



*Celebrating the Life of*  
*Lucille Edna Black*

**December 16, 1942 - December 3, 2021**



**Friday, March 11, 2022 - 11:00 a.m.**

**COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE**  
130 Main Street • Orange, New Jersey

# *Life Reflections*

Lucille Edna Black, lovingly known as “Gi-Gi” to her grandchildren, was born on December 16, 1942 in Monroe, NC to Leroy and Fannie Jackson and was one of 12 siblings. She went home to be with the Lord on Friday, December 3, 2021 after being ill for a brief time. She received her education in the Elizabeth, NJ school system. At 18 years old, Lucille married her first husband Joseph Grier, Sr. From this union, there were four children: Joseph Jr., Rowland (predeceased), Troy and Tracie. Lucille loved to dance and sing. She worked as professional dancer in a dance troupe in a Supper Club. Here, she met Jimmy Hendrix who was part of the band during that time. Lucille entered a contest at the Apollo where she came in second place to a now famous R&B band. She and Joseph were divorced in 1974.

Lucille received Jesus as her Lord and Savior in 1976 at Glad Tidings Pentecostal Tabernacle Church where she was baptized. Jesus had completely transformed her life. Lucille married her second husband Willam Bernard Black in 1977. From this union, Andrea Olivette was born. Lucille was a long time resident of Newark, NJ where she lovingly raised her family. She was a sweet, loving and caring person. Lucille completed the Oral Roberts at home Bible Study program. She loved to read about the Lord Jesus and share about His goodness with family, friends, neighbors, and strangers. Lucille did not simply talk about the love of Jesus Christ. She demonstrated it by her decades of giving to many Christian charitable organizations. In addition, Lucille adopted a family in Africa and in the Appalachian Mountains. Moreover, Lucille would clothe, feed and minister to the homeless. She would minister to drug addicted prostitutes and allow them to shower, receive a change of clothing and a meal in her home. Her desire was to see all her children and grandchildren saved and serving the Lord Jesus Christ.

While as a stay at home mom, Lucille’s children loved coming home to the smells of a clean house and dinner cooking on the stove. Lucille was known for her cooking, her warm crocheted hats, scarves, gloves, blankets, and handmade outfits that looked as if she stepped out of a fashion magazine. Lucille’s love of music was passed to her children. Anyone coming to her home was subject to hear classical, jazz, gospel, and music from around the world.

During her work life, Lucille had several occupations. Lucille’s love of shopping and eye for quality antiques allowed her to have her own boutique at Muir’s in East Orange, NJ. She worked at Technar Labs, Revlon, Toys R Us, Mayfair/Foodtown, Arco Steele Company and she worked as a security officer for 15 years. Prior to

retiring, Lucille worked at Augustus Street School in Irvington, NJ as a teacher’s aide.

Lucille’s gift for gab, story telling, brutal honesty and pearls of wisdom will be missed.

“Lou”, “Lucy,” “Mommy,” “Gi-Gi,” and “Grand mommy” leaves to cherish her memory, husband William Black: children: Joseph Grier Jr. (Evelyn), Troy Grier (Shawna), Tracie Chapman (Pastor Gregory), and Andrea Olivette Grier-Black; brothers Robert and Dennis Jackson; seven grandchildren: Joe Grier (Taneskia), Brandon Grier (Sonya Gadsden), Faelynn Black (Rhamad Rawls), Osheed Cherry, Rebecca Griffin, Andrea Grier, Sallie Campbell (Patrick); fourteen great-grand: Shaynah Burns, Shayne Burns, Justice Long, Deshawn Scovil, Carmello Long, Angel Grier, Andre Scovil, Leah Grier, Cherish Rawls, Julian Scovil, Destiny Scovil, Gerald (Tre) Griffin, Patrick Campbell Jr., Zoe Campbell; and one great-great grand: Orion Williams and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

## Thoughts of Grandmommy

• I met and fell in love with Andrea Grier a long time ago. I have had the pleasure to meet her mother. I have developed a deep bond with her and she was the the closest thing to being a second mother, besides my great grandmother, that I have known in my life. She was very caring, enduring, and a great woman who spoke her mind. She will surely be missed by all who knew her. —Dennis  
Thank you, Gi-Gi! —Carmello

• Thank you for everything! —Justice

• I love you and I will miss you. I will keep you in my memories! —  
Cherish

• Continue in life in grace. We love you always! —Faelynn

• It was an honor knowing and loving you! —Rhamad

## Thoughts of Grandmommy

I love and adore your straight shot along with genetic dominance! You made us what we are. The strength and character we all have is from and through you. You will be missed and forever loved, Grandma! —Brandon

Grandma is strength, and you are always willing to listen to issues and willing to go to battle for us! —Rebecca

