

## Acknowledgement

The family of **Kathryn Johnson** wishes to extend their gratitude for all the prayers, phone calls, visits and many acts of kindness shown during this difficult time. The Johnson Family.

### **Pall Bearers**

**Calvin Smith, Jr.**

**Tevin Griswold**

**Carl Johnson**

**Carl Rogers**

**Kevin Flemons**

**Carvelle Rogers**

**Alexander Johnson**

**Demarion Rogers**

### **Honorary**

**Pall Bearers**

**Devin Flemons**

**Mari Scott**

### *Miss Me But let Me Go*

*Don't grieve for me for now I'm free,  
I'm following the path God laid for me  
I took his hand when I heard him call,  
I turned my back and left it all  
I could not stay another day,  
To laugh, to love, to work or play  
Tasks left undone must stay that way,  
I've found that peace at the close of day  
If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it with remembered joy  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
Ah yes, these things I too will miss  
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,  
I wish for you the sunshine of tomorrow  
My life's been full, I've savored much,  
Good friends, good times,  
my loved one's touch  
If my time seemed all too brief,  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief  
Lift up your heart, rejoice with me,  
God wanted me now, He set me free.*

### **Psalm 37:3**

*Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell  
in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.*

**CLARKE & SONS FUNERAL HOME 11028 E  
23RD ST, S INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI 64052**

# IN LOVING Memory Kathryn Mae Johnson



SUNRISE  
June 5, 1943

SUNSET  
May 24, 2026



SERVICE HELD

11:00 A.M.

Wednesday June 3, 2026

**Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church**  
4545 Benton Blvd, Kansas City, Missouri 64130

PRIVATE DISPOSITION

Pastor Kim Gladney, Officiating

# Life Reflections

Kathryn Mae Johnson was born on June 5, 1943, in Kansas City, Missouri, to Jeraldine Willis and Sherman Pearson. She was educated in the Kansas City School District and attended Lincoln High School.

A woman of extraordinary determination and vision, Kathryn dedicated her life to caring for others and breaking barriers. In the early 1970s, she enrolled in nursing school, earning her Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) certification before continuing her education to become a Registered Nurse (RN), graduating at the top of her class. Her nursing career led her to serve in several of Kansas City's leading medical institutions, including St. Luke's Hospital and Baptist Medical Center.

In the early 1980s, Kathryn achieved a historic milestone when she became the first African American woman hired as a Registered Nurse at the Ford Motor Company Claycomo Assembly Plant. During her tenure, she served on numerous committees, including Ergonomic Development, where she played an instrumental role in the development of new safety gloves designed to protect Ford employees.

Kathryn's entrepreneurial spirit and unwavering commitment to her community led to her greatest professional accomplishment in 1990 when she founded Kare-More Nursing and Home Health Services, Inc. Through her own investment, perseverance, and determination, she became the first African American woman to serve as the sole proprietor of a home health agency in Kansas City. Under her leadership, Kare-More provided compassionate care to hundreds of elderly and disabled clients while creating employment opportunities for hundreds of Kansas City residents for more than two decades.

Kathryn remained a proud resident of Kansas City until her untimely passing on May 24, 2026.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Jeraldine Willis and Sherman Pearson; her grandson, Devin; and her great-great-grandson, Mari. As an only child, she cherished the family she built and nurtured throughout her life.

Kathryn leaves to cherish her memory three daughters: Laura C. Flemons, Maureen D. Wesson (Naleethan), and Carla A. Johnson, all of Kansas City. She also leaves eight beloved grandchildren: Shane, Natasha (Jon), Steven, Carl Ronnell, Calvin, Jr., Nicole (Vantoine), Carl Amos, and Tevin, all of Kansas City; along with a host of great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, extended family members, dear friends, and all whose lives were touched by her kindness, leadership, and service.

Kathryn Mae Johnson's legacy is one of compassion, courage, innovation, and perseverance. Through her pioneering achievements in nursing, workplace safety, and home healthcare, she opened doors for others and made a lasting impact on the Kansas City community. Her memory will continue to inspire generations to come.

# Order of Service

PROCESSIONAL  
*Clergy & Family*

SCRIPTURE  
*Old Testament/ New Testament  
Pulpit*

PRAYER  
*Pulpit*

MUSICAL SELECTION  
*Stand  
Donnie McClurkin*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND CONDOLENCES  
*-Shane Johnson*

MUSICAL SELECTION - I LOVE THE LORD  
*Whitney Houston/The Georgia Mass Choir*

REFLECTION OF LIFE  
*Video Slideshow*

REMARKS FAMILY/FRIENDS  
*(two minutes)*

MUSICAL SELECTION - GOING UP YONDER

WORDS OF COMFORT  
*Pastor Kim Gladney*

RECESSIONAL  
*Soft Music*