



## *Let Me Go*

When I come to the end of the road  
And the sun has set for me  
I want no rites in a gloom filled room  
Why cry for a soul set free?  
Miss me a little, but not for long  
And not with your head bowed low  
Remember the love that once we shared  
Miss me, but let me go.  
For this is a journey we all must take  
And each must go alone.  
It's all part of the master plan  
A step on the road to home.  
When you are lonely and sick at heart  
Go the friends we know.  
Laugh at all the things we used to do  
Miss me, but let me go.

## *Interment*

**GREEN LAWN CEMETERY**  
1000 Greenlawn Ave, Columbus, OH 43223

## *Pallbearers*

Mike Thurman  
Joe Saunders  
Charles Thurman  
Joseph Saunders  
Kipp Grier  
Kevin Martin

The Family of **Norma Jean Thurman** wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, kindness, and support shown to us during this hour of bereavement. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your support and comfort. It is immensely appreciated!



**MARLAN GARY**  
**FUNERAL HOME**

1 FUNERAL HOME | 5 LOCATIONS

## *When I Must*

### *Leave You*

When I must leave you  
For a little while,  
Please do not grieve  
And shed wild tears  
And hug your sorrow to you  
Through the years,  
But start out bravely  
With a smile.  
An for my sake  
And in my name,  
Live on and do  
All the things the same.  
Feed not your loneliness  
On empty days,  
But fill each waking hour  
In useful ways.  
Reach out your hand in comfort  
And in cheer,  
And I, in turn, will comfort you  
And hold you near.  
And never, never  
Be afraid to die,  
For I am waiting for you  
In the sky.

## *Repast*

**DEB'S EVENT CENTER**  
5508 East Livingston Ave, Columbus, Ohio  
Starting at 4:30pm

#### MINISTRY OF COMFORT ENTRUSTED TO:

**NORTH CHAPEL**  
2500 CLEVELAND AVE.,  
COLUMBUS, OH 43211  
614-267-8310

**EAST CHAPEL**  
5456 LIVINGSTON AVE.,  
COLUMBUS, OH 43232  
614-604-8774

**MANSFIELD CHAPEL**  
753 MCPHERSON ST.,  
MANSFIELD, OH 44903  
419-524-6999

**SPRINGFIELD CHAPEL**  
823 SOUTH YELLOW SPRINGS ST.,  
SPRINGFIELD, OHIO 45506  
937-325-1447

**CINCINNATI CHAPEL**  
674 FOREST AVE.  
CINCINNATI OH 45229  
513-221-4812

WWW.THECHAPELOFPEACE.COM

**HOMEGOING  
CELEBRATION  
FOR**

*Norma  
Jean*

**THURMAN**  
OCTOBER 8, 1944 — MARCH 8, 2026

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026

12:00PM

**CHRIST MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
3330 E. LIVINGSTON AVE.,  
COLUMBUS, OH 43227

# Obituary



Norma Jean (Grier) Thurman was born on October 8, 1944, in Columbus, Ohio. She was the fourth child of 5 children born to Ike and Elizabeth (Gilstrap) Grier. She departed this life to be with the Lord on March 8, 2026, at the Select Specialty Hospital Columbus South.

Jeannie (as she was fondly called) was raised in a wonderful and loving family. She was taught the importance of having a relationship with the Lord. She gave her life to Christ at an early age while attending Love Zion Baptist Church.

She was also encouraged to pursue her various interests which included sewing, dancing, cooking and even shooting marbles. She credited her brother David with teaching her how to shoot marbles and she in return taught him how to dance. Jeannie was educated in the Columbus Public School System and was a proud graduate of East High School. She participated in many workshops and seminars while attending school. For many years, Jeannie worked at the TMI plant as a packer and material worker where she met a few lifelong friends.

She met the love of her life, James Thurman, at her sister's birthday party. It was love at first sight and he walked her home from the party. They were married for over sixty-three years. They enjoyed participating in fashion shows, as well as bowling and taking dance lessons. Jeannie was a seamstress for several years and on many occasions, she sought James' help when cutting material for sewing projects. James and Jeannie had three sons, Michael, Charlie and Darren and later two more children, Kevin and Catherine, became members of the family.

Jeannie was fun, easy to talk to and she always tried to have an encouraging word for anyone she met. She said God had been too good to her for her to be down in the dumps or sad. She felt God had placed so many beautiful people in her life and it was her duty to thank him by always showing appreciation for the life she had.

Jeannie dearly loved God and her church, Christ Memorial Missionary Baptist Church and became a member shortly after she started attending it. She had quite a few favorite scriptures but Psalm 23 and 27, John 14:1 were her favorites to recite on a regular basis. Jeannie was a wonderful cook and would often volunteer to help in the church kitchen or fellowship hall. She was involved in various ministries, but she loved serving on the Senior Usher Board. She was the overseer of the Usher Board Card Ministry for the past ten years. Even during her illness and several stays at the hospital, she never let it stop her from regularly sending cards out to members or to their loved ones.

Jeannie was preceded in death by her parents, Ike and Elizabeth (Gilstrap) Grier and son Darren Thurman, brother: David Grier, sisters: Barb Kendricks, Tonie Grier, Donna Parks. She leaves to cherish her memory, her loving husband of 63 years James Thurman, sons: Kevin (Shirley) Martin, Michael (Theresa) Thurman, and Charles Thurman; daughter, Catherine (Robert) Flewellen, grandchildren: Nyala Jamison, Chatti, Billy and Niecey Kendricks, one of her favorite nephews: Kipp Grier, Robin Ferguson and a host of nieces, nephews and fabulous friends.

Jeannie loved everyone but she believed God loves us best. All you have to do is to trust that he does.

## Order Of Service

Musical Prelude  
Christ Memorial Music Ministry

Processional Clergy

Parting View:  
Immediate Family

Scripture Reading  
Old Testament  
Psalm 23: 1-6, Sharon Chubb  
New Testament  
John 14:: 1-7 Robin Ferguson

Prayer of Comfort  
Clergy

Musical Selection  
Christ Memorial Choir

Words of Comfort  
Clergy

Acknowledgement/Condolences, Resolutions  
Church Clerk

Musical Selection  
Christ Memorial Choir  
"Precious Lord Take My Hand"

Family Tributes and Reflections:  
Kip Grier, Nephew , Michael Thurman, Son

Poem  
Nyala Jamison, Granddaughter, Let Me Go

Reading of the Obituary:  
Read Silently

Special Words of Comfort  
Rev Shedrick L. Fowler. PhD., Pastor Emeritus,  
Christ Memorial Baptist Church

Musical Selection  
Going Up Yonder, Mike Payne

The Eulogy  
The Reverend Richard E. McDaniel, Pastor,  
Christ Memorial Baptist Church

Benediction  
Clergy

Recessional  
Clergy, Family & Friends