



Odessa Johnson

September 5, 1928 - January 19, 2019

ODESSA YOLANDA MYERS Odessa Yolanda Myers was born on September 5, 1928 to the late Arthur and Matilda Myers. Dessie (Tess) as she was affectionately called, was named after her Aunt Odessa. Surrounded by her children, she was called to heaven on January 19, 2019.

Dessie (Tess) was educated in the Baltimore City Public School System at Booker T. Washington Junior High School and Frederick Douglass High School. Growing up with her brothers Arthur and John and her sisters Viola, Ruth, Bernadine, Margaret and Gladys, she was always a part of a loving family. Her sisters and brothers were always her best friends.

She went to work at Lutheran Hospital which later became Liberty Medical Center. She worked there for over 35 years, retiring in 1995. Dessie (Tess) met the late Willie Johnson in 1947 and they were married on December 24th, (Christmas Eve) 1948. To their union was born seven children: Sharon, Sandra, Rodney, Robin, Kim, Keith and Jill Johnson. After almost 26 years of marriage, Willie (Sonny) passed away on December 9, 1974.

“Dessie” was the nickname given to her by her family. “Tess” was given to her by her sister Deanie and later her great grand-daughter, Maria gave her the nickname “Pumpkin.” She always enjoyed when Maria called her “Pumpkin.”

Dessie (Tess) always loved spending time with her family. She taught her seven children about the importance of Faith, Family and Friends in their lives. It was a lesson that will always be with them.

Dessie enjoyed reading the newspaper every day and listening to the Larry Young Morning Radio Show. She would then talk to her children about current events and the topic of the Larry Young Show. She also enjoyed reading mystery books, doing crossword puzzles. And watching old movies and westerns daily.

She always enjoyed visits from all of her relatives and friends.

Even though she and her husband Willie were not Catholic at the time, they sent their children to Catholic schools. When her children were going to St. Ann's School, she converted to Catholicism and was baptized by Fr. Paul Hettle. She was first a member of St. Ann's Church and later became a member of St. Pius V for many years.

Alternately, along with her children, she returned to St. Ann's Church.

Dessie was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Willie, her beloved son Rodney, Sr., her grandson Rodney, Jr., her brothers Arthur and John, her sisters Viola, Ruth, Bernadine, Margaret and Gladys as well as her loving aunts, her nephew Charles, her son-in-law James, her two Sisters-in-laws Edna and Marion, her mother-in-law, father-in-law and her very special cousins Julius Simms and Delores Simms Lane, with whom she shared a life-long bond.

She leaves to mourn and cherish her memory: her loving children, Sharon Stewart (Andre), Sandra Canty, Robin, Kim (Kim), Keith and Jill Johnson; step-son, James Sr., four grandchildren, Hope, James, Keisha and Jamar; two great-grandchildren, Maria and Amaria; brother-in-law, Norman; her cousins, Jamie and Jackie; and many other nieces and nephews and a host of friends. She also enjoyed a unique relationship with life-long friends of her children, especially the Butler Family and the Marks Family.

She had a special relationship with her caretaker Wanda Watkins and

her beautician Audrey Himple.

Cemetery Details

Private

Baltimore, MD

Previous Events

viewing

JAN 25. 8:30 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - East Baltimore
1101 East North Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21202
(410) 727-3300
info@marchfh.com

Family Hour

JAN 25. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - East Baltimore
1101 East North Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21202
(410) 727-3300
info@marchfh.com

Wake

JAN 26. 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - East Baltimore
1101 East North Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21202
(410) 727-3300
info@marchfh.com

Service

JAN 26. 11:30 AM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Odessa Johnson*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *Dearest friends. I was saddened to hear of your mom's passing. I remember with fondness all of us growing up on 20th street in the 60s & 70s. Your mom, Ms Odessa all the other moms - Ms Dorothy, Ms Bertha, Ms Phyllis, Ms Trailer, Ms Jackson, Ms Bea, and my own mom, Ms Polly- they loved and helped to raise us all. those were the days.*

Sincere love and prayers to you all. Love Millie

Millicent Hoover - January 26, 2019 at 09:50 PM



I'm so heartbroken to hear of Mrs Johnson passing. You were like family to me and brothers and sisters since 20th Street. May You Rest In Heaven with my Mom Too

Sheila Dorsey - February 18, 2019 at 01:25 PM



“ *Jeanette Short lit a candle in memory of Odessa Johnson*



Jeanette Short - January 26, 2019 at 12:18 PM



Please know that I am praying for the Johnson family. Always remember the good times

Jeanette Short - January 26, 2019 at 12:20 PM

AM

“ *Ann Myers Mcfadden lit a candle in memory of Odessa Johnson*



ann myers mcfadden - January 26, 2019 at 11:58 AM

JT

“ *John, Jeanette, Rob, Shirl, Shante, Tony, Tammy purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Odessa Johnson.*



John, Jeanette, Rob, Shirl, Shante, Tony, Tammy - January 22, 2019 at 03:28 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.*

March Funeral Homes - January 22, 2019 at 09:57 AM