

Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep
Do not stand at my grave and weep
I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that a blow.
I am the diamond glints on snow.

I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awaken in the morning's hush
I am the swift uplighting rush.

Of quiet birds in circled flight,
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry;
I am not there, I did not die.

By: Mary Frye

Pallbearers
Family and Friends

Flower Bearers
Family and Friends

Acknowledgements

Of great comfort during our sorrow were the expressions of sympathy conveyed to us in many ways. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and thank you most sincerely.

From the family of,
Lola Mae Cannon-Johnson

Arrangements Entrusted To:
R. A. Prince Funeral Services
16222 Broadway Avenue
Maple Heights, OH 44137
Phone: 216-518-1777 Fax: 216-518-1975
raprince.com



*Celebrating the Life
Of
Lola Mae Cannon-Johnson*

Sunrise:
September 15, 1933

Sunset
July 14, 2024

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

Wake: 10:30 AM Funeral: 11:00 AM

Grace Missionary Baptist Church
3742 East 131st Street
Cleveland, OH 44120

Reverend Ivory Jones, III
Pastor

Order of Service

Organ Prelude

Processional

**Scripture
Old/New Testament
Minister**

**Prayer
Minister**

Selection

Acknowledgement/Resolutions

**Special remarks
Limit to two minutes please**

**Obituary
Read silently**

Selection

**Eulogy
Rev. Ivory Jones, III**

Recessional

Obituary

Born a troublemaker on September 15, 1933, in Greenville, Alabama, to Jeff Owens and Mattie Lee Hamilton, Lola Mae Owens began her legacy. She was affectionately (or angrily) nicknamed “That Gal” and “Mama”. Lola accepted Jesus as her Lord and Savior at an early age. The second oldest of 9 siblings, three preceded her in death (Geraldine, Earlie, and Francis), she was a force to be reckoned with. She loved to tell the story of the time she ran up a tab on her grandfather’s store credit and how she would hide out under the trailer and chat over candy while everyone was out working the fields. Lola moved to Cleveland, Ohio, in 1953 to pursue a better life.

Lola Mae worked at the Cleveland Psychiatric Institute as a Cook II for over 40 years before she retired. In 1952, she gave birth to her first child, Willie (also known as Billy) who preceded her in death. Thereafter, having 5 more children. In 1988, mourning the death of her oldest child, she made the decision to open her home to children who needed a soft place to land. She often said that her first foster child, Brian, reminded her so much of Billy. The floodgates were open. Lola was a natural mother and caretaker. For over thirty years she welcomed more than 100 children and became an adopted mother to three of those children. Lola was a member of the Layout Social Club. They would hold Club Meetings on Saturdays and often had Cabarets. Lola was married three times, each husband preceded her in death.

Quick to curse you out, notoriously impatient, never one for showing emotion...and somehow, also, one of the most generous, kind, loving and funny human beings to honor the world with her presence. Her favorite past time was telling stories about cursing people out. She also enjoyed gratuitous gossip and people watching from her perch on the couch. But often, Mama was up and moving and busy taking care of people. In recent years, she took great joy in volunteering at the Food Bank in the Garden Valley Neighborhood House. She called it “going to work” and she took it seriously - both the work and the community aspect. Slow to hug, she was quick to cook for you which she loved passionately. She was known for her holiday dinners, her Pound and German Chocolate Cakes, and her Sweet Potato pies. She also loved Snickers and Clark bars from the freezer, Pepsi, and in recent years, Butterfingers. Additionally, she enjoyed gambling from time to time (that one arm bandit!). Her love language was quite obviously acts of service so if you had your heart set on a hug...sorry for you.

She died as she lived - on her own terms with a surprise exit on July 14, 2024. Today, as we say goodbye to Mama, we do so with gratitude for the time we had with her, for the laughter we shared and for the wisdom she imparted. She was truly a light in this world, and her spirit will continue to shine brightly in the lives of those she has left behind. She leaves to celebrate her life and legacy her children, Patricia, Deborah, Ronald, Beverly, Alesha (Ron), Yvonne (Anthony), Arriel and De’Erik; siblings, Willie Mae, Geraldine, Junior, Lameria, Karen and Sarah; grandchildren, Andre, Monica, Jamall, Erica (Willem), David, Amber, Tierra (Al), Edward, A’ntwone, Kali and Anthony; 13 great grandchildren as well as countless family members and friends who held a special place in her heart.

On your way out please enjoy a Butterfinger on her behalf.