

Celebration
of Life



Mother Mary Jane Best

Sunrise
November 24, 1939



Sunset
May 31, 2023

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Porter Memorial Church of God in Christ

677 Ocean Avenue, Jersey City, New Jersey 07305

Elder Nathaniel Porter, Pastor

Elder Timothy Porter, Eulogist

Obituary

Mary Jane Best was born on November 24, 1939 in Jersey City, New Jersey to the late Clifford Jackson, Sr. and Dorothy Laws Jackson. She was one of ten children blessed to this union.

Mary Jane lovingly called "Janie" by her family and friends. Janie was educated in the Jersey City Public School System. she furthered her education and attended Katherine Gibbs School for secretarial administration. She worked in several jobs using the educational skills she obtained.

Janie obtained employment with the Public Service Electric & Gas Company as a Clerk Specialist for almost 35 years. Janie was a quiet woman but she made her presence known. She was always doing something to further her knowledge and helping others.

Mary Jane met the love of her life, Lorenzo Best. They were indeed a perfect match for one another. On September 8, 1962 she happily said, "I Do". This union was a blissful love for 36 years. This loving union birthed one son Kenneth Best.

Mary Jane loved to laugh and smile and bring happiness to everyone around her. Reared in a religious household, Janie gave her life to the Lord. Janie was a lifetime member of Gospel Temple Church of God in Christ later renamed in honor of the founder and late Pastor, Porter Memorial Church of God in Christ. She served on many auxiliaries in the church including the Mother's Board and the Usher's Board. She was a willing worker for the Lord.

Janie was a member of the Elks she started as Progressive Juvenile class #369. In April 1960 She transferred to the Pride of Jersey Temple #98, Jersey City. As a member she served on various committees and various offices including Daughter ruler, Recording Secretary and Treasurer. She joined the Northern New Jersey Past Daughter Rulers Council #1 and has been involved in fund raising activities, served as Trustee, and Chairperson of the Nominating committee.

Janie was a member of the New Jersey State Association Auxiliary and received her Past State President's Honors. She was appointed to the Induction Committee. She served as the Induction Mistress. She was a member of the Spelling Bee Department, membership drive, and the Esteemed Financial Secretary of the New Jersey Past State President's Club.

Janie is a member of the National Past Grand Daughter Rulers Council of the Grand Temple, and Financial Secretary of New Jersey Past Grand Daughter's Rulers' Circle. In October 1985 Mary Jane was appointed Grand District Deputy, having supervision over Northern New Jersey Council #1, Newark and Majestic Temple #215 in Hackensack, NJ. In November 1986, three additional Temples were added. May Jane Best was the Chaplin for the New Jersey Daughter Deputy's Club. Let say she left her mark in Elkdom for the State of New Jersey.

She was preceded by parents Clifford Jackson, Sr. And Dorothy Laws Jackson and siblings, nieces and nephews.

Mary Jane Best will live the hearts and minds of those she loved, her son Kenneth Best, grandchildren Jamilia, Jelani, and Lorenzo Best "LJ", and a step-granddaughter Jazmeeka Moreland. Her precious great-grands Layla Smith, Jasiah Best and Olivia Best. Goddaughter Lena A. Morris. Loving sisters Ruth Carol Gaines, Ardrena Jenkins, Brother-in-law Joseph McCullough. Sisters-in-law Mary G. Jackson and Ophelia Jackson and a whole host of nieces and nephews, grand nieces and nephews other loving relatives, Porter Memorial Church Family, Elks of New Jersey and special close sisters and brother in love Agnes Jeffries, Linda Davis and Leonard "Lenny" Wright.

Order of Service

Presiding Elder Timothy Porter, Sr.

Processional Clergy

Congregational Song

Prayer of Comfort Elder Moody

Scripture Reading
Old Testament
New Testament

Solo..... Michelle White

Expressions/Reflections..... (2 minutes please)

Acknowledgements and Resolutions
District Missionary Amanda Porter

Obituary Reading..... Rosalona Jackson

Solo Michelle White

Eulogy..... Elder Timothy Porter, Sr.

Solo Josephine Porter

Final Farewell..... The Family Funeral Home

Benediction

Final Repose:
Bayview Cemetery
Jersey City, New Jersey

When Tomorrow Starts Without Me

When tomorrow starts without me, and I'm not there to see if the sun should rise and find your eyes, all filled with tears for me. I wish so much you wouldn't cry, the way you did today, while thinking of the many things, we didn't get to say. I know how much you love me, as much as I love you, and each time that you think of me, I know you'll miss me too. But when tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand that an angel came and called my name, and took me by the hand and said, "my place was ready, in heaven far above and that I'd have to leave behind, all those I dearly love." But when I walked through heaven's gates, I felt so much at home. When God looked down and smiled at me, from His great golden throne. He said "This is eternity, and all I've promised you." Today for life on earth is past, but here it starts anew. I promise no tomorrow, for today will always last. And since each day's the same way, there's no longing for the past. So when tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far apart. For every time you think of me, I'm right here in your heart.
-Author unknown

Acknowledgements

The family wishes to express their sincere thanks and appreciation for the many acts of kindness, comforting words, and prayers shown during our time of bereavement.

Professional Services Provided By:

The Family Funeral Home LLC

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