

A portrait of an elderly Black woman, Evelyn Jeanette Jenkins, smiling and wearing a black bucket hat, glasses, a light-colored sleeveless top, and a chain necklace. She is positioned in the center of the frame against a background of a bright blue sky with white clouds. Three white doves are flying in the sky around her. The text is overlaid on the top and bottom of the image.

Celebrating the Life of Evelyn Jeanette Jenkins

SUNRISE: August 29, 1944 - SUNSET: April 11, 2025

**Saturday, May 3, 2025
Viewing: 9am - 10am
Service: 10am**

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Obituary

Evelyn Jeanette Jenkins was born on August 29, 1944 to the late Mattie Barkdale and Norman Jenkins in Baltimore, Maryland.

Evelyn attended school in Baltimore until moving to New York City, where she continued her education.

Evelyn had her first daughter, Ivy Jenkins; and some time later, Evelyn met, dated and married Edward McBride (deceased). They had three children, Jeanette, Pernell (deceased) and Cerena. Eventually, Evelyn divorced and moved to Brooklyn, NY with her sister Frances Jenkins (deceased) and her two sons, Burton and Jerald. Evelyn worked at Mattel Toy Factory until she retired. After her sister passed, Evelyn adopted her two nephews, Burton and Jerald, and raised them to be good men.

As time went on, Evelyn's health declined and it was suggested that she shouldn't live alone. She moved in with her good friend Deborah Frazier Gibson who was like a sister to her. After a while, Evelyn moved to Harlem. Some time later, her health took a toll on her, causing an amputation and rehabilitation, but Evelyn refused to let her spirits be low. Following rehab, she moved to a new apartment where she lived for years until her demise on April 11, 2025.

Evelyn leaves behind: two sisters, Cherlyn Townsend and Vicky Jenkins; three daughters, Ivy Jenkins, Jeanette McBride and Cerena McBride; two nephews, Burton Jenkins and Jerald Jenkins; seven grandchildren, Lashawnya (LaLa) Jenkins (deceased), Jamel Valentine, Marvin Fleming, Khalil ESS, Acirema Watts Jenkins, Kevin McBride and Shanae McBride; nine great grandchildren, Monajah, Mekhai, McKenzie, Lil Kevin; (2) Madison, Toni, Jayleen and I'anni; three great great grandchildren, Stefan Jr., Harmony and Zori; and a host of nieces, nephews and a great deal of friends.

Evelyn will truly be missed.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Readings

Prayer

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

Interment
Rosehill Cemetery
Linden, New Jersey

I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took his hand when I heard his call,
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work, to play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I've found that peace at the close of the day.
If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My Life's been full, I savoured much,
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch,
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free.

Acknowledgement

***The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour.
May God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.***

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