

## *Thank You Note*

We are never quite prepared to face life's darkest hours alone. The Austin family would like to extend our appreciation for the many acts of kindness extended to us during our time of bereavement. Each of your prayers, calls, text and thoughts showed us that you cared. May God continue to make us worthy of such love and blessing. May God continue to bless and keep each one of you!

### Professional Services Provided By

#### COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE

130 Main Street  
Orange, NJ  
973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street  
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973-926-6400

#### COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME

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