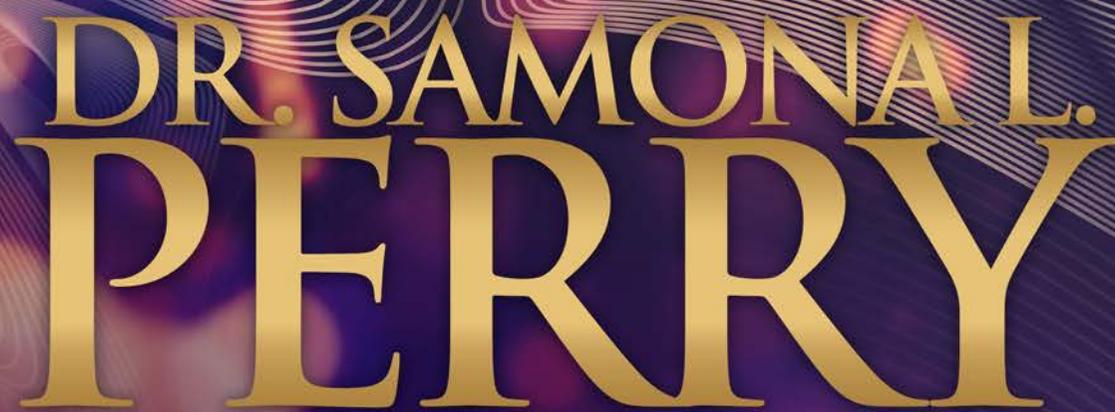


HONORING THE LIFE OF



DR. SAMONA L.
PERRY

OCTOBER 5, 1965 - JULY 11, 2025

FRIDAY, JULY 25, 2025
KINGDOM LIFE MINISTRIES
310 S. Jefferson Ave. - Saginaw, MI 48607

Family Hour: 10:00AM - Celebration Service: 11:00AM

Bishop Alvernis L. Johnson - OFFICIANT

THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. SAMONA LYNETTE PERRY

Dr. Samona Lynette Perry was born on October 5, 1965, in Detroit, Michigan, to the union of the late Viola Marie Perry and Robert Louis Perry. From the beginning, Samona was a force of nature—graceful, determined, loving, and full of life. She accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior at an early age, and her faith remained the foundation of her life. A true warrior for Christ, Samona's spiritual walk influenced countless lives. As a child, she was a member of Aijalon Missionary Baptist Church and The Word of Truth C.O.G.I.C. Her love for music and ministry blossomed as a teenager when she became a dedicated member of the Toni Booker and Booker Production Community Choir, where she began honing her skills as a choir director. Later, she served faithfully at Russell Street Church, Lifeline Christian Center, and ultimately became a founding member of Kingdom Life Ministries International under the leadership of Bishop Alvernus L. and Pastor Shantell Johnson.

A natural-born leader, Samona was shaped early by responsibility. As the eldest sibling, she was charged with the care of her younger brothers and sisters—Jeffrey, Evelyn, Laura, Linda, Demetrius, Mark, Latonya, and Wendy. She stepped into that role with maturity, love, and authority, preparing meals, supervising homework, and guiding them with wisdom well beyond her years.

Samona received her education through Detroit Public Schools and graduated from Chadsey High School in 1985. She went on to earn an Associate of Arts in Business Management from Davenport University in 2003. Her passion for learning didn't stop there. She later attended South University, earning a Bachelor of Business Administration in 2015, a Master's Degree in Public Administration in 2017, and her proudest academic accomplishment—a Doctorate of Business Administration in 2021, graduating with high esteem honors.

Her heart for the youth was unmatched. Fondly known as "Auntie Mona" by many, Samona mentored and poured love into young people through her church and educational outreach. She shared an unbreakable bond with her youngest nieces, Amiria Walker and Alana Walker, and most especially with her beloved niece, A'Niyah Traylor. Samona took pride in helping to raise "her baby", A'Niyah with love and joy, but also taught her how to cook and sew—just as she herself had learned from her great-grandmother, the late Laura Hayes.

Samona's vibrant personality and creativity knew no bounds. She was an avid University of Michigan fan and proudly created a comical character called "Mother Blue," who dressed up as a feisty older woman and talked spirited smack in support of her team. Samona also developed her own playful dialect—"Samonian"—where she added "-en" to the ends of words. Phrases like "this is good-en" or "oh my goodaness" became part of her charm and legacy.

Her passion for fashion, makeup, and hair styling led to early careers in modeling and retail management. She worked at the Cosmetic Counter in Detroit's New Center Building and at Hudson's in Fairlane Mall. Later, she launched her own cosmetic line, T'Mia Joi Cosmetics, named in loving memory of her late niece, T'Mia Joi Walker. Samona also modeled and designed the logo for the Sharon Dumas Full and Fabulous Plus-Size Modeling Agency in the late 1980s. On top of all that, she was an accomplished seamstress, creating and selling handmade hat and scarf sets. She had a love for dancing, singing and music, too.

A master in the kitchen, Samona was known for her delicious cooking. She was the only sibling who could recreate her mother's famous "VI's Ribs and Sauce." Her pasta salad and homemade chips and salsa were legendary and loved by all who tasted them.

