

Left to carry the torch of her memory are her children: Jermaine (Yolanda) Way and Kimberly Way.

Her grandchildren: Jermaine (Sigourney) Watts, Charmaine (Benjamin) Webster, Andre Fields, Myles Holt, Ashley Way, Brandee Barnes, Akilah Laury, Brandon (Kiara) Way, Katherine Way, Nylah Anderson, Cheyanne Way, and Joshua Way. And her great-grandchildren: D'Nya, Parker, Amari, Journey, Alijah, Jermaine Jr., and Nova.

Her circle of sisterhood — Debbie (Nate) Harris, LaFaun Rogers, Marva Toni Jackson and the Maple Knoll Crew — stood beside her in laughter, in faith, and in friendship that time could not touch.

To know Grace Ann Way was to be known deeply. To be loved by her was to feel God's love, wrapped in earthly skin.

Her journey here is complete, but her story is eternal. She now rests in the arms of the ancestors, her voice joining the choirs of heaven.

"She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue." — Proverbs 31:26



Poem

TO THOSE WHOM I LOVE AND THOSE WHO LOVE ME

When I am gone, release me, let me go
I have so many things to see and do
You must not tie yourself to me with tears
Be happy that I have had so many years

I gave you my love, you can only guess
How much you gave me in happiness
I thank you for the love each of you have shown
But now it is time I travelled on alone

So grieve a while for me, if grieve you must
Then let your grief be comforted by trust
It is only for a while that we must part
So bless the memories in your heart

I will not be far away, for life goes on
So if you need me, call and I will come
Though you cannot see or touch me, I will be near
And if you listen with your heart, you will hear

All of my love around you soft and clear
Then, when you must come this way alone
I will greet you with a smile
And welcome you home.

Pallbearers

| | | |
|------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Tiron James | James Runyon | Honorary |
| Darryl Jones | Jermaine Watts | Charles Blackwell Jr |
| Cameron Mulligan | Brandon Way | Harold Massie Jr |
| Benjamin Prill | Joshua Way | |

Flower bearers

Grace's granddaughters, great granddaughters, nieces and great nieces.



Acknowledgment

The family of Grace Way acknowledges with sincere appreciation the comforting messages, floral tributes, and other expressions of kindness during this time of bereavement. May God bless you.

Interment

Spring Grove Cemetary
4521 Spring Grove Ave.
Cincinnati, OH 45232

SERVICE ENTRUSTED TO

HERB WALKER FUNERAL HOME
7272 HAMILTON AVENUE
MT. HEALTHY, OH 45231

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF



Grace Ann Way

JULY 17, 1948 - MAY 22, 2025



NEW PROSPECT BAPTIST CHURCH
1580 SUMMIT ROAD, CINCINNATI, OH 45237



PSLAM 62:1 "TRULY MY SOUL FINDS REST IN GOD."

Obituary

She came into this world with grace in her name and left it with grace in every memory she touched.

Born on a summer day in Cincinnati, Ohio — July 17, 1948 — Grace Ann Way (née Blackwell) was the daughter of Clinton and Annabelle Anderson (née Blackwell), a bright light in their home and eventually in the lives of so many others.

A Withrow High School graduate of the Class of 1966, Grace's love of words and wisdom revealed itself early. At Samuel Ach Junior High School, she read every book in the library — not as an assignment, but as a calling. She married the late Chief Thundercloud Way in 1970. From that union two children were born.

She lived a life of quiet brilliance and loud laughter — a quick-witted comedian with a heart as wide as the sky. She dreamed of being a private detective and, in many ways, she became one: uncovering the hidden joys in life, investigating truth, and revealing love where others might have missed it.

Her life's work was care — not just through her nearly 30 years of service at Maple Knoll Village, where she was one of the first to walk its halls and sit on its committees, but through every kind word, warm embrace, and knowing glance she gave. She was the kind of woman CEOs asked for counsel, the kind of friend people never forgot, the kind of elder mothers looked to for wisdom.

Faith anchored her. Baptized young at Jerriel Missionary Baptist Church, Grace returned in 1986 to the spiritual home that would carry generations of her family into baptismal waters. She sang with a voice that moved heaven, both in the Jerriel choir and with the Greater Cincinnati Choir Union. Her later years were spent wrapped in fellowship at Believers Temple and New Prospect Baptist Church — where she was loved deeply and widely.

Grace danced through life with a suitcase in one hand and a story in the other. She loved to travel. She loved to laugh. She loved people. And people loved her back. She mentored young mothers, bridged generations, and lit up every room like it was made for her.

She was preceded in passing by her siblings Harold Massie Sr., Ethel Anderson, and Eulus Blackwell.

Order of Service

Reverend Myles Holt, Officiant

MUSICAL PRELUDE

- Opening Song..... led by Brandee Barnes**
- Opening Remarks.....Rev. Myles Holt**
- PrayerMin. Vernice Appling**
- Old Testament Reading.....Pastor Benjamin Prill**
- New Testament Reading.....Min. Carleesha Davis**
- Choir SelectionsNew Prospect Baptist Church**
- Acknowledgements.....Lauren Brown**
- Reflections.....Family & Friends**
- Formal Reading of Obituary.....Great Granddaughters**
- Mime Ministry.....Tiron James**
- Eulogy.....Rev. Jermaine Way**
- Closing Remarks.....Rev. Charmaine Webster**
- Closing Song.....Rev. Michael Mack**
- Benediction.....Pastor Damon Lynch**

