Celebrating

THE LIFE OF



Vernita McClaurin

November 8, 1959 - April 20, 2026

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2026

10:00 am Family Hour 11:00 am Homegoing Service

Lamb Church of God

57 Rena Street SW

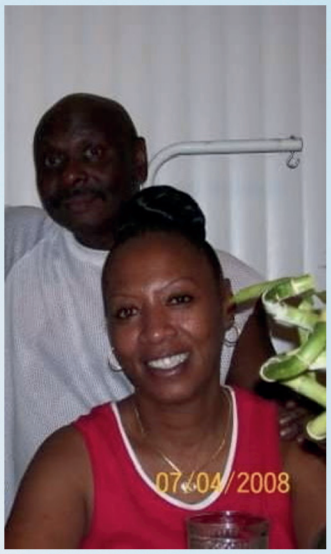
Grand Rapids, MI 49507

Reverend Lawrence C. McFall, Jr. Senior Pastor







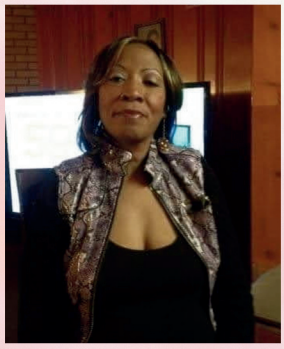

07/04/2008





























Order of Service

Celebration of Life for Vernita McClaurin

Musical Introit……..Tyrese Guyton
Choral Call to Worship and Processional
Opening Prayer……..Jurline DeGraaf
Scripture Readings Old and New Testaments…….Pastor Lawerence McFall, Jr
Song……..James Jones
Acknowledgements……..May Kingsley
Reading of Poem……..Sandra Bobo
Reading of Obituary……Kimberly Ewing
Song……Nikki Barnes
Remarks from Family and Friends Two Minute Time Limit for Each Person
Song……James Jones
Words of Comfort……Pastor Leroy Tolbert
Recessional
Musical Postlude

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name 's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Obituary

There are some lives that are measured in years, and then there are lives that are measured in impact, in laughter shared across kitchen tables, in wisdom passed down between generations, in the quiet but steady ways a woman shapes the world around her. This was the kind of life lived by Vernita McClaurin.

Born in Chicago, Illinois on November 8, 1959 to Henry B. Ewing and Helen Ewing, Vernita was the eighth child in a sibship of eleven. Vernita was a faithful Christian, who accepted Christ at an early age. She was reared in Grand Rapids, MI in a household where strength, resilience, sister and brotherhood were not just taught but lived. She was proceeded in death by her parents, her brothers Albert L. Ewing, Willie C. Ewing, David A. Ewing and her sister Janice Ewing, whose love and legacy remain deeply woven into the family story.

A proud graduate of Ottawa Hills High School, Class of 1977, Vernita (AKA "Sweet Neat from Cherry Street") carried with her not just an education, but a sense of identity, pride, and possibility. On June 26, 1980, she married the love of her life John Theotis McClaurin. When describing her love for John she would often say "In 100 Lives, In 100 Worlds, In Any Version of Reality, I Would Still Choose Him."

She loved deeply, lived fully and cherished friends that became family to her. Her close friendships were steady, enduring, full of shared memories and loads of inside jokes.

Vernita was rooted and committed to her family, devoted to her children, and present in the lives of those she loved. She raised two children Rontae and LaToyia, both of whom carries her strength, her standards, and her spirit. She delighted in her grandchildren and great children who affectionately called her "Nana", Jontae, Taevon, Rontae II, Mason, and Rontae III, spoiling them with a tenderness that only a doting grandmother can give. But, her love did not stop at bloodlines. Her love was Expansive, Inclusive and Generous.

And then there was her generous personality. You did not have to wonder where you stood with her; she spoke the truth, often with love. To know her was to encounter a woman who had lived life long enough to understand what mattered and who had the courage to live accordingly.

