



## *Lizzie's Life Journey*

**Elizabeth Ann (nee Hall) Ledford** was born on May 26, 1944, in Newark, NJ. She was the 4th of 6 children born to the late Johnnie M. and Vestella Hall. This family would remain a very close and loving unit throughout their lives.

**Elizabeth**, known by those closest to her as “*Liz*”, “*Lizzie*”, or “*Lizzie Bess*” (as only her parents could say it), was a precocious child, with ambitions and a determination beyond her years. What she set her sights on, she almost always achieved. Lizzie’s faith walk was “different”, and highly personal. Raised in the church and accepting Christ as her Lord and Savior at an early age, she decided that sitting in church every Sunday was not her assignment. Instead, she lived a life of service, mostly outside the walls of the church. Throughout her life, Lizzie was known for singing and dancing to her favorite 50’s and 60’s R&B tunes. But she also relished gospel music and did not hesitate to lift her hands or voice for a praise break, wherever and whenever she was so moved! Lizzie was also an active supporter of the St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital, which was another aspect of her life’s ministry of service.

A product of the Newark Public Schools System, **Lizzie** graduated from Barringer High School in 1962. Determined to prove her theory that “college is not for everyone”, she decided to skip college and get right to work on building the life of her dreams. Soon after graduation, Lizzie landed a job as a “Hall Girl” (Receptionist) at Public Service Electric and Gas Company. This was just the beginning of an illustrious

career spanning almost 35 years. Throughout her tenure with PSE&G, Lizzie received many awards and commendations, as well as several promotions with her final position being “Senior Site Supervisor”, until her retirement in 1997. Following retirement, she maintained her connection to PSE&G as a part time representative at the Public Service Federal Credit Union for approximately 10 years.

It was also in her early days at PSE&G that she met her love and life partner, Calvin Ledford, Sr. Lizzie & Calvin were wed on April 26th, 1964, at Clinton Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church in Newark, by the late Rev. James Canty Nelson. To this union were born 3 devoted children, Calvin, Jr., Kyle, and Kimberly. Her family was complete, and just another check mark in the life that Lizzie designed. Later, she would relocate her family to their “forever home” in Linden, NJ, where each would leave their mark in the community. Yet, because of their diehard love for their nuclear families & homes, they continued to work and spend a great deal of time in their hometown, Newark, NJ.

Next on the list, along with lots of leisure travel to destinations around the world, Lizzie and Calvin purchased a second home in Cape May Courthouse, NJ in 1990 to enjoy their love for sun, sand, and ocean. There, they would enjoy hosting family and friends, and providing an outlet for their children away from “city life”. But they were not done! In 2011 they purchased another “summer home” in Ormond Beach Florida. Anything to be closer to their happy place all year around. This home would also become a destination where family and friends were invited and welcomed.

**Lizzie** loved life and had a great sense of humor. She never took herself too seriously and loved to laugh. She didn’t mind “clowning”, especially if it helped to ease a tense situation or make someone feel comfortable. Needless to say, she was often the life of the party. She was a valued friend and confidante to many. She was quite skilled at listening, keeping confidence, and offering good counsel & advice. It’s hard to believe the number of family and friends she was able to (discreetly) counsel in employment opportunities, personal finances, business, and life. Often, her advice was centered around her life’s mantra.... “Don’t sweat the small stuff”. In her later years, that mantra changed, just slightly to, “Keep Living” and she did just that, despite failing health, until her very last breath!

On Saturday, April 6th, Liz closed her eyes for the last time. Her soul transitioned to join her loved ones who predeceased her: Parents, Rev. Johnnie M. and Deaconess Vestella Hall; Siblings, Roland Cassey Hall, Pearl Haley, Johnnie Hall, Jr. and Beverley Barnett.

Remaining on earth to cherish her memories are: Devoted husband, Calvin R. Ledford, Sr; her precious children, Calvin “Randy” Ledford, Jr. and wife Dionne, Kyle P. Ledford, Sr. and wife, Chandra, and Kimberly M. Collier and husband Oliver; Siblings; Charlie N. Hall, Sr. and wife, Marion, and Debi A Hall-Dean. Lizzie will also be sorely missed by her adoring grandchildren, Jasmyn N. Ledford-Woods Perret and husband Justice, Kyle Ledford, Jr, Jayda N. Ledford, Kaylen Ledford, Oliver Collier, Jr., Kristen Ledford and Alivia Collier; loving Sister & Brother-in-love, Jo Anne, and Richard Ledford. She also leaves a host of dear nephews, nieces, cousins, relatives, and friends.



# Order of Celebration

FAMILY PROCESSIONAL "Trust Me"

OPENING HYMN "It Is Well with My Soul"

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

*Old Testament*

The Book of Proverbs 31:11-24

Mrs. Chandra L. Ledford

*New Testament*

The Gospel According to John: 10:27-29

Mr. Oliver J. Collier, Sr.

PRAYER OF COMFORT

Rev. Terry L. Whigham

SONG OF PRAISE

RESOLUTIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE

Mr. Richard T. Thigpen - *PSEG*

*Senior Vice President, Corporate Citizenship  
State Government Affairs*

Family Response

Mr. Calvin R. Ledford, Jr.

THE READING OF ELIZABETH'S LIFE

Dr. Dionne M. Ledford

SONG OF SOLACE

EULOGY

Rev. Zaniel T Young, Pastor

*First A.M.E. Zion Church*

*San Francisco, California*

RECESSIONAL



INTERMENT  
Forest Lawn Memorial Park  
189 Gill Lane, Iselin, NJ 08830

FLORAL BEARERS  
Friends at PSEG

PALL BEARERS  
Nephews

*We Appreciate You*

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent those beautiful flowers, that we saw sitting there. Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say. Perhaps you were not there at all, but just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts, the family of *Elizabeth Ann Ledford* thanks you so much for whichever part you've played.



Professional Services Entrusted To:  
929 S. Clinton Avenue, Trenton, New Jersey 08611  
(609) 393 - 4567 | [www.ledfordfuneralhomeinc.com](http://www.ledfordfuneralhomeinc.com)  
**KYLE P. LEDFORD, SR., CFSP**  
Owner & Manager NJ LIC NO. 4193

"A great soul serves everyone all the time. A great soul never dies.  
It brings us together again and again." - Maya Angelou



*Elizabeth*  
"Lizzie"  
Ann Ledford

*Sunrise*  
May 26, 1944

*Sunset*  
April 6, 2024

MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2024

Viewing: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM • Funeral Service: 11:00 AM

Clinton Memorial AME Zion Church  
151 Broadway, Newark, NJ 07104

OFFICIANT:

Rev. Ryan M. Buckland, Pastor  
*Tabernacle Baptist Church, New Brunswick, New Jersey*

EULOGIST:

Rev. Zaniel T. Young, Pastor  
*First A.M.E. Zion Church, San Francisco, California*