



HOMEGOING

Celebration

Marilyn Joyce Thompson

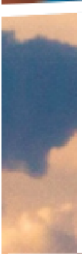
NOVEMBER 13, 1937 - JUNE 2, 2024

Saturday June 8th, 2024 | 12pm - 2pm

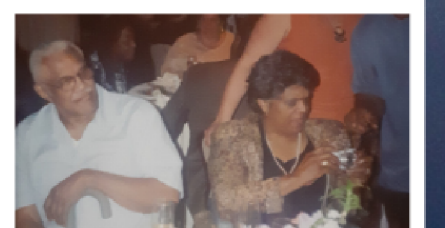
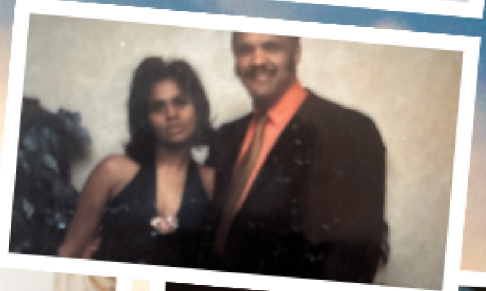
Greater Love Tabernacle Church

101 Nightingale St., Dorchester, MA 02124

Life



Love



THE OBITUARY

Marilyn Joyce Thompson, lovingly known to all as Joyce, passed away peacefully transitioning onto GOD on June 2, 2024, after a brief struggle with several co-morbidities.

Born on November 13, 1937, in Newburyport, MA, to Woodrow and Alice Arthur, Joyce was one of six children and one of the few Black families in her community. Her humble beginnings and exceptional beauty — both inside and out — shaped her into a remarkable woman who touched many lives.

As a young woman, Joyce had dreams of becoming a model. Though she was shy, she loved to venture into Boston with her sisters for fun. It was during one of these outings, at the age of 15, that she met Rick Thompson, a tall handsome man with a satin voice who would become the love of her life. They married on February 12, 1955, beginning a beautiful 60-year love story.

Together, Joyce and Rick built a family that included their children Preston Richard, Steven Michael, Harry Glenn, and Linda Joyce. Despite the challenges of their early years, including times when they couldn't afford electricity, they relied on their deep love and strong bond to raise their children successfully. Rick joined the Boston Police Department, starting a legacy of law enforcement in the family, while Joyce began her career with the Boston Public School System. Joyce's knack for saving money complemented Rick's talent for earning it, and together they bought a massive home in Dorchester, MA. This home, complete with an indoor swimming pool, became a symbol of Black excellence in their community.

Recognizing the importance of the role she played not just in her family, but in her community, Joyce loved, accepted, and adopted pretty much anyone. She and Rick treated everyone as family, often investing their time, money, and talents in young people lacking familial stability. No one was ever turned away from the Thompson home, largely because of Joyce's generosity and compassion. When her oldest sister, Vivian, passed away, Joyce and Rick raised her son, Vincent Charles, as their own. Similarly, when their only daughter, Linda Joyce, had a baby at 17 years old, Joyce and Rick raised their granddaughter, Marilyn Joyce, with the same love and care they gave their own children.

Family was everything to Joyce. She adored her children, was enamored by her grandchildren, and cherished each and every one of her great-grandchildren, whom lovingly referred to her as Amma. Her kind, compassionate, and gentle spirit complemented Rick's (Papa's) sometimes brash political militance and innate social charm, making them a beloved and inseparable couple throughout their 60-year marriage.

Joyce leaves to mourn: Sisters - Vivian Guild [deceased], Jean William-Clements, and Evelyn Pollins (husband Levy); Brothers - Woodie Arthur [deceased], Richard Arthur [deceased], and Daniel Patterson [deceased]; the love of her life, Prescott Richard Thompson [deceased]; sons - Preston Richard Thompson (wife Robin); step-son, Richard Paul Miller [deceased] (wife Verna); Steven Michael Thompson [deceased] (wife Lisa); Harry Glenn Thompson; nephew, Vincent Charles Strother Jr. [deceased]; daughter, Linda Joyce Thompson; granddaughter, Marilyn Joyce Mosby; 30 grandchildren; 42 great-grandchildren; and 3 great-great-grandchildren; along with a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Joyce's legacy of love, acceptance, and community will live on in the hearts of all who knew her. She will be deeply missed and forever remembered.

