



## Mary Virginia James-Bailey

July 24, 1959 - January 12, 2025

Mary Virginia James-Bailey was born July 24, 1959 to the late Archer Henry Sr. and Virginia Lee (Mayo) James at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center in Paterson, New Jersey. She was unexpectedly called to her heavenly home on January 12, 2025.

Mary began her academic journey at Paterson Public School #12 and John F. Kennedy High School in Paterson, NJ. Following her high school graduation, Mary pursued higher education at William Paterson University in Wayne, NJ. In May 1981, she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting with a minor in Computer Science, laying the foundation for a successful career in finance and business management. Several years later, she sought to deepen her knowledge and skills, enrolling at the University of Phoenix's online program. In December 2010, she proudly graduated with a Master of Business Administration (MBA), a testament to her perseverance, ambition, and commitment to lifelong learning. Mary was currently employed by La Tienda Inc, Toano, VA as an Accounting Manager. Her academic and professional achievements not only enriched her own life, but also inspired those around her to pursue their dreams with determination and purpose.

In the fall of 1980, Mary pledged Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated - Gamma Zeta Chapter and was initiated into the sorority on December 12, 1980. She was a proud and devoted member, actively participating in the

sorority's initiatives that supported education, community service, and mentorship. Her commitment to the values of sisterhood and service left a lasting impact on those she served alongside.

In 1983, Mary accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior and was baptized at Christ Temple Baptist Church in Paterson, NJ, by the late Reverend Freddie Roberson. Her faith became the cornerstone of her life, guiding her through every chapter with grace and resilience. Over the years, Mary served diligently in various ministries, including the Youth Ministry, Usher Board, and the Trustee Board, where she utilized her financial expertise as the Financial Secretary. Mary began her search for a new church home in the summer of 2018 and joined St. James Baptist Church in 2019. She became a trustee in November of 2022. Her unwavering dedication to her church and faith community was a testament to her deep spiritual convictions and love for serving others. Her unwavering dedication to her church and faith community was a testament to her deep spiritual convictions and love for serving others.

On August 13, 1989 Mary married John Wesely Bailey. From this union came two children, Janae Marie Bailey of Paterson, NJ, and Aleah Monae Bailey of Chapel Hill, NC.

Mary found immense joy in spending quality time with her beloved daughters and cherished the moments she spent with them. She had a passion for reading, arts and crafts, attending plays, and traveling, which involved many cruises with her daughters and sisters. Cooking and baking were among her favorite pastimes, and her family fondly remembers her delightful creations, especially during her favorite holiday, Christmas. Mary began celebrating the holiday season promptly the day after Thanksgiving, filling her home with festive cheer and warmth.

Mary was affectionately known as “Gin” to those who were dear to her. She will be fondly remembered and cherished with love by: one sister: Eleanor (Joe) Lowery-Johnson of Henrico, VA; three brothers: Archer H. James Jr. of Paterson, NJ, Carl V. (Tabitha) James of Powhatan, VA, and Curtis L. (Shirlene) James of Jackson, NJ; her godson, Andrew Ricks of Hackensack, NJ; and two aunts: Victoria Jones of Burlington, NC and Barbara Mayo of Powhatan, VA. Mary is predeceased by her sister Annie (Lois) Ricks and sister-in-law, Sheila James.

Mary left a lasting legacy of love that touched the hearts of everyone she met. Her warmth and kindness shone brightly in the special bonds she shared with her nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends, offering unwavering support, guidance, and affection. Mary was known for her genuine compassion and generosity, always making time to listen, lend a helping hand, or share a heartfelt laugh. Mary’s ability to nurture meaningful relationships created a circle of love that will continue to grow and thrive in her absence. Her memory will live on through the countless lives she enriched with her love, wisdom, and grace.

# Cemetery Details

## Washington Memorial Park

6217 Memorial Dr.  
Sandston, VA 23150

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN **24.** 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home -Laburnum Chapel  
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.  
Richmond, VA 23222

## Family Hour

JAN **25.** 8:00 AM (ET)

St. James Baptist Church  
2169 New Market Road  
Richmond, VA 23231

# Tribute Wall

SB

“ Our condolences and prayers to the family. Mary, my dear friend, you will truly be missed. We have been friends 40 plus years. When we talked on Friday for 3 hours and said goodbye, I didn't think it would be our last goodbye. I truly thank God for the conversation we had. We laughed and shared so much.  
Rest in Paradise my beautiful friend. ❤️❤️❤️

Shirley Curry Best - January 25, 2025 at 07:17 AM

RA

“ My friend and Dance World Academy moms with our girls. Gone but never forgotten. Sleep in Peace my friend. My deepest condolences to the family and the girls.  
Rose Anthony Glover

Rose Anthony-Glover - January 24, 2025 at 11:11 PM

LC

“ So saddened for the loss of a great friend and classmate of Class "77". We have been friends since High School. Condolences and prayers to the family, Mary will truly be missed. ❤️🙏

Lawanda Campbell - January 24, 2025 at 10:52 PM

TF

“ The Baugh and Lipscomb Families purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mary Virginia James-Bailey.