Professionally, Samona dedicated her life to helping others. She worked as a case manager at Hamilton Community Health Network in Flint from 2000 to 2005. Later, as Executive Director of Social and Community Services at City of Light Community Development Center (Saginaw and Flint), she created vital programs that empowered individuals and families. Samona founded the Fresh Start Morning and Youth First programs at Atkins Elementary and Middle School in Bridgeport, MI through funding support provided by The Saginaw Community Foundation. Samona championed education, arts, and recreational opportunities for children in underserved communities. Her programs created safe, enriching spaces for youth to grow and thrive.

Spiritually, Evangelist Samona was more than a founding member, she was a Daughter of Zion, Anointed Reader, Church Administrator, Intercessor, Evangelist, and the Executive Director of the City of Light Community Development Corporation. Dr. Samona served with a love and compassion that can't be matched. As a vital member of the Executive Administration Team, Samona's dedication and focus helped the ministry grow and function in the spirit of excellence by establishing and carrying the torch of many programs and departments at KLM. Among her many roles, Samona was a community advocate, case manager, and customer service professional. Her faith, leadership, and service were unwavering.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Viola Marie Perry and Robert Louis Perry (Emma); her siblings, Jeffrey Perry, Sr., Demetrius Traylor, Linda Traylor-Coleman, Arthur Louis William; her great-grandparents, Marion and Laura Hayes; her grandparents, Erma Pearl Glenn and Johnny Clay O'Quinn, Sr.; and her niece, T'Mia Joi Walker.

She leaves to cherish and rejoice in her memory: her stepfather, Robert James Traylor (Darlene); her loving siblings, Evelyn Brunious, Laura Perry (Amil), Wendy Traylor, Yah Young (Yolanda), Tracy Frierson, Tonya Traylor, Mark Traylor, Robert Earl Redmond, Dwayne Redmond, Lillian Redmond and Monika Redmond; and a host of loving aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, extended family members, church family, and the countless youth and adults she mentored and inspired throughout her life.

Dr. Samona Lynette Perry leaves behind a legacy of love, leadership, faith, and laughter. Her presence will be deeply missed, but her impact will live on for generations.

FAMILY HOUR

Processional.....
Family Hour (10:15-10:45AM).....Remarks allowed from Family & Friends
(2 minutes PLEASE)

CELEBRATION OF LIFE OF DR. SAMONA LYNETTE PERRY

Invocation.....Elder Ryan Guillen
Old Testament Reading..... Pastor Lanice Glenn
New Testament Reading.....Evangelist JuVedia White
Musical Selection.....Jeffrey D. Perry Jr.

Special Tributes

Toni Booker & Booker Productions
(Representative - Deborah Holland)

Renee Johnson, President & CEO Saginaw Community Foundation
(Representative - Elder Nicholas Hill)

Mark Whelton, Superintendent
Bridgeport Spaulding Community School District

Musical Selection.....The Samona L. Perry Celebration Choir

Clergy Remarks

Apostle James Glenn

Bishop Don W. Shelby, Jr., Prelate
Michigan Southwest Fifth Jurisdiction, COGIC

Resolutions/Acknowledgements of
Cards/Condolences.....Pastor Michelle McGregor
Reading of the Obituary.....Angela Johnson
Sermonic Solo..... Mother Phyllis Hill

Eulogy

Lady Shantell Jonhson
Bishop Alvernis L. Johnson
Pastors of Kingdom Life Ministries International

Committal.....Bishop Alvernis L. Johnson

Recessional.....





SENTIMENTS OF LOVE

Dearest Auntie,

Words cannot possibly describe how much of an inspiration you've been to me. You taught me strength through kindness and grace through every storm. Though you're gone, your spirit lives on in everything good and beautiful. Your love, laughter, and warmth will never be forgotten. I will forever cherish every lesson, every conversation, and every laughing fit we've shared. I will miss you always.

I love you! – Mimi

To my everything...

I am blessed to call you sister. I also call you friend. You love us unconditionally and stood with us through thick and thin. You shared my joys and sorrows, my laughter and tears. You've been my inspiration and mentor as we grew up through the years. Nothing I can say to convey just how much you mean to us. You taught me how to cook, keep a clean house, and stay prayed up! There's something God has given us that's more than family; he's placed a love for you, my sister deep down in our hearts. You will never be replaced, and I thank God for giving us you!

Evie, Mann, Yona & Lana

To My Sista/Mama

Wow G.G.,

I don't even know where to begin, because no words feel big enough to express what you've meant to me and the MANY roles you've played in my life. You aren't just my sister — you are my role model, my advocate, my teacher, my protector, my confidant... and truly, you are my second mama. My whole life, you were always there. I remember you pushing me in my stroller, bringing me little treats from work, taking me shopping, encouraging me to sing, and making sure I had moments to shine — whether it was on stage dancing, in the choir, or just in life. You didn't just pour into me — you gave that same love to A'Niyah. You were there for her in every way: putting her in church programs, cheering her on at school events, showing up for award ceremonies, and always being her biggest supporter. You were front and center, just like you were for me. And for that, I am eternally grateful and can never thank you enough.

