



### *Pallbearers*

Carl Boykin | Shelton Stewart | Lamont Austin  
Broderic Jordan | Bobby Mims | Frank James, Sr.

### *Flower Bearers*

Sisters

### *Interment*

Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens  
5401 North Michigan Road, M-99,  
Dimondale, Michigan 48821

### *Acknowledgement*

The Cannon, Mims/Boykin family wishes to express their sincere gratitude to all of you for your prayers, presence, love, telephone calls and all other expressions of concern that you have shown during our time of bereavement. Never more than now was your kindness needed and more appreciated.

We also want to thank the first responders and McLaren Greater Lansing hospital staff for their care of our beloved wife and sister in the days leading up to her final transition. We would also like to thank everyone who offered their condolences during this very difficult time.

**Paradise Funeral Chapel**  
& Arrangement Services

1107 East Miller Road

Lansing, Michigan 48911

Phone: (517) 272-1035 Fax: (517) 272-1048

Website: <https://www.paradisefuneralchapel.com>

Kevin C. Behnke, Manager

Ivan E. Phillips, Founder & Owner



Celebrating the Life of

HELEN JEAN CANNON

Sunrise: January 18, 1957 - Sunset: October 17, 2023

Funeral Service:

Friday, October 27, 2023 - 12:00 p.m.

Mount Hope Church

202 South Creyts Road

Lansing, Michigan 48917

Reverend Dr. Gabriel Taylor, Eulogist



### *The Chain*

*We knew little 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 although we cannot see you,  
you are always at our side.  
Our family chain is broken, and  
nothing seems the same.  
But God calls us one by one, the  
chain will link again.*



## ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude  
Anita Baker, "Whatever It Takes"

Processional  
Pastors & Family

Welcome & Prayer  
Mary Ann Saunders

Scripture Reading  
Velma Taylor

Prayer  
Velma Taylor

Musical Selection  
"Take Me to the King"  
Jaurea Mims

Acknowledgements of  
Cards, Condolences &  
Obituary  
Mary Ann Saunders

Expressions  
(Please Limit to 2 Minutes)  
Leon Mims, Brother  
Timothy Burton, Family Friend  
Broderic Jordan, Loved as a Son

Musical Selection  
Jaurea Mims

Eulogy  
Dr. Gabriel Taylor

Committal

Benediction

Recessional  
"Going Up Yonder"  
Jaurea Mims

## OBITUARY

Helen Jean Cannon went to be with the Lord on the afternoon of Tuesday, October 17, 2023, in Lansing, Michigan at the age of 66 years old. She was born in Owassa, AL, to Irene (Mims) Boykin and Isiah Mims on Friday, January 18, 1957. Helen was the oldest of 10 children. She is affectionately called "Jean" by her family.

Helen worked at Michigan State University (MSU) for her entire working career. Though she did not have children of her own, she became a mother figure to the many students she worked with over the years at MSU. She retired from the university in January 2018 and, in less than a year, she missed it so much that she returned to work on a part-time basis. Aside from spending quiet time at home with her husband Jeff, Helen had several hobbies. She had a love for flowers and gardening and often spent time working in her yard. She even tried her hand at growing a pineapple. Helen was teaching herself to play her mother's piano in her free time. She also loved to complete puzzles, sing songs by Anita Baker, and snuggle with her fur baby, Max.

Helen is survived by her loving, husband Jeffrey Cannon; 4 brothers, Leon "Bobby" Mims, Isiah Mims, Gary (Shay) Mims, and Carl L. (Kelly) Boykin, Jr.; 4 sisters, Vanessa (Floyd) Donald, Theresa (John Henry) Goodson, Angely Mims (Harry) Cobb "Angie" and Tracy Boykin Ellis. She is also leaves to cherish, Broderic Jordan, with whom she shared a beautiful motherly bond, several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends, including special family friends, including Frank James, Sr. and best friend, Timothy Burton.

Helen was preceded in death by her father, Isiah Mims; mother, Irene Mims Boykin, stepfather Carl L. Boykin, and brother, Johnny Earl Mims.