



Louise Graves

August 9, 1920 - April 8, 2019

Louise “Jennie” Graves, affectionately known as Mama, entered this world on August 9, 1920, in Milton, North Carolina. She was called home on April 8, 2019. She impacted this world and anchored the family for 36,037 days. She entered and exited with the warmth, care, understanding and grace that only she could muster.

Jennie was one of twelve children born to the late John Henry Johnson and the late Sarah Jeffries. She was educated in Caswell County Public Schools. It was in Milton that she met her future husband, George Thomas Graves, Sr. whom she married in June of 1940. From this union came eight daughters and two sons.

While her profession may have been simply described as homemaker, her life’s work was far greater. Mama was the bedrock to the progeny here to celebrate her amazing life. While we struggle to live without the foundation of the Graves-Johnson clan, we celebrate a selfless life of giving and compassion. Mama was so many things – a caretaker, a nurse, a firefighter, a poison control specialist, an amateur pharmacist, a baby psychologist – a renaissance woman of the family practice who kept us all safe from harm. She procured her driver’s license at age sixty and a childcare certification in her early seventies, all so that she could help her family. Well into her eighties and nineties she still managed to do laundry for family in need. In addition to caring for those around her, she was a fan of word searches, loved the Baltimore Orioles and always stayed current with the news. She was

the early caregiver for so many of us, shaping so many lives. Mama loved the Lord, and faith sustained her throughout all her roles in the family.

Jennie experienced a world of change; a black woman who was born at the end of the horrors of the disenfranchisement period post Reconstruction, was able to live through the administration of the first black president. She could never listen to him speak without a box of tissues nearby. They say dying in your thirties or forties is tragic. Fifties is such a shame. Sixties is too soon. Seventies is a good run and eighties is a life well lived. But the nineties – a heck of a ride. And my goodness did Jennie have a heck of a ride.

Mama is survived by her children, Sara Van Buren, Mamie Johnson, Helena Smith (James), Marie Bryant (Lewis), Barbara Birt, Stanley Graves (Valerie), Vivian Barnes-Dahn (Ahesahmahk) and Valeria Graves; along with fourteen grandchildren, twenty great-grandchildren and nine great great-grandchildren and a plethora of nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, confidants, acquaintances and all the like. She was preceded in death by her husband, George Thomas Graves, Sr., her son George Thomas Graves, Jr. and daughter Louise (Graves) Alston

Cemetery Details

King Memorial Park Cemetery - Grand Heritage Chapel & Mausoleum

8710 Dogwood Rd.
Baltimore, MD 21244
(410) 944-8300
info@kingmemorialpark.com
<https://www.KingMemorialPark.com>

Previous Events

viewing

APR 15. 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

March Life Tribute Center, P.A. - Randallstown
5616 Old Court Road
Windsor Mill, MD 21244
(410) 655-0110
<https://www.marchlifetributecenter.com>

Wake

APR 16. 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

March Life Tribute Center, P.A. - Randallstown
5616 Old Court Road
Windsor Mill, MD 21244
(410) 655-0110
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Service

APR 16. 11:30 AM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

March Funeral Homes - July 28, 2022 at 10:34 AM



“ *Louise Graves*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *Angela Watson-Savage lit a candle in memory of Louise Graves*



Angela Watson-Savage - April 16, 2019 at 02:19 PM



What a beautiful "Tribute Of Life", for a Beautiful Woman of God. As a customer of Pat's from when she started at Copeland's, up until her retirement from the shop on Reisterstown Rd., I have such fond memories of Ms. Jennie, who I called Aunt Jennie at times when speaking to my BFF Beverly and her Mom Martha (who I call Momma P.). Ms. Jennie was such a sweetheart with a beautiful and loving spirit. One of my fondest memory is when Pat, Mamie, Beverly, Momma P., and I met for brunch at Bob Evans, we had such a marvelous time, laughing, telling tales, and just showing love. Thank you "family" for sharing your precious Mama, not only with me, but with so many more. Rest Peacefully in your Father's arms Ms. Jennie. Sending love and prayers to the family and friends!!!!

Angela Watson-Savage - April 16, 2019 at 02:36 PM



“ I am sending love and light to the entire family. I wish I could be there with as you walk the last mile with your beloved mother. Please know I’m with you in spirit. Mama Graves had such a sweet and warm way about her. I loved seeing her whenever I did and she always remembered me even well into her ninetieth decade. I loved your mom, and what a blessing to consider the longevity of her life and her love for you all. May God continue to bless you all as you face the reality of life without the constant of your mother’s love here on earth. But know that she is in heaven with Our Heavenly Father and rejoice in her triumph! Thanking God for her life and her example of a life well lived. Praying your peace and comfort.

Linda James - April 16, 2019 at 11:32 AM



“ We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

March Funeral Homes - April 15, 2019 at 09:15 AM