ORDER OF SERVICE



PROCESSIONAL

INVOCATION

Bishop William E. Dickerson

MUSICAL SELECTION

Songstress

SCRIPTURE READING- PSALM 4:8

"In peace I will both lie down and sleep, for You, Lord, alone make me dwell in the safety and confident trust."

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

*Preston Thompson Harry Thompson
Lisa Thompson Linda Thompson
Marilyn J. Mosby*

SCRIPTURE READING- LAMENTATIONS 3:22

"In peace I will both lie down and sleep, for You, Lord, alone make me dwell in the safety and confident trust."

OBITUARY READING

Marilyn J. Mosby

MUSICAL SELECTION

Yma Arrington

FINAL REFLECTIONS

Friends & Family

EULOGY

Bishop William E. Dickerson

BENEDICTION

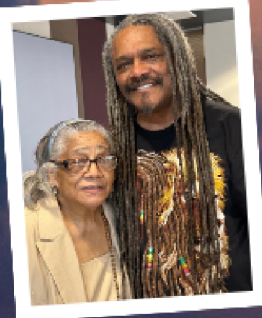
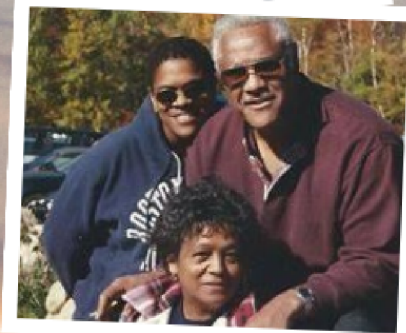
MUSICAL SELECTION

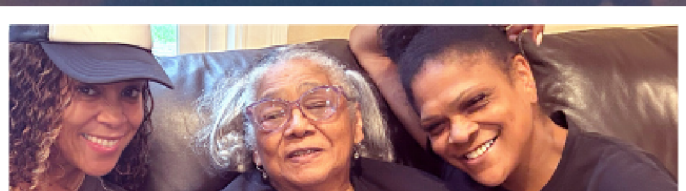
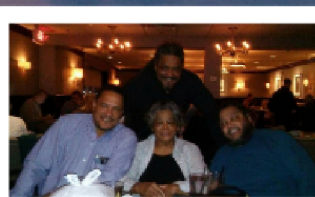
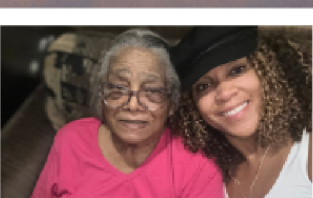
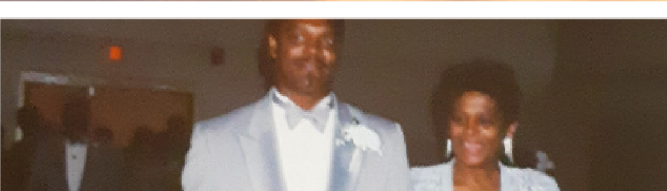
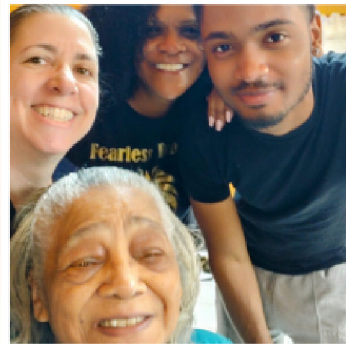
Songstress

RECESSIONAL



Family





ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Family deeply appreciates your sympathy and kindness in our time of need. We invite you to join us immediately following the service at:

Biff's Lounge
24 Washinton St. Dorchester, MA 02121