Grandma, I will miss you saying, "Hi, Bahe-Beee" when I call you. Our 3 hour phone calls only felt like 20 minutes. Love you forever! —Sallie

Grandma, you are the most fearless women that I ever met! Thank you for loving me like I was your own! —Patrick

I will always remember Gi-Gi stories! I will especially remember the one about you in home personal protection, "the clipper!" —Noah

Gi-Gi you always dressed to impress! I will never forget how you said that I reminded you of your sister, Aunt Bessie! —Codi

I remember the times when we were over Oma's house, I got to go to church with Gi-Gi! —Jennese

I have so many memories that it is hard to put into one sentence. I remember our many conversations, admiring seeing you step in your pumps (yasssssss)! I remember you ministering to me and more than anything feeling loved and accepted by you even when I did not feel like I deserved it. I will never forget and I will forever say your name! You are in our hearts forever, Gi-Gi! --Taneskia

I LOVE AND MISS YOU Gigi - Osheed

Grandma thank you for loving me and doctoring me uo everytime I hurt myself – David

I loved spending the night with you, I had so much fun.I miss you – Andre

I loved spending time with you and your hair was beautiful. – DESTINY

You fought for all of us in one way or another. Forever missed. – Hammy

You were kind and loving, I will never forget you. – Julian

You wer great and the best person, I used to love watching movies and tv with you. DeShawn

You have played an important part of my life. I became one of your daughters andGod blessed me with

another Mother. Your love. Support, guidance and wisdom has made me the person I am today. As my

heart breaks, I will loe and honor you forever. - Shawna



*Celebrating the Life of*  
*Rowland Grier*

**February 25, 1961 - November 5, 2021**



## *Life Reflections*

Rowland Grier was born on February 25, 1961 to Joseph and Lucille Grier in Newark, NJ and was the second eldest child of five siblings. He went home to be with the Lord on Friday, November 5, 2021 due to complications from a car accident. Rowland received his education in the Newark, NJ public schools system. He attended classes at Essex County College. Rowland was an avid reader who enjoyed independent learning. He had a great zest for life. Rowland loved tennis, camping, fishing, archery and sports. However, Rowland's greatest passion was Martial Arts. Rowland was a Black Belt in Karate and he studied other forms of Martial Arts.

Rowland inherited his mothers' love for music. Rowland sang and played in a trio. He was a great percussionist, who played the bongos, conga and drum set. In addition, he also dabbled on the ivories. Rowland's gift's as a percussionist where first showcased in Glad Tidings Pentecostal Tabernacle, where he received Jesus as Lord and Savior. Rowland was also a gifted artist. His imagination allowed him to create cartoons and write stories.

Rowland worked for the Newark Housing Authority for more than 25 years and he was a hard worker.. His last job was "Project Live" where for more than five years he worked for maintenance. He was well like by his colleagues.

Rowland leaves to cherish his memory his first wife Cathy McNeil and son Brandon Grier, (Sonya Gadsden), His second wife Vickie Young and step-daughter Talliah Young; step father, William Black, His siblings Joseph Grier (Evelyn) Troy Grier (Shawna), Tracie Chapman (Pastor Gregory), Andrea Grier-Black, Cynthia Shabazz, Johnathan White, Michelle Grier, and Yolanda Grier; two grand daughters Leah and Angel Grier and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

## Letter to My Dad

Dad, you were always the "man's man." You are the the man that I've always dreamed of being, or at least dreamed of being like. From a Martial Artist and a musician, I have mirrored your image. I will always and forever cherish the gifts, abilities, attitude and "moxy" you've given me. I do regret the time times lost between us and I wish that we could have had more time together. But I am, from One Black Belt to another, looking forward to training with you again in that Dojo in the sky. I LOVE YOU, DAD! —Brandon

## Letter to Mommy

Mommy, I am very grateful to be your daughter. I have been blessed to experience your love, strength, and resourcefulness. I hope that I am demonstrating these same qualities. I will never forget that night when Jesus came into your life, and the impact that this has had on all of us. I had a chance to see Jesus working in you and your love for Him grow. I had a chance to see what "deny yourself, take up your cross and follow Me" looks like. I will miss everything about you! I am so glad that this is not "good bye." I will not let my heart be troubled. I believe in God, and also in Jesus. In His Father's house are many mansions. If it were not so, Jesus would have told us. Jesus went to prepare a place for us. And because He went to prepare a place for us, He will come again and receive me to Himself that where He is, there I may be also. I will see Jesus and you one day. I love you so much, Mommy! —Tracie



## *Acknowledgement*

The family will remember and cherish your many expressions of love, sympathy and prayers so graciously extended. Thank you and may God Bless you.

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### Professional Services Provided By

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