To the living, I am gone,
To the sorrowful, I will never return,
To the angry, I was cheated,
But to the happy, I am at peace,
And to the faithful, I have never left.

I cannot speak, but I can listen.
I cannot be seen, but I can be heard.
So as you stand upon a shore gazing at a beautiful sea,
As you look upon a flower and admire its simplicity,
Remember me.

Remember me in your heart:
Your thoughts, and your memories,
Of the times we loved,
The times we cried,
The times we fought,
The times we laughed.
For if you always think of me, I will never have gone.

Honorary Pallbearers

Marquise James Sr. - Jermaine James - Jerome James Jr.
Mike Jones - Jay James - Jermal James - Marqueze Simpson.

Acknowledgements

Thank you for your kind expression of sympathy. Your support and the lovely flowers meant so much to our family during this difficult time.

Marlan Gary Funeral Home
1 Funeral Home | 5 Locations

Ministry Of Comfort Entrusted To:

North Chapel
2500 Cleveland Ave.,
Columbus, OH 43211
614-267-8310

East Chapel
5456 Livingston Ave.,
Columbus, OH 43232
614-604-8774

Mansfield Chapel
753 McPherson St.,
Mansfield, OH 44903
419-524-6999

Springfield Chapel
823 South Yellow Springs St.,
Springfield, Ohio 45506
937-325-1447

Cincinnati Chapel
647 Forest Ave,
Cincinnati OH 45229
513-221-4812

www.TheChapelOfPeace.Com

A celebration of the Life of



Gretchen Nicole Davis-James

Sunrise — Sunset
January 3, 1970 | October 12, 2026

Friday – October 23, 2026

Visitation: 1:00 PM
Memorial Service: 2:00 PM

The Chapel of Peace North
2500 Cleveland Avenue
Columbus, OH 43211

Obituary

Gretchen Nicole Davis-James was born on January 3, 1970 and departed this life on October 12, 2026 at Grant Hospital.

Gretchen James was a woman who believed in learning, growing, and creating opportunities for herself. She graduated from Brookhaven High School, completed nail technician school, and attended Columbus State Community College for one year. She also became a certified daycare provider, turning her love for children into a business that allowed her to care for others while building something of her own.

She loved to skate, take family trips, shop, and ball out! She enjoyed traveling, riding motorcycles, watching football and basketball, and, most importantly, spending time chilling with her family. Whether it was a big family gathering, a trip, a celebration, or simply being together, Gretchen treasured those moments.

Gretchen was a woman who knew how to balance hard work with enjoying life. She worked hard, loved deeply, served others, and made room for laughter, dancing, adventure, and family. Her faith guided her, her heart connected her to people, and her personality brought energy into every room she entered.

Gretchen wore many hats throughout her life. She sold Mary Kay and Avon, worked at Victoria's Secret and Victoria Fitness, where she taught aerobics, and gained experience in customer service at Huntington Bank, Rite Rug, and Days Inn. She even drove for Uber. No matter the job, Gretchen was willing to put in the work, learn something new, and keep pushing forward.

She loved God, she loved her family, she loved people, and she knew how to LIVE! Her legacy is not only in what she accomplished, but in the love she gave, the lives she touched, and the beautiful memories she leaves behind.

Gretchen was preceded in death by her father, John Robinson; her father-in-law, Samuel L. James, Sr.; Uncle Sunny; Mr. and Mrs. Louise Ingram; aunt and uncles, Sue-Anna "Sue" Davis; Shirley, Uncle Hurby; and Vickie Hanes.

She leaves to cherish her memory her mother, Norma Davis-Odom; husband, Jerome James, Sr.; mother-in-law, Marvia James; sister, Jazmine; her children: Marquise James Sr., Jermaine James, Jerome James, Jr., Mike Jones, Jay James, Jermal James, and Marqueze Simpson; grandchildren: Adoria James, Shaquone Cox-James, Jerome James III, Jamauri James, Marquise James Jr., Caiden Jones, Kourtlyn Jones, Jourdan Thompson, Jayceon James, Sadie James, Jah James, Kairo James, Koi James, Eli James, Kya James, and Josiah King-James and a host of other extended family members and friends.

That is the woman we will remember: a woman whose love was never just a piece, but the whole thing. A woman who stood firm, spoke freely, loved deeply, and left her mark on the hearts of the people fortunate enough to experience her love.

Order of Service

~

Musical Prelude……..……..*"Never Would Have Made It"*
Marvin Sapp

Scripture Reading……...…….Clergy
Old Testament: Psalm 27
New Testament: John 14: 1-6

Prayer of Comfort……...…….Clergy

Selection……..*"Jesus Promised Me A Home Over There"*
Jennifer Hudson

Acknowledgements/Resolutions

Remarks…….…….Family and Friends
Two Minutes Please

Reading of the Obituary……...…….David Sanders

Selection……*"Take Me To The King"*
Tamela Mann

The Eulogy
Ida Mays

Benediction……...….Clergy
Philemon 1:25

Recessional…….Clergy, Family and Friends