

(Obituary cont'd)

the world....for a woman that gave love to all that crossed her path all over this world. Her last words were a prayer for her loving family, friends, hospital staff, and especially thanking her forever love, her husband, Gus, for his tremendous, long-standing love and dedication. She was then gifted her heavenly reward by her Lord and Savior as one of his most faithful servants. We are all forever grateful to have had the privilege to have known and loved such a beautiful soul. She was a consummate performer, sister, friend, mother, wife, care giver, grandmother, great grandmother, and fierce prayer warrior.... most of all a blessing to everyone.

Her legacy will forever live on in the following: Augustus Grissett, Sr., Husband; Augustus Grissett Jr, and Tyrone Saunders, sons; Dr. Clifettia Simone Grissett, daughter-in-law; Judith Goard, sister; Justin Grissett, Jahi Grissett, and Jahlil Grissett, grandsons; Melanie, Me'Lonie, Adonis, and Jru'Gianni, great grandchildren; numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, beloved friends, fans and complete strangers will tell stories of this great woman.



IN GRATEFUL APPRECIATION

Our family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to us during our time of bereavement. May God bless and keep you safe in His arms!

*Celebrating the Life & Spirit
of*



*Julianne Beverly White Grissett
"Toeie"*

Sunrise
May 15, 1939

Sunset
February 14, 2026

ORDER OF SERVICE

Saturday, February 28, 2026
Memorial Service: 6:30pm-8:30pm
Repast: 8:30pm-10:30pm
at

MERRICK PARK BAPTIST CHURCH
120-02 Marsden Street
Jamaica, New York 11434
Pastor Vincent Goard, *Officiating Minister*

- Musical Selection
- Prayer of Comfort Pastor Vincent Goard
- Musical Selection "*Blessed Assurance*" Sister Judith Goard
- Remarks..... Augustus Grissett, Sr.
- Scripture Reading..... Lona White
Old Testament (*Isaiah 40:29-31*)
New Testament (*I Thessalonians 4:13-17*)
- Musical Tribute Total Praise
- Acknowledgement of Condolences..... Loved ones / Family
- Reflection of Life Judith Goard, Sister
Tyrone Saunders, Son
- Obituary Reading..... Augustus Grissett, Jr., Son
- Eulogy Pastor Vincent Goard
- Benediction..... Pastor Harold Ross

Interment

Cypress Hills Cemetery
833 Jamaica Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11208
March 2, 2026 @ 10:00am

Final Arrangements Entrusted To:

DEBORAH O. WHIPPER FUNERAL SERVICES, INC.
2203 Avenue Z

Brooklyn, New York 11238
(718) 455-0777

visit us: www.whipperfuneral.com



OBITUARY



Julianne Beverly White Grissett,

affectionately called "*TOEIE*" by many, was born in Harlem, New York on May 15th, 1939 to parents Josh and Carol White. She was the second oldest of their five children. She attended school in New York City ultimately ending at the Professional Children's School during her High School

years. Her love for music and talent for singing was cultivated very early in life and shaped by her famous father's keen ear. He developed this talent in all his children but there was something special about this daughter he affectionately called "*Miss Thang*". *Beverly* began to perform with her father, Josh White, and brother/best friend Josh "Donnie" White Jr., throughout the United States and Europe beginning at the age of 8 years old. Her undeniable talent for singing would enthrall audiences with her smooth, melodic voice providing the perfect complement to the authentic and legendary guitar mastery of her father and brother. Her performances and subsequent recordings were met with extraordinary critical acclaim for over 20 years.

Beverly went on to marry Tyrone Saunders and have her first two children, *the late* Kimberly "Kimmy" Helene Saunders and Tyrone "Sandy" Saunders, Jr. Once their brief union ended, she then began to embrace her true destiny with her longtime childhood friend and extraordinary forever love Augustus "Gus" Grissett, Jr. They welcomed a son early in their union, Augustus "Guy Guy" Grissett, Jr. Their marriage/love story would last for over 55 years until her last day here on earth.

Toeie's sister Judy, was integral in leading her to give her life to God in 1977. She began to worship and deepen her faith in the Christ by becoming a member of Rescue Mission Church of God in Christ in the Bronx, NY under Pastor Harold Ross and First Lady Mary Ross. She continued this journey at Rescue Mission for over many years along with the ongoing support of her family and with her "*Dearest*" sister and lifelong friend Deloras Wade.

As an extension of her new faith in the Lord, *Toeie* and her sisters, Carolyn "FER.N." White Pridgen, Judith "Judy" White Goard, and brother-in-law, Albert Pridgen formed a dynamic gospel quartet known as the Josh White Singers. They became known as one of the most prominent groups in New York City.

Accompanied by their nephew, Stephen Goard on bass guitar and her son, "Guy Guy" on percussion, their tantalizing harmonies and moving performances blessed countless people and congregations for many years. She later would join Light of the City Ministries in Hempstead, NY and lead the choir that included her husband, Gus. Her belief in her Lord and Savior would only grow stronger throughout her years as she was well known to bless countless with her prayers, guidance, and words of encouragement. Her love and diligent care for children touched the lives of so many that parents confidently trusted them in her care. Children that would stay in her life into their adult years with memories of love and admiration of how she positively influenced their lives.

Beverly dealt with many health challenges over the past decade, culminating in a very difficult final year. Despite her pain and obstacles, her faith in the Lord never wavered but proved to make her spiritually stronger. God saw fit to end her suffering on the day the world recognizes love all over