



Sunrise: June 3, 1946 Sunset: October 5, 2016

Service Saturday, October 15, 2016 – 3:00 pm

**Cotton Funeral Home** 

1025 Bergen Street Newark, NJ 07112

## Mary's Favorite Prayer

(Found written in her bible after her death)

"Oh Lord in whose presence my soul takes delight, on whom in affliction I call.

My comfort by day, my song in the night.

My hope, my salvation, my all.

As I come into your presence Oh

God, I confess my sins and pray that as I glorify your name,

I might receive the power of your presence and a new and fresh anointing for the living of these days. In Jesus' name we pray."

AMEN





Mary passed peacefully from this life during the early morning hours of October 5th after a progressive decline in health. She departed this life supported by her loving family and friends quietly in her home in Ashland, Virginia.

**Mary Virginia Hayes** was born on June 3<sub>rd</sub>, 1946 in Newport News, Virginia to the late Mary Elizabeth Brown Hayes and Willie Hayes. She was the fourth oldest child of eight siblings and the oldest girl.

Mary was educated in the Newport News Public School system and graduated in 1964 from Huntington High School. She was first introduced to the healthcare industry during her final two years of high school, where she volunteered at the Veteran's Hospital in Hampton, Virginia. Upon graduation, she entered the United States Army and ultimately was honorably discharged as a Specialist 5th Class in the Army Medical Corp in December 1967. After being discharged from the Army, she pursued a nursing career. She obtained her Associate's Degree in Nursing in 1972 from Essex County Community College and became a registered nurse. She ultimately graduated with her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Jersey City State College in 1993. She was blessed to work within multiple specialties, but found her passion in the Emergency Room Department during her 20+ year tenure at United Hospitals in Newark, New Jersey.

During her military service, she met Emmett Jones and they ultimately were married in August 1969. Unto this union one child was born – Djuna Denise Jones. Dee Dee (as she is affectionately known) was the apple of her mother's eye and the pride of her life. The two of them devoted their lives to one another until her mother's death. Mary's heart was ultimately stolen on October 13th, 2007, when Benjamin Isaiah Onuigbo was born. Mary's one and only grandson was her world. She was a doting grandmother and proud of it. Those that know her well will attest that is was Benjamin who gave her the fight to live during the final weeks and months of her illness. Her main concern was that Benji received the care he needed and love he so richly deserved.

Mary was blessed to work in several different settings during her nursing career: Orange Memorial Hospital, United Hospitals, Newark Public Schools, Sacred Heart Elementary School and the Newark Health Department. Mary took her nursing career seriously – she felt there was no greater joy than being a nurse and caring for others in their time of need was her life's calling.

She retired from the Newark Health Department in June 2013 concluding a 40+ year nursing career to care for her grandson. Mary was baptized at a young age and remained active in the church throughout her life. She was always active in the choir and even had the opportunity to travel and record with two professional choruses during her lifetime. She was blessed to be a member of some dynamic churches during her travels and the following possessed permanent places in her heart: Mt Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church, St John Unified Freewill Baptist Church and St James AME Church – all of Newark, NJ.

Her giving nature was exemplified in many ways. It was her nature to help friends and family in need and was offended if a return of said favor was ever discussed or mentioned once the gift was bestowed. Annually, she also adopted a family in need for Thanksgiving and Christmas. She would provide the fixings for holiday dinners and would purchase toys and gifts to be provided for both the children and parents of her beloved families. She would provide the finances and her partner in crime, Carol Spann would provide the shopping savvy to brighten the lives of others. Her giving spirit will surely be missed.

Mary leaves to cherish her memories: one daughter, Dr Djuna Denise Jones; one grandson, Benjamin Isaiah Onuigbo; one sister, Henrietta A. Burnett of Edgewood, MD; three brothers – Phillip G. Hayes of Columbus, Ohio, James L. Hayes of South Canton, Ohio and Aaron L. Hayes of Elizabeth City, North Carolina; one brother in law, Marion N. Reaves of Harvey, Louisiana and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and beloved friends. She was preceded in death by both of her parents, her oldest brother William A. Hayes and two sisters, Sharon L. Hayes and Gloria L. Hayes Reaves. Special friends to Mary who will forever miss her are Kathleen Spratley of Hampton, Virginia, Phyllis Sanders of Newark, NJ; along with Dr Trinidad and her "extended family" from both United Hospitals and the Newark Health Department.

## Order of Service

Moderator	Djuna D. Jones
Prayer	
Scripture Old Testament - Psalm 12 New Testament - 1 Corint	
Musical Selection	"You Are My Sunshine"
Reflections	(2 minutes please)
Obituary	
Closing Remarks	Djuna D. Jones

Repast will take place at King's Family Restaurant 327 Lyons Avenue in Newark, New Jersey at 6:00 pm following the memorial service.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (www.stjude.org) or to the Wound Warrior Project (www.woundedwarriorproject.org) - two of her favorite charities.

## Life Is But a Stopping Place

Life is but a stopping place,
a pause in what's to be.
A resting place along the road,
to sweet eternity.
We all have different journeys,
different paths along the way.
We all were meant to learn some things,
but never meant to stay...
Our destination is a place
Far greater than we know.

- Author unknown

## <u>Heknowledgement</u>

The family wishes to express their sincere gratitude to all those who have supported us during this time of loss.

- The Jones and Hayes Family

