

FLOWER BEARERS

Denae Harris • Shelia Barber • Dawn Tatum
Shaurise Asher • Kamiel Evans • Anita Morgan

HONORARY FLOWER BEARERS

Ruby Fisher • Lorraine Fisher

CASKET BEARERS

Joe Barber • Terry Fisher • Devin Barber
Brandon Harris • Jeremy Fisher • Desmond Barber

HONORARY CASKET BEARERS

M.D. Fisher • Theardies Fisher • Marcus Fisher

Thank You

*The Family of Mary Lee James would
like to thank everyone for your kind
expressions of sympathy and love.*

FINAL RESTING PLACE

Maple Grove Cemetery | 1000 N. Hillside | Wichita KS 67214

Services Entrusted to

Jackson Mortuary, Inc.

1125 East 13th St.

Wichita, Kansas 67214

Phone: (316) 262-5431

Fax: (316) 262-6038

www.thejacksonmortuary.com



Memorial Programs lovingly prepared by Deb's Creative Services

Celebrating the Life of
Mary Lee James

SUNRISE: April 24, 1945 ~ SUNSET: August 11, 2026



Mary's Life and Career:

Mary Lee (Tatum) James was born to R. D. Tatum and Mira Tatum on April 24, 1945. She was preceded in death by her parents and her sisters, Mira Lee Anderson and Kathy McClish.

Mary attended Wichita Public Schools and graduated from Wichita North High School in 1963. She began her work career right out of high school at St. Francis Hospital, where she worked for more than 10 years. She later worked for the City of Wichita as a meter maid for several years. Throughout her life, Mary held several other jobs before beginning her career at Cessna Aircraft, where she eventually retired. Retirement, however, did not slow Mary down for long. She soon found herself wanting to stay active and returned to work at the Wichita Women's Recovery Center. There Mary made a lasting difference in the lives of many young women and children. Her compassion, kindness, and genuine care for others touched countless lives.

She was baptized at Mt. Zion Baptist church under the leadership of Rev. Franklin Reynolds and later joined the 17th St. Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. Samuel Paschal.

Her accomplishments in Life:

Mary will always be remembered for her compassion, unconditional love, and extraordinarily big heart. She had a way of making everyone feel welcome and loved. Mary was a mother to all and never met a stranger. Her generosity was unmatched. She was always willing to lend a helping hand and offer encouragement or simply be there for someone who needed her. Mary's greatest accomplishment was the love she gave so freely and the many lives she touched throughout her life. Her kindness and caring spirit will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

She leaves to cherish her memories: her siblings, M.D. Fisher (Shirley), Ruby Fisher, Theardies Fisher (Debra), and Lorraine Bush; her self-appointed son and daughter, Joe and Shelia Barber and granddaughter Denae Harris (Barber); and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends who will miss her dearly.

Mary's Celebration of Life

Wednesday – August 19, 2026 at 11: 00 a.m.

St. James Missionary Baptist Church

1350 N. Ash – Wichita KS 67214

Officiating: Min. Samuel Paschal



Order of Service

Processional of Clergy and Family

“There’s a Leak in This Old Building”

Song

St. James Ministry of Music

Prayer

Pulpit

Acknowledgements & Obituary

Kamiel Evans

Video Tribute

Remarks

(Please limit to 2 minutes)

Song

St. James Ministry of Music

Words of Comfort

Min. Samuel Paschal

Parting View / Recessional

“Going Up Yonder” (Tramaine Hawkins)