

Homegoing Service
Celebrating a Life Well Lived



Mother Mary Louise Gambrell

Sunrise:
October 8, 1932

Sunset:
March 26, 2017

Service
Saturday, April 1, 2017 ~ 10:00 am

Union Gospel Tabernacle of Newark
United Holy Church of America
756 Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. Boulevard, Newark, New Jersey
Elder Ricardo Jones, Pastor
Minister Eleanor Weeks, Officiating

Life Reflections

“Because of your smile, you make life more beautiful” - Thich Nhat Hanh

Mother Mary Louise Gambrell was born on October 8th 1932 in Fayetteville, North Carolina, daughter of the late Samuel Lee and Viola McSwain. She was the fifth child of seven, and is survived by her sister Carrie McSwain–Thomas. As an adult, she became known as Louise while those closest to her affectionately called her “Lou” or Weezy.”

Louise was a proud graduate of E.E. Smith High School in Fayetteville, North Carolina. During these years, she was very active in public speaking and had the opportunity to deliver one of the commencement addresses at her own graduation ceremony. Later in life, she continued with her oratory passion and became a member of Toast Masters International where she excelled winning several trophies and awards.

Shortly after high school, Louise fell in love with Private Arnell Gambrell. The couple married in 1951 and journeyed north to Newark, New Jersey to start a new life and family. Eventually, they settled in Scotch Plains, New Jersey. From this union, they had three daughters: Brenda, Gail and Sharon.

A loving wife and dedicated mother, Louise helped provide for her family by working for Schering-Plough Pharmaceuticals for 22 years.

Louise had a sense of fashion style that was uniquely hers. She was a classy, well-dressed, fashion-forward, trendsetting woman of many talents. She was committed to sharing her smile and her love with others. Louise always encourage you to smile. In addition, whether she sent you a letter, note or card it would always be sprinkled with the word “smile” all throughout. As a seamstress, she made suits, dresses, and shirts for her girls, grandsons and close family members in need. As a superb baker, she was known for her famous pound cakes, which were highly sought after from church members. As a mother, she was a mother to all those in need. An independent, strong woman, she was quick to speak her mind and tell you the truth even if it was not always asked for. Louise did not believe in quitting. Faced with many health challenges in her life, she refused to give up.

Mother Louise was a member of Union Gospel Tabernacle UHCA for 63 years where she served on the Mother’s and Usher Boards. Presently, the leadership is under Elder Ricardo Jones whom she loved dearly.

Louise instilled in her children that it was always better to give than to receive, and she exemplified the spirit of giving and generosity. She loved to quote the song “If I Can Help Somebody.” She would put it in her own words and say: “If I can help somebody along this road of life, then and only then will I have fulfilled my dreams and desires.” Her dreams and purpose in the life were completed on Sunday morning March 26th 2017.

Mother Louise Gambrell is survived by her loving husband, Arnell Gambrell; three devoted daughters: Reverend Dr. Brenda Stamper of Roselle, NJ, Gail Gambrell of Piscataway, NJ, and Sharon Gambrell-McDonald and husband, LaSalle McDonald of Edison, NJ; dear sister, Carrie McSwain-Thomas of Fayetteville, NC; three grandsons: Danyell and Moreal Stamper of Delaware, and LaSalle A. McDonald III of Edison, NJ; eight great-grandchildren and dear friends. We will miss you mother, wife, sister and friend. Our lives were enriched because of you and will never be the same without you.

Lovingly submitted,
The Family

Order Of Service

Organ Prelude

Processional

Opening Hymn.....Union Gospel Tabernacle Mass Choir

The Reading of the Scriptures
Old Testament: Psalms 27: 1-4
New Testament: St. John 14: 1-6

Prayer of Comfort

Selection.....The Choir

Remarks: Trustee Lester Ellis, Chairman of Governing Board &
Trustee Mabel A. Rhodes, Mother's Board

Solo.....Sister Sharon Fuller

Expressions from the Clergy and Friends
(Kindly limit to two minutes please)
Family Tribute: Carrie McSwain-Thomas (Sister), Daughters:
Rev. Dr Brenda Stamper, Gail Gambrell, and Sharon Gambrell-McDonald,
LaSalle A. McDonald III (Grandson) and Reginald Thomas (Nephew)

Acknowledgements

Telegrams and Condolences.....Trustee Mabel A. Rhodes

Obituary (Read Silently)

Sermonic Selection.....The Choir

Eulogy.....Elder Ricardo Jones

The Recessional

Entombment: Woodbridge Memorial Gardens, Woodbridge, New Jersey

*Immediately following the Entombment, Family and Friends
are invited to return to the Church for a Repast.*

Services Entrusted To:

G.G. Woody Funeral Home, LLC
206 East Eighth Avenue • Roselle, NJ 07203
www.ggwoodyfuneralhome.com

“Where Our Sympathy Expresses Itself Through Sincere Service”

Pallbearers

Family and Friends of **Mary Louise Gambrell**

If You Could See Me Now

*If you could see me now you wouldn't shed a tear.
Though you may not understand why I'm not there.
Remember my spirit that is the real me because I'm still very much
Alive. I've been set free. Oh, if you could only see!
I have beheld our Father's face and I touched my Savior's hand.
All of heaven's angels rejoiced as I entered the promise land.
Beyond the gates of pearl I've walked on the golden streets.
I've touched the walls of jasper and dipped my foot in the crystal sea.
The beauty is beyond words and nothing could compare.
I've even seen my mansion and someday I'll meet you there.
Let Jesus be your guide because his word will show you the way!
So please don't cry because we will meet again someday!*

Acknowledgement

The Gambrell family wishes to sincerely thank you for joining us today as we bid farewell to our precious gift. Your care, concern and love extended during this have brought much comfort. The family also gratefully acknowledges each of you who have expressed love and concern through your prayers, visits, floral tributes and all other expressions of sympathy.



*For
Father & Son*

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