Whenever life got hard, it was you I ran to. You always made space for me — with no judgment, just love.

After Mommy passed, you stepped right into that space without hesitation. You didn't just become a mother figure to me all over again — you became a grandmother figure to A'Niyah too. You never stopped showing up. You always supported us, selflessly and unconditionally. I want you to know that I am who I am today because of you. I will miss you more than I can say. I'll miss your laugh, your smile, your stories about us growing up, and talking in movie dialect with you. I'll miss you asking me to come to church with you. I'll miss all those sweet little moments you captured on video and in pictures — especially you taking pics of me eating, lol. I'll miss everything, GG. My world has changed forever without you in it. But I find peace knowing that you're still with me and Anaya, watching over us as we keep going. I can still feel your love — and I know you're not far. Thank you, Mona. For everything. I love you, I miss you, and I will carry your spirit with me always.

**Your baby sister/L.B.R. and niece,
Wendy and A'Niyah**

My Sister

Where do I start? Thank you for being my mother, best friend, advisor, spiritual counselor, confidant, row dog, dance partner and much more. You have been such an integral part of my life. I thank God that he blessed me by choosing you to be one of my sisters. I will miss the cooking competitions, movie nights, silly/joking encounters and worshiping together (via Zoom or physically together). Thank you for teaching and showing Amiria and me how to pray, have faith and to lean on God. You ALWAYS had my back. The loss of you has put a void in my heart that no man can replace. I have another guardian angel watching over us. Please give Mama and Jeff a big kiss for me.

Love you always, Laura

To our sister.....Far but Never Apart

There are no words that can fully capture the light our sister brought into this world and the ache left behind in her absence. Her laughter was infectious and she could lift any room. Her kindness touched everyone she met. She had a way of making ordinary moments feel special. In her presence, even quiet moments became treasured memories. Whether it was through her thoughtful advice, or just a smile, she gave so much of herself to those she loved.

Though her time with us was far too short, her love and spirit will remain with us every day. She is strong, loving, brave, and beautiful. We miss her more than words can say, but endlessly grateful for every moment we shared. Rest in peace dear sister. You are deeply loved and will never be forgotten.

Robert Earl, Dwayne, Lilly, Nique

Dear Auntie Mona,
Auntie you made it.

Even though you will be deeply missed on this side, I know without a doubt we'll all see you again. This is hard to write. As I sit here with tears in my eyes, I can hear your voice so clearly, saying, "Girl, I made it!"

In your voice dancing in heaven with all our loved ones. I can see you reunited with my girl my Gma Kelly... with your brother Pastor Sweeney and Uncle Adrien... your sister Auntie Reece saying ("Whatcha doin', Willis?")... your mama and brother and so many more of our precious ones. Y'all better be up there shouting and rejoicing!

I will never forget how you welcomed me and included me in your family. I genuinely appreciate that, and I thank God for allowing me to be a part of something so special.

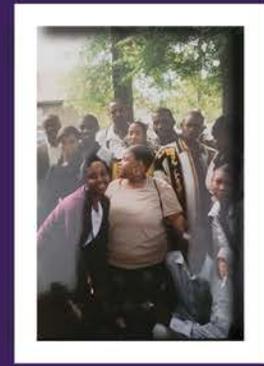
Thank you for trusting me around your babies Aunties Evelyn, Laura, and Wendy. The girls, Amiria and Nya, love you all so much...so grateful for each one of you. We miss you already, but we celebrate your homegoing. Rest in paradise, Auntie Mona. Until we meet again.

Kala, Sean, Skylar, Sean 3rd, Serenity

Hey sis, life goes on, but I promise you it will not be the same. While I sit back and think about all the wonderful memories, I still can't get past the pain there will always be a hole in my heart. Baby, you told me that you wanted me to walk you down the aisle and give you away on your wedding day. It tears me apart that I cannot but it's OK. I will walk you down the aisle and give you to the heavenly father, that along with our childhood memories brings me joy. I will always love you. Samona, please come back and be one of my angels.

Love your brother Yah





PALLBEARERS

Jeffrey D. Perry Jr.
Amirual Walker
Yah Young
Elder Nicholas Hill
Elder Deon Gray
Derrick Brown

FLOWERBEARERS

Family & Friends

FINAL ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO

PARADISE FUNERAL CHAPEL (SAGINAW)
3100 S. Washington Avenue – Saginaw, MI 48601
(989) 754-4826
pfcsaginaw@paradisefuneralchapel.com

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF APPRECIATION & SPECIAL THANKS

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many cards, comforting messages, floral tributes, prayers, and many other expressions of kindness and concern evidenced at this time in thought and deed. A more personal acknowledgement will be made at a later date. The Perry family would like to extend a special thank you and acknowledgement to Bishop Alvernis L. Johnson, Paster Shantell Johnson, Evangelist JuVedia White, Mother Phillis Hill, Rochelle Mann, and Londel Cook. Words can't express our sincere appreciation of your love and support during this time. Last but not least all praises to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.