

Celebration of Life



Frances Avis **WILLIAMS**

June 26, 1927 - October 24, 2023

Friday, November 10, 2023

Joseph H. Brown Funeral Home
2140 N. Fulton Avenue,
Baltimore, MD 21217

Viewing 10:30am | Funeral 11:00am

OBITUARY

Frances "Avis" Williams was born on June 26, 1927, in Mount Pleasant, Maryland. Avis was called into eternal rest on October 24, 2023 after suffering a heart attack at Baltimore Washington Medical Center, transitioning peacefully from this life to her heavenly home to join her beloved husband of 22 years Cornell Williams, her parents John Johnson and Blanche Earry (Butler) Johnson; her children Sylvester Graham (Vena), Isaac Graham, Delores (Johnson) Spence (Earl), Yvonne Walls, and Mary Wright; her grandson Germico "Mickey" Williams; her siblings William Butler, Isabelle Butler, Monroe Carter, Mary (Carter) Davis, Oserine (Carter) Slaughter, Helen (Johnson) Key, James Johnson, Elizabeth (Johnson) Warfield, Charles Henry Johnson (Shirley), Charlotte (Johnson) Smith, and John Johnson.

Avis received her early education in Frederick County at the one room school located in Liberty, MD called Liberty Colored School. She later transferred to Lincoln School. She left Lincoln School to pursue a career in sewing at Lincoln Tailoring sewing factory. In 1997, she decided to go back to school to earn her GED.

Avis was a seamstress by trade. During her career, she was employed by Phoenix Manufacturing, Loudon Fog, Stevie's Drapery, and various sewing factories. She even taught children how to sew at Rosemont Recreation Center. During her leisure time, she enjoyed traveling. She vacationed in at least 37 states; however never making it to Hawaii, which was on her bucket list.

Her hobbies included creating quilts and draperies for her family and friends, watching her favorite TV shows/Westerns especially the Young and the Restless, listening to music – BB King was her favorite artist. She enjoyed bingo, going to the casino, and playing cards while trash talking and kicking butts.

Avis referred to herself as "God's Child." She loved the Lord and accepted Christ as her personal Savior. She first attended Leadenhall Baptist Church where she was baptized and then fellowshipped at various churches along her spiritual journey - Morning Star Baptist Church, First Mount Olive FWB Church, Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, New Mount Joy Baptist Church and, her last church home, John Wesley United Methodist Church. After all that churching, she loved to go out to eat at various restaurants – White Castle, Duff's Buffet, Golden Corral, IHOP, LongHorn Steakhouse and Maria D's.

Avis had the most beautiful, contagious, unforgettable smile. She had a deep sense of loyalty, dedication, and honor towards her family and friends. She went above and beyond to ensure that her family felt well cared for and loved. She was a "Living Treasure" of Frederick County and affectionally known as the "Frozen Cup Lady" on Normount Avenue.

Avis built a magnificent legacy and leaves to cherish her memory: her daughters – Maxine (Williams) Dawkins – spouse Allen, Helen Diane Johnson, Pauline (Williams) Gordon, Nadine (Williams) Heath – spouse Thomas, Elaine Williams; one son Carl Williams, Sr. – spouse Eva; 25 grandchildren – Rodney, Ameila, Shawn, Frances, Felicia, Linda, Carl Jr., Kody, DeCarlos, Star, Michael, Earl, Daniel, Kim, Atoy, William, Diedra, Stephen, Lorraine, Ineda, Terrell, Lynette, Alana, Crystal and Jameal; a host of great grands (51) and great-great grands (25) and a countless number of nieces, nephews, cousins, neighbors and friends who will all miss her immensely.

Order of Service

Greetings / Welcome

Musical Selection.....Minister of Music, Darrin Nance
First Missionary Baptist Church, Frederick, MD

Holy ScripturesMinister Kim Collins
Shiloh Baptist Church, York, PA

Old Testament.....Proverbs 31:20-31

New Testament.....2 Timothy 4:6-8

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Musical Selection.....Minister of Music, Darrin Nance
First Missionary Baptist Church

Acknowledgements

Cards & Condolences.....Paula Gwynn

Words of Comfort (2 minutes please).....Family & Friends

Reading of the ObituaryMonica Pearson

Eulogy.....Pastor Timothy McLaurin Jr.
First Missionary Baptist Church; Frederick, MD

The Recessional



You can only have one mother

You can only have one mother
Patient kind and true;
No other friend in all the world,
Will be the same to you.
When other friends forsake you,
To mother you will return,
For all her loving kindness,
She asks nothing in return.
As we look upon her picture,
Sweet memories we recall,
Of a face so full of sunshine,
And a smile for one and all.
Sweet Jesus, take this message,
To our dear mother up above;
Tell her how we miss her,
And give her all our love.



A Much Loved Grandma



The day that God called your name
It broke my heart in two
But Heaven needed an Angel
And the one he picked was you
I just wish he could have waited
And let you stay with me
But you have left memories in my heart
And that's where they'll always be
I just wish I could rewind the clock
Or make it turn real slow
I could have hugged you one more time
Before you had to go
No matter how much time will pass
I'll miss you everyday
Keep shining bright in Heaven
So you can light my way

The Broken Chain

We little knew that *morning*
that God was going to call your name.
In life we *loved* you dearly, in death we do the same.
It broke our hearts to *lose you*, you did not go alone;
for part of us went with you, the day
God called you home.
You left us peaceful *memories*,
your love is still our guide; and though we cannot see you,
you are *always* at our side.
Our family chain is broken, and nothing seems the same;
but as God calls us one by one,
the chain will link again.





A Message From Avis

When God called, I had to obey and leave all my loved ones behind that day. I gave you all memories of me, that dwell within your heart and mind. With love I beg each of you not to hold onto your grief. Instead, I ask you to face each day with strength, joy and peace. We will all meet again someday in God's Kingdom above. For when He calls, we must obey, and leave memories with those we love.



Pallbearers

Michael Lashley
Stephen Smith
Shawn Graham

Earl Spence
Rodney Graham
Jamael Johnson

Professional Services Entrusted To:

Joseph H. Brown, Jr. Funeral Home
2140 N Fulton Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21217

Interment Services

Arbutus Memorial Park
1101 Sulphur Spring Rd,
Baltimore, MD 21227.
(Immediately following the service)

Repass

Family and Friends are invited to gather
immediately after the Interment at
Transfiguration Catholic Community
775 W Hamburg St,
Baltimore, MD 21230.

Message Of Thanks

The Family gratefully acknowledge
the many acts of kindness, beautiful
expressions of love, sympathy, and
appreciation during our time of
bereavement. God Bless you all for
your thoughtfulness and generosity.

