



Barbara Johnson

November 24, 1950 - June 27, 2024

Mother Barbara J. Johnson was one of those gifts given to the body of Christ, her family, and friends. She was born on November 24, 1950, the third child of three, to Elder John W. McCann and Sis. Velma McCann in Talladega, AL.

It was evident to Mother Johnson's parents and to others early on that she was indeed a gifted and chosen vessel. Mother Johnson was baptized in Jesus' Name and filled with the Holy Ghost at the age of 13 in the year of 1963. That presence of God in her life enabled her too almost "do it all." As one of the founding members at the Refuge Church, she was a faithful, true daughter of the house and a willing worker who committed herself to fulfilling any acts of service that would promote the Kingdom of God at Refuge. During her nearly 60 years of membership there, she served under Bishop Milton H. Hill and his successor, Elder James Jackson and now Pastor Elder Willie Best, in various capacities as: First Vice President of the Refuge Missionary Department and Soloist/Choir Member of the Refuge Church Choir.

Mother Johnson was educated through Westside School in the 1960-1961 and later matriculated and made history as one the first black students to integrate and graduated from the newly built "Talladega High School" in Talladega, AL in the 1970s and excelling academically.

After completing her education, she was employed by the Alabama Institute

for the Deaf and Blind (Helen Keller) School in 1989 and retired in 2012 as a Dormitory Aide working with special needs students. She loved helping her special students and communication skillfully through American Sign Language.

Her love for people carried over to her family and their well-being. It carried over to her first love, Carl Johnson whom she married on June 19, 1972. That union produced three beautiful children: Dettrick, Barneka, and Barrick (deceased). Into them she poured her love for God; her love for Family; her passion for ministry and her love for music as one of the founding singers in the "Mabelaires" gospel group in 1962. She was a pianist in her own right, which she instilled her musically inclined skills and taught her children how to play the piano. Mother Johnson continued to encourage the gifts and talents of her children, which two of them are (musicians and singers); her spirit of excellence; her mantle of prayer, praise and faith; her work ethic; her humor and so much more. And today, they arise and call her BLESSED AND HIGHLY FAVORED BY GOD.

On June 27, 2024, Mother Barbara Johnson peacefully transitioned into the presence of The Almighty God where she is now resting from all her labor to her reward. The "gift" bestowed upon us in 1950 has now returned to her Lord. She was preceded in death by her parents, Elder John W. McCann and Sis. Velma McCann and her husband, Carl Johnson, and her son Barrick Johnson.

The legacy of Mother Barbara Johnson lives on in the memory of her two loving and devoted children: one son, Mr. Dettrick C. Johnson of Montgomery, Alabama; one daughter, Miss Barneka Johnson of Murfreesboro, Tennessee; one sister, Ms. Marie Adams of Talladega, Alabama; one brother, Mr. John E. McCann of Talladega, Alabama; three sisters-in-law, Ms. Priscilla Ann Johnson-Savary and Mrs. Hazel Johnson of Pensacola, Florida, and Mrs.

Joan Johnson of Birmingham, AL; special friends of the family, Ms. Edith Brown, Mrs. Ruby Wills, Psalmist Denita Gibbs, and Elder Willie (Nadine) Best; the entire Refuge (COOLJC) Church Family; and the Alabama State Diocese Family; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church

1438 Bernie Station Road
Talladega, AL 35160

Previous Events

Public Viewing

JUL 5. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

S.M. Goodson Funeral Home Chapel
217 Coosa St. East
Talladega, AL 35160

Celebration of Life

JUL 6. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Refuge Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ
500 McMillian St.
Talladega, AL 35160

Tribute Wall

GM

“ Please accept my heartfelt condolences to Mother Johnson's Family. Mother Johnson and go back many years Friends from many years ago. Geraldine Benson Morgan. Anderson, Indiana

Geraldine Benson Morgan - July 10, 2024 at 12:29 PM

VD

“ So sorry condolences to you Marie n the family. Praying

Von Dickerson - July 06, 2024 at 11:06 AM



“ Dearest Barneka,

It saddened me to hear of the passing of your mother, for I can only imagine how it must have saddened you. It is my prayer that you celebrate her life and the memories you have gained down through the years even if in the midst of sorrow, for The Lord will help you and carry you through. Moreover, may God's love, peace, and comfort overwhelm you and your family now and in all days to come.

Much love,

John Morris

John Morris - July 06, 2024 at 10:45 AM

BS

“ I am so sorry to hear this! For we have known each other for what seems like forever along with her brother John who is affectionately known as 'Fifty'. Sincerest Condolences to her children and All the family. ❤️ Barbara Scott/Family

Barbara Scott - July 01, 2024 at 08:13 PM

GM

My deepest sympathy to Mother Johnson and her family. Childhood friends and neighbor years ago. Geraldine (Gerri) Benson-Morgan. Anderson, Indiana

Geraldine Benson Morgan - July 10, 2024 at 11:16 AM

GM

My deepest sympathy to Mother Johnson and her family. We were childhood friends And neighbors years ago. Geraldine Benson Morgan. Anderson, Indiana

Geraldine Benson Morgan - July 10, 2024 at 11:30 AM