

*23rd Psalm*

The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures,  
He leadeth me beside the still waters.  
He restoreth my soul.  
He leadeth me in the paths of  
righteousness for His name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the  
valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil; for thou art with me;  
Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.  
Thou preparest a table before me  
in the presence of mine enemies;  
Thou anointest my head with oil;  
my cup runneth over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall  
follow me all the days of my life;  
And I will dwell in the house  
of the LORD forever.



*"After years apart, they have found each other again beyond this world, where time will no longer keep them apart. The moment they reunited was replaced by an eternal embrace, knowing they will never have to say goodbye again."*

*Pallbearers*

Jamaal Ali  
Robert Neal  
Jafari Farmer  
David Bright, III

Jennifer Lacy  
Terry Jones  
Michael Bright  
Jason Lacy

*Honorary Pallbearers*

Rashad Shelton  
John Watts  
Casey Pate  
Ray Neal

Damon Watts  
David Bright, Jr.  
Alfred Phillips  
Dominic Jones

*Flower Bearers*

Tinikia Jones  
Monique Jones  
Achala Pearson  
Schjuana Watts

Aqualyn Jones  
Chrystal Bright  
Tisa Jones  
Grace Broughton

*Acknowledgements*

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern, prayers, and kindness shown to them during this hour of bereavement.  
May God Bless and Keep You!  
- The family of Mary Lee Epps



*Known for Excellence. Trusted for Value.*

*In Loving*  
**MEMORY**



*Mary Lee Epps*

Sunrise: October 28, 1933 - Sunset: February 27, 2025

*March 8, 2025*

Visitation: 10:00am - Funeral Service: 11:00am

*Ebenezer Second Baptist Church*  
10054 Dixie Court | Lincoln Heights, Ohio 45215

Rev. Brandon McIntosh, Officiating

# Obituary

Mary was born on October 28, 1933, in Tennille, Georgia, to Mr. A.B. and Grace Jones. She was the second oldest of 14 children and played a guiding and nurturing role in her large family. From a young age, she embraced the responsibility of supporting her younger siblings, always reaching back to help them succeed and create an easier life for themselves. Her strength, wisdom, and selflessness were a cornerstone for her family.

She was the loving wife of the late James Norman Epps, with whom she shared many cherished years until his passing in April 2018. Together, they built a home filled with love, laughter, and unwavering support.

Mary's life was dedicated to both her family and her community. She retired as a shipping supervisor at Liebel-Flarsheim, where she dedicated many years of service as a machinist before retiring in April 1999. Beyond her professional career, Mary extended her care and leadership to the community, serving on the Lincoln Heights City Council. She was passionate about uplifting others and worked tirelessly to make a difference in the lives of those around her.

Mary was deeply involved in public service and civic engagement. She served as a councilwoman for the City of Lincoln Heights, Ohio, where she was an integral force in shaping the community. Under the leadership of her adopted brother and neighbor, Mayor Herman Dantzler, and alongside other committed Lincoln Heights residents, she played a key role in securing millions of dollars in funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Economic Development Administration (EDA) to modernize the city's sidewalks, curbs, and gutters. Her tenure in office coincided with a period of urban renewal, which transformed the city's landscape in housing and economic development. While in office, she was instrumental in the creation of the city's first industrial park and the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) program, which provided jobs for the youth of the community. As a reward for her diligence and unwavering sacrifice to Lincoln Heights, Mary was awarded the key to the city by Mayor Ruby Kinsey-Mumphrey.

Mary was an active and dependable member of Ebenezer Second Baptist Church for more than half a century. She served on numerous ministries throughout her membership there and was a staple of the church community in Lincoln Heights. She was the mother that everyone turned to whenever they needed a hand, guidance, love, or even a plate.

Mary's life was dedicated to family and service. She was a devoted mother to Jamaal Abdul-Ali (also known as Welton Jones) and Tafi Nicole Epps. She was a proud grandmother to six beautiful grandchildren: Jason Lacy, Jennifer Lacy, Rashad Shelton, Kennedy Anderson, Samayah Abdul-Ali, and Princess Aaliyah Abdul-Ali; and a cherished great-grandmother to Jalen Lacy, CharLeigh Lacy, Messiah Lacy, Halo Anderson, and Rashad Shelton II. She also shared a special bond with her beloved goddaughter, Maranda White, whom she loved as her own. Her family was her heart, and she poured love into every moment spent with them. She also had a kind, loving, and lasting relationship with her late husband's family, including her sister-in-law Lydia and relatives David Jr., Charles, Bobby, Myrtis, and Victoria. Additionally, she took on the role of a second mother to the Watts children and her nephew, Casey Pate. She found joy in cooking for family and friends and cherished the time spent with her loved ones. Her presence brought warmth and comfort, and her home was always a place of love, laughter, and good food. She lived with a big heart.

Mary's life will be honored and celebrated at Ebenezer Second Baptist Church in Lincoln Heights, Ohio, where family and friends will gather to pay tribute to the incredible woman she was. Though she is no longer with us in body, Mary's spirit and legacy of love, resilience, and generosity will live on in all who were blessed to know her. She leaves behind a family and community forever touched by her kindness, wisdom, and unwavering devotion, including her siblings: Kinas Smith, Albert Jones, Henry Jones, Harold Jones, and Larry Jones, all of whom have preceded her in death; and Annie Pearl Jones of Brooklyn, New York; Alice Jones, Ella Jones, Marilyn Jones, and Carol Tillman (Richard) of Atlanta, Georgia; Elizabeth Jones of Macon, Georgia; David Jones (Bernice) of Detroit, Michigan; and Calvin Jones of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Well done Mary. May you rest in peace. You will be deeply missed, never forgotten and forever cherished.



# Order of Service

Musical Prelude .....	
Parting View .....	
Prayer .....	Minister Shonda Jones
Scripture .....	Psalm 23 Sis. Schjuana Watts
Selection .....	When I see Jesus By Joshua Porte
Acknowledgements .....	Sis. Joyce Jordan
Remarks .....	
	Mayor Ruby Mumphrey, Village of Lincoln Heights, Vice Mayor Linda Childs-Jeter, Village of Lincoln Heights Deacon David Jones, (Brother), Jamaal Ali (son)
	(All others, please limit remarks to two minutes)
Obituary .....	Read Sliently <b><i>A time to reflect and thank God for the life of Mary Lee Epps</i></b>
Selection .....	Precious Lord By Joshua Porte
Eulogy .....	Rev. Brandon McIntosh
Benediction .....	Rev. Brandon McIntosh
Recessional .....	



## Final Resting Place

### Rest Haven Memorial Park

10209 Plainfield Road - Cincinnati, Ohio 45241

## Repast

March 8, 2025

Ebenezer Second Baptist Church  
10054 Dixie Court, Lincoln Heights, Ohio 45215