She leaves to mourn her transitioning and cherish her memory: two children Rontae and LaToyia, three grandchildren, Jontae, Taevon, Rontae II, two great grandchildren Mason and Rontae III, six sisters, Jurline (Mark) DeGraaf, Jeanette Williams, Maelene Ewing, Rodney (Barbara) McFall, Anthony (Pandora) McFall, Sandra Bobo, Kimberly Ewing, Tammy McFall, and a host of beloved nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, great-great nieces and nephews, cousins, extended family, and friends all of whom were blessed to be claimed by her love.








06/30/2012







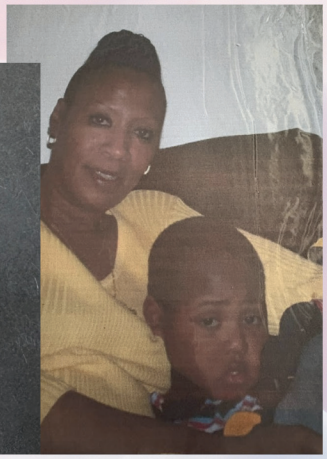












Reflections of Love

To my beloved wife, Neat,
For 46 wonderful years, you were my partner, my strength, and the love of my life. Thank you for the life we built together and for blessing me with our beautiful family. I miss you more than words can express, and I will carry my love for you in my heart forever.
Until we meet again, my love, rest peacefully.
Always yours,
Your loving husband

Mommy,
Thank you for your unconditional love, strength, and guidance. We are so proud to be your children. Thank you for being the best mother and definitely the best Nana to your grandchildren we miss you tremendously already. Rontae and I will make sure that all of your great- and great-great-grandchildren know who you are, and they will carry your legacy in each of their hearts. Always in our hearts, Mommy.
Love,
Tae and Toy

To our beloved Nana,
Thank you for the love, warmth, and joy you gave to each of us. You were the heart of our family the one who brought us together with your smile, your laughter, and your endless care. We will always cherish the time we spent with you, the lessons you taught us, and the love you poured into our lives. Though we miss you deeply, we know your spirit will live on in all of us. We promise to carry your love forward and keep your memory alive in our hearts forever.

Rest peacefully, Nana.
With all our love,
Your grandchildren and great-grandchildren

To my dear, sweet sister,
It was truly a blessing to have you in my life, and I am going to miss you so much. I will always cherish the memories we shared. You were a true inspiration and the best big sister anyone could ever have.
Love,
San

"Sweet Neat from Cherry Street" that's what you called yourself back in the '80s. You were always a sharp dresser, doing your own hair and always looking so good. Neat, I am truly thankful that God blessed me with a big sister like you. I'm definitely going to miss you so much especially our long, two- to three-hour conversations. I love you dearly, Sis.
It's time for you to take your rest.
Love,
Tammy
Your baby sister

To my dear sister, Neat,
You were more than my sister you were my closest friend and a true blessing in my life. The bond we shared was unbreakable, and I will forever cherish every moment, every laugh, and every long conversation we had together.
I will miss you deeply, but I carry your love with me always. Rest peacefully, my beautiful sister.
Love always,
Maelene

To my dearest little sister, Neat,
I will always picture you laughing and smiling with family, and I know that's what you're doing now. I will see you again rest in heaven, Neat.
Love,
Tutta

Rest well, little sister Neat.
Love,
Jurline


b.u.m






R.I.P






01/27/2013











Pallbearers

Taevon Jordan
Rontae Ewing, Sr
Jontae McClaurin
Terry Price
Marcello Phillips
Rontae Ewing, Jr

Flowerbearers

Family and Friends

Final Arrangements Entrusted to

Tombs By Crystal Funeral Services
4257 Kalamazoo Ave
Grand Rapids, MI 49508
(616) 813-8351

The family of Vernita McClaurin sincerely thanks everyone for the warm and comforting messages, cards, flowers, prayers, and all the kind expressions of love and concern during this sorrowful time.

Interment

Garfield Park Cemetery
2222 Kalamazoo Street SE
Grand Rapids, I 49507