

*Celebrating the Life*  
*of*



*Bertha Elizabeth Chaney*

Sunrise: June 15, 1955 - Sunset: August 8, 2023

TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2023

Family Hour: 12:00 p.m.

Service: 12:30 p.m.

JOSEPH H. BROWN JR. FUNERAL HOME, P.A.  
2140 N. Fulton Avenue | Baltimore, Maryland

# Obituary

**BERTHA ELIZABETH CHANEY**, daughter of the late Elizabeth Marie Chaney and the late Woodrow Wilson Chaney, was born on June 15, 1955 in Baltimore, Maryland. She departed this life on August 8, 2023 after an illness.

Bertha, also known by some as Tiny, Bert, and Bertie Bert, received her education at Booker T. Washington Junior High School and Frederick Douglass Senior High School in Baltimore, Maryland.

Bertha worked at Social Security for more than 40 years. She made many friends there and continued those friendships after she retired.

She attended The Spirit of Truth Church of God in Christ for 30 years and has attended True Fellowship Church of God in Christ for the last 30 years. Bertha was an active member of both churches, singing with the Chaney Sisters trio when she was 9, continuing singing with the Chaney Sisters as the group grew to 7, serving as an usher, and serving as a member of hospitality. She had strong faith and believed that she would be healed from her illnesses. Bertha was a true believer.

Bertha was outspoken and said what she meant. Friends and doctors said that she was feisty. However, her bark was worse than her bite. When you got to know her, you realized that she had a heart of gold.

Bertha enjoyed her family and friends. She loved her son Brian and her grandson Carlos very much. She loved her nieces and nephews, recognizing their special days with money and gifts.

Bertha was a voracious reader, able to use that knowledge to answer difficult questions on the game show Jeopardy. She also enjoyed watching other tv shows like Columbo, Alf, Monk, and westerns. Bertha loved listening to all kinds of music, including songs by Tramaine Hawkins, CeCe Winans, Blue Magic, The Delfonics, Kirk Franklin, The Ojays, and The Winans.

Bertha liked to dance. In addition to regular dancing, she was one of the best chair dancers around.

Bertha was very lucky with games of chance and was always expecting a big windfall.

She was very stylish and enjoyed wearing her red lipstick, eyeliner, jewelry, makeup and nice clothes.

She leaves to cherish fond memories: her son, Brian Harrison; grandson, Carlos Harrison; siblings, Virginia Boone, Eva Chaney-Keyes (James), Barbara Chaney-Leak, Yvonne Chaney, Brenda Chaney Dawkins (Charles), Vernon Chaney, Vernetta Chaney and Valerie Chaney; twelve nieces and nephews, Robert Boone, Patricia Shell, Annette Carey, Pamela Boone, Anthony Keyes, Timothy Keyes, Joseph Leak, Michele Leak-Austin, Danielle Campbell, Michael Chaney, Monte Lewis and Ryan Davis; a host of great-nieces and great-nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends including Debbie, Diane, Ruth, Sherry and Vonnie. Bertha also leaves to mourn her special friend Chris Bradsher. Bertha's mother Elizabeth Chaney and father Woodrow Chaney, son Carlos Harrison, brothers Eugene Chaney and Michael Chaney, niece Barbara Chaney, and nephew Richard Boone preceded her in death.

# Order of Service

## FAMILY HOUR

Music by Family and Friends

## HOMEGOING SERVICE

### OFFICIATING

Dr. Gloria Robertson  
*Christ Way Cathedral*

### SELECTION

Michael Chaney

### PRAYER

Missionary Sheila Scott  
*True Fellowship COGIC*

### SCRIPTURE

Mother Carolette Owens  
*True Fellowship COGIC*  
Old Testament Reading - Psalm 138  
Mrs. Melinda Randolph  
New Testament Reading - Romans 8:35,37-39

### SELECTION

Michele Leak Austin and Danielle Campbell

### FRIEND REMARKS

*(2 Minutes Please)*

### FAMILY REMARKS

*(2 Minutes Please)*

### SELECTION

The Chaney Sisters

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND CARDS

Paula Smith

### OBITUARY

Michele Leak Austin

### SERMONIC SELECTION

The Chaney Sisters

### EULOGY

Pastor Morris Dean Whitfield  
*True Fellowship COGIC*

### BENEDICTION

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## I'm Free

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,  
I'm following the path God laid for me.  
I took his hand when I heard him call,  
I turned my back and left it all.  
I could not stay another day,  
To laugh, to love, to work or play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way,  
I found that place at the close of the day.  
If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.  
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life's been full, I savored much,  
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.  
Perhaps my time seems all too brief,  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your heart and share with me,  
God wanted me now, He set me free.*

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Music by Family and Friends

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Christ Way Cathedral

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(2 Minutes Please)

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### BENEDICTION

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## The Importance of a Sister by Shiva Sharma

A sister is someone who loves you from the heart,  
No matter how much you argue you cannot be drawn apart.  
She is a joy that cannot be taken away,  
Once she enters your life, she is there to stay.  
A friend who helps you through difficult times,  
Her comforting words are worth much more than dimes.  
A partner who fills your life with laughs and smile,  
These memories last for miles and miles.  
When she is by your side, the world is filled with life,  
When she is not around, your days are full of strife.  
A sister is a blessing, who fills your heart with love,  
She flies with you in life with the beauty of a dove.  
A companion to whom you can express your feelings,  
She doesn't let you get bored at family dealings.  
Whether you are having your ups or downs,  
She always helps you with a smile and never frowns.  
With a sister you cannot have a grudge,  
She is as sweet as chocolate and as smooth as fudge.  
Having a sister is not just a trend,  
It is knowing you can always turn to her, your best friend.

\* \* \* \*

## Repast

Gala Center Banquet Hall  
1700 Hill Drive  
Windsor Mill, Maryland

## Acknowledgements

The family gratefully acknowledges the many kind and beautiful expressions of sympathy and love shown during its hour of bereavement.  
Malik Hudson and Ruth Hudson - Slides for Viewing  
Melanin Films with Jock Schofield - Streaming Services  
Time Printers Incorporated - Programs

## Professional Services Entrusted to



JOSEPH H. BROWN, JR.  
Funeral Home, L.A.

2140 N. Fulton Ave. | Baltimore, MD 21217  
(410) 383-2700

[www.josephbrown.com](http://www.josephbrown.com)

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