

Sunrise  
March 24, 1921

Sunset  
June 14, 2023

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# THE WASHINGTON POST

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Maym Margarett Jenkins Chaffin, beloved daughter of the late William H. Jenkins and Mary E. Coleman Jenkins was born on March 24, 1921, in Chestertown, Maryland. During the early afternoon of June 14, 2023, the Lord quietly called Maym home to live in eternity. She was surrounded by her loving family. She received her education in Chestertown, Maryland, and the Baltimore City Public School system, graduating from Frederick Douglass High School. She graduated from Cortez Peters Business School and also completed two semesters at Prince George's Community College. She entered the workforce and was employed as a domestic worker. She was a cafeteria worker at Carter G. Woodson Elementary School, a secretary at The Epilepsy Foundation, and employed at The Bureau of Census in Suitland, Maryland holding many job titles before being promoted to a Computer Data Analyst, where she retired in 1989.

Maym married the late Daniel L. Chaffin, and together they were blessed with four children, Thomas, Patricia, Karolyn, and Elayne. Mama and Granny, as her family affectionately knew her, read the Bible cover to cover numerous times in her early life as a source of comfort from childhood challenges. Maym enjoyed reading *The Washington Post* and *People Magazine*, working on the daily crossword puzzles, and watching MeTV, *Jeopardy*, and *Wheel of Fortune*. She loved Bingo, playing 18 cards while we could barely keep up with 9 cards, and bowling, carrying a "67" Duckpin average and in 1963, winning the MWBPA Duckpin Handicap Tournament with the Ladies' top prize of \$100 and a well-deserved trophy. She only began bowling that season for the Census League, her first-ever tournament. Her outstanding scores in the finals totaled 89-90-123-302-174-476. She loved going to the casino to play the penny and nickel slot machines then graduated to quarter slots. The lottery was a must, "You going to the store? Buy me some scratch-offs."

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## PASTTIMES & HOBBIES

Maym was an avid traveler with destinations of Jamaica, Bahamas, Haiti, Bali, Grand Canyon, Canada, Niagra Falls, Las Vegas, and many cruises. She was quite athletic, always doing handstands. Maym would play jacks with her children, and showed no mercy, Pinochle, once again no mercy; bat-and-ball (could also sub as a paddle), hopscotch champion, and neighborhood beautician. Maym loved taking her children to Lexington Market every Saturday for hot dogs and peanuts as well as shopping at Braeger Gutman's Department Store to buy shoes from the "shoe tree." She would toss the shoes on the floor for her children to try on, you had to have good balance as the shoes were bound together with a string. Her children would then remove the string and even if they didn't fit they were yours to keep. The family enjoyed Sunday rides to Friendship Airport to watch the airplanes take off and land, and trips to Carrs Beach to see James Brown, Little Anthony and the Imperials, Jackie Wilson, and Isley Brothers, only to have a fence divide the blacks and whites seeing the same show, but we enjoyed the show anyway.



Maym's doors were always open with warmth and hospitality for family and friends that needed a meal or a place to stay. Her favorite color was lavender, she loved old gospel music, especially Mahalia Jackson's works. Maym had a beautiful singing voice often serenading her loved ones with some of her favorites—Sarah Vaughn - "Tenderly", Ella Fitzgerald - "A-Tisket A-Tasket", Paul Robeson-- "Old Man River", as she would still sing her version of "I gets weary, ain't 'fraid of dying." We knew you were ready and grateful that God granted you your wish. We love and miss you Mama, Ma, Mother, Granny, Gran, Miss Maym, Muh-Deer, Maym.

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Her other favorites were Nat King Cole, Billy Eckstine, Sammy Davis, Jr. – everything Leontyne Price, Billie Holiday, Cab Calloway – "Minnie The Moocher", Frank Sinatra – "Fly Me To The Moon", and everything Diana Ross. Her favorite female singer was Gladys Knight and she loved, loved, loved, Harry Belafonte, everything about him, his looks, his style, his cool, his suave, his rendition of "Day-O." She loved to dance (The Black Bottom).