The Baugh and Lipscomb Families - January 24, 2025 at 08:28 AM

BM

“ Bryan & Malik purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mary Virginia James-Bailey.



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**Bryan & Malik** - January 24, 2025 at 07:54 AM

LG

“ Love, Liv, BK & Gillian purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Mary Virginia James-Bailey.



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**Love, Liv, BK & Gillian** - January 23, 2025 at 04:18 PM

SF

“ Sandra Edwards-Reed and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mary Virginia James-Bailey.



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**Sandra Edwards-Reed and Family** - January 23, 2025 at 11:47 AM

SF

“ Sandra Edwards-Reed and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Virginia James-Bailey.

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**Sandra Edwards-Reed and Family** - January 23, 2025 at 11:47 AM

FF

“ From Michael Jones and Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Mary Virginia James-Bailey.



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**From Michael Jones and Family** - January 22, 2025 at 09:53 PM

FF

“ From Michael Jones and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Virginia James-Bailey.

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**From Michael Jones and Family** - January 22, 2025 at 09:53 PM

LJ

“ Love, Deborah, Lisa & Joanne purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mary Virginia James-Bailey.



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**Love, Deborah, Lisa & Joanne** - January 22, 2025 at 01:24 PM

BC

“ My condolences and prayers to the James and Bailey family. May God comfort you in this time of bereavement. Beverly Clark and Family.



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**Beverly Clark** - January 22, 2025 at 11:32 AM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Mary Virginia James-Bailey.*



January 22, 2025 at 11:02 AM



“ *From Martin Concepcion and Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mary Virginia James-Bailey.*



**From Martin Concepcion and Family** - January 21, 2025 at 06:48 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Virginia James-Bailey.*



January 21, 2025 at 03:34 PM



“ *To my first college friend and sorority sister. You will be missed! My condolences to the family, with love and peace, during this time. Sandra Edwards-Reed*



**Sandra Edwards-Reed** - January 21, 2025 at 10:46 AM

CF

“ Sending sincere sympathy 🌸 prayers and love



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**Claudia Parr, friend** - January 21, 2025 at 09:01 AM

RJ

“ Deepest prayers and condolences to Janay and Aaliyah mom , that's how I remembered Mary a loving mom to her daughters. Rest my sister , ( from CTBC). Keeping the family in my prayers and sending my love !

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**Ronessa Johnson** - January 18, 2025 at 07:24 AM

DP

“ To The Family and Friends of Mary Virginia James-Bailey,  
Words cannot express the shock and sadness I feel for you. Please accept my heartfelt condolences, and know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.



“Lord, we know that You are the God who comforts. I pray that You provide a time of comfort, peace, and rest for those whose hearts are hurting right now. Hold them in Your embrace, Father. Wrap them in Your love and remind them that though they may have lost someone dear, they are not alone, for You are with them. Bring to them the hope of Your unfailing love. I offer this prayer for healing their hearts as they learn to navigate life without their loved one. As they lift their worries and cares to You, I humbly ask that You lift up their hearts from this grief that overwhelms them. May Your presence bring them joy and comfort as they embark on this journey of healing with You. In Your Most Holy Name, I Pray. Thank You Jesus. Amen”. ❤️🙏

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Debbie E Peppers - January 17, 2025 at 06:08 PM

SP

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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Sheila Pugh - January 17, 2025 at 09:18 AM

SP

“ My deepest & sincere condolences to Mary's family. She was my CTBC friend. We ushered together, worked with the youth together & did some traveling together. She was kind & a selfless person. Just a beautiful person. 🙏🙏🙏

Sheila Pugh - January 17, 2025 at 09:13 AM

SP

“ How do you put into words the impact that Mary had on my life. I worked under Mary for almost 7 years now. She was my mentor and my friend. Mary was such an inspiration to women. She was smart, strong, independent, and caring when it came to family. She shared with me over the years how much her family meant to her especially her two daughters. Who I got to see grow in their education and lives from what Mary shared with me. She boasted so much about them both she was so proud of them. She shared a lot of highlights of my life with my children and now grandchildren. Mary made a huge impact on my life and I will be forever grateful to have had her in my life. Prayers and condolences to the family during these unbearable times. Mary will be missed by me and so many others.

Sonja Park



Sonja Park - January 15, 2025 at 12:20 PM

DJ

*Sending my deepest condolences to the family. Mary your sweet spirit and warm smile will surely be missed by everyone who loved you. Diane Johnson-Alexander*

Diane Johnson-Alexander - January 20, 2025 at 02:44 PM



“ 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.

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**March Funeral Homes** - January 14, 2025 at 09:51 AM