Maym loved to cook delicious fried chicken and fried fish (Porgies to be exact), navy beans and lima beans with a good old ham hock, and liver with onions. She could bake a mean sweet potato pie, half coconut half chocolate cake (the chocolate half was our favorite, all 5 of us; guess who got to eat all the coconut half), lemon meringue pie, and cloverleaf rolls.

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## MAYM'S FAVORITE FOODS AND DRINKS

Bacon, Bacon, and More Bacon  
Fried Chicken Wings  
Honey Bunches of Oats with Almonds  
Lactaid Whole Milk  
Tropicana Grovestand with Lots of Pulp  
Ginger Ale  
Candy  
Potato Salad with Mustard and Onions

Collard Greens and Kale  
Mashed Potatoes with Gravy  
Macaroni & Cheese  
Candied Yams  
Iconic Half-smokes from Ben's Chili Bowl  
Fried Shrimp  
Pork Spareribs  
Pig Feet  
Sauerkraut with Pigtails  
Heineken (nice, cold, refreshing)

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## LEGACY



Maym loved her children and gave them her very best. She was loving and caring, (would give you her last) and resilient. She leaves to cherish her life her loving children Thomas (Joann), Patricia, Karolyn, and Elayne (Ronald); her grandchildren Michael, Brandi (Kenneth), Thomas, Keith, Lawrence (Monet), Lauren, Gayl (Andre); great-grandchildren Kapre' (Levern), Michael, Brandon, Taylor, Peerce, Cierra, DeVonte, Mickell, Leilani and London; and great-great-grandchildren Michael, KaMya, Brandon "Kammal," Khloe, Kareem, Karrie, Giselle, Arielle, and Cartier. She was preceded in death by her brothers William E. Jenkins, Thomas C. Jenkins, Perkins Jenkins, and her sister Elaine C. Jenkins. Her grandson, Kevin C. Chaffin, too was born on her birthday March 24, 1964, and passed away on June 14, 2022. Her memory is treasured by a host of adoring nieces and nephews, in-laws, other relatives, friends, and neighbors.

# **Celebration of a Life Well Lived**

## **Order of Memorial Service**

**Musical Prelude:** "It is Well with My Soul" by Mahalia Jackson

**Welcome and Introduction:**

Gayl M. Brooks, granddaughter

**Scripture Reading:**

Taylor M. Brooks, great granddaughter

**NIV - John 14:1-4**

"<sup>1</sup>Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. <sup>4</sup>You know the way to the place where I am going."

**Reflections from Family and Friends:**

(2-minute limit)

**Musical Selection:** "I Won't Complain" sung by Malik Kelly, great-great nephew

**Obituary:** Brandi Gladden, granddaughter

**Musical Selection:** "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" by Mahalia Jackson

**Cards/Acknowledgements:** Lauren K. Santiago and Gayl M. Brooks, granddaughters

**Final Remarks:** Brandi Gladden and Joseph H. Brown Staff

**Recessional:** "Goin' up Yonder" by Tramaine Hawkins

## **Acknowledgements**

**Bright View Towson** – To the entire 3rd Floor Staff, Dining Staff, Vibrant Team, Sales, and Concierge Team, we appreciate you!

**Gilchrist Hospice** – Thank you for Ma's comforting, gentle care.

**Neighbors** – Those who always kept Ma's best interest, we love you for it— Laura, Michelle, and Bobby

**Carmita** – No matter near or far, she cherished their loving niece/aunt relationship.

**Joseph H. Brown Staff** – Thank you for your kindness, comfort, and care.

**Family and Friends** – Those who traveled near and far to support our family during this time, we thank you.

**In true Momma/Granny fashion, our family will gather at Golden Corral following the service, as Gran loved a good smorgasbord!**

**Golden Corral #856  
7908 Rossville Blvd.  
Baltimore, MD 21236**