



A CELEBRATION

*Catherine E.*

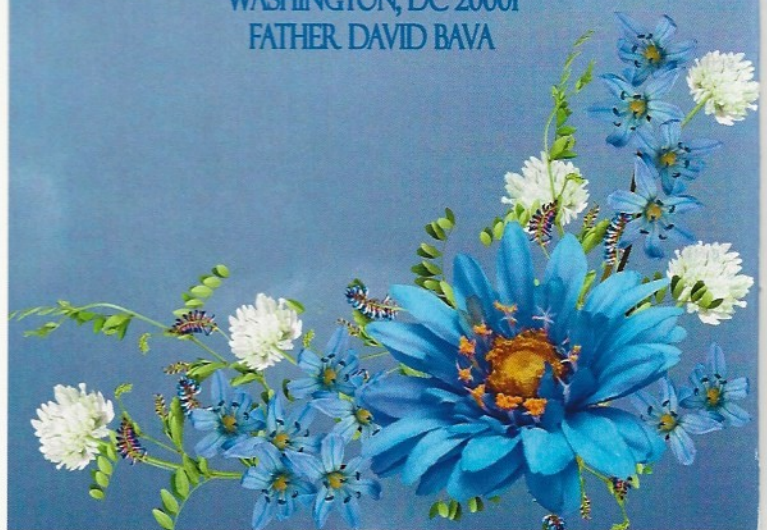
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2020  
VIEWING: 9:30 AM  
SERVICE: 10:30 AM



OF LIFE

*Grayton-Lee*

HOLY REDEEMER CATHOLIC CHURCH  
206 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20001  
FATHER DAVID BAVA



## Always Love My Momma

We will always love our momma. She gave us life and raised us to be respectful men to women and our elders. Mom, thank you for showing us how to be loving and caring men; especially when faced with adversity. Thanks mom for teaching us how to treat family during good and bad times. Mom you gave us your all, even when you had nothing to give you made a way for us. You have always given us good advice whether we took it or not. We will always love our momma.

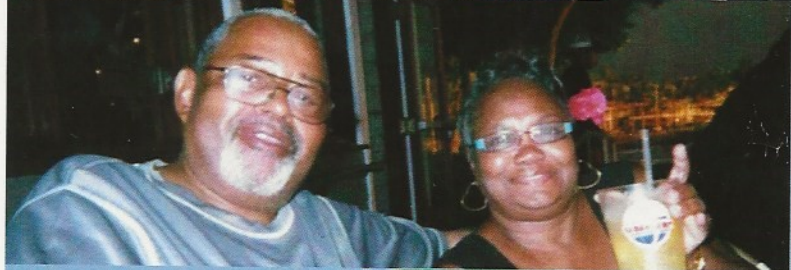
Mom, you know how much we love you. We will miss your smiling face, strength, wisdom, encouraging words and conversations we used to have at length. Thank you momma for being you - our rock and queen.

Our mother's love is irreplaceable. Mom, you showed us to do the will of God as we love on him through our faith. You also showed us strength, grace, commitment, hard work, and to love ourselves with pride. Most importantly you always loved your family first. We wish we were more perfect sons. The values of life that we received from you was priceless. Any success that we have today is contributed from your heart to ours. May God continue to bless us and have grace and peace over our family. Amen

Ms. Grayton thanks for being the greatest mother-in-law in the world to me. Thanks for loving me like your own daughter. We have shared many great times together. I am grateful to have had two mothers in my life time. Ms. Grayton you will forever be in my heart, on my mind and deep in my soul. I will always love you.

To a person whom, I would go to war for and she would do the same for me. She had a "Great Spirit" and was loved by everyone she came across. A person that never made me feel less than a great man and friend to her. My beautiful wife, for which I will truly miss. I love and will never let your memory go.

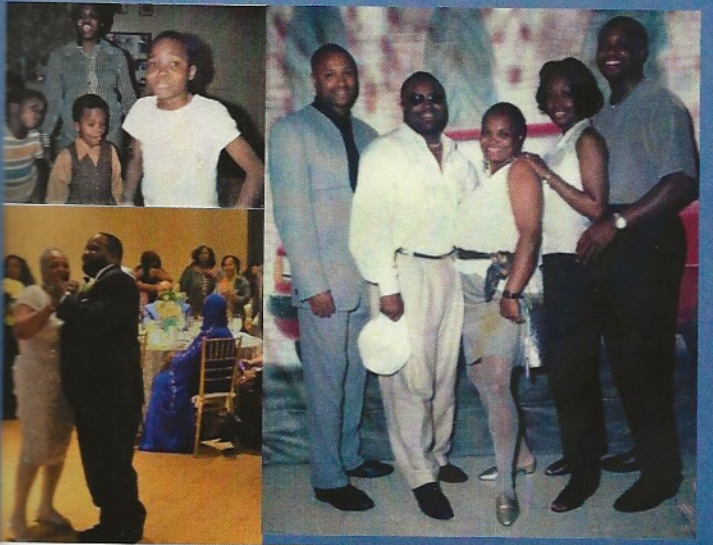
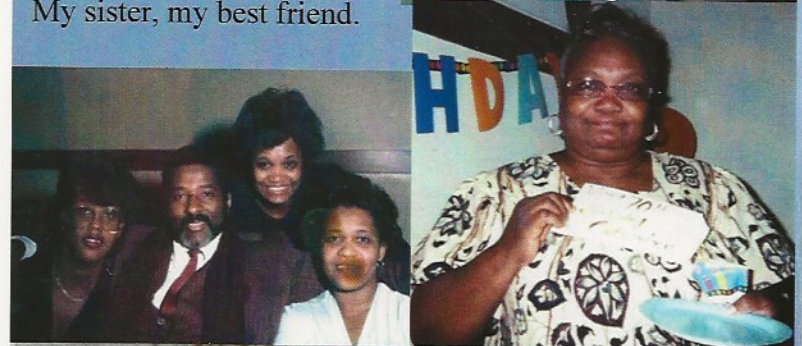
## Your Husband and Best Friend



## My Sister, My Friend

My sister was a playmate  
I knew was always near  
My Sister was a protector  
From every hurt or fear

We share a bond of closeness  
We know will never end  
We're here for one another  
My sister, my best friend.



A portrait of a woman with dark, styled hair, wearing a white turtleneck and a light blue jacket. The photo is set against a light blue background with a white border. There are blue decorative elements: a blue bag-like shape in the top left, a blue ribbon at the bottom, and three blue daisy-like flowers with yellow centers in the bottom left. The name 'Sug' is written in blue cursive in the top right, and her dates are written in white cursive on the blue ribbon at the bottom.

*Sug*

*September 11, 1942 - February 3, 2020*

## Obituary

A much-loved wife, mother, grandmother, daughter, sister, and aunt, Catherine Grayton-Lee, 77, of Washington, D.C., passed away peacefully at Howard University Hospital on Monday, February 3, 2020, with her family present. She fought long and hard, dealing with several illnesses. She was born September 11, 1942, to Joseph Mason and Catherine Broome-Mason in Washington, D.C. She had eight (8) siblings, Barbara Ann Mason-Martin, Joseph Mason, Jr., (deceased), Francis Lugene Mason, Shirley Matthew, Tony Mason, Sr., John Purnel Mason, Sr., Arvil Mason (deceased), and Kevin Brown. A new journey landed her in Rosedale, the Northeast section of Washington, D.C. She grew up on Kramer Street, the same block where the Grayton Family lived – just a few doors down. She met Memnar Grayton and they were inseparable, creating a life of promise. While pregnant in 1960, she graduated from Eastern High School – “Rambler for Life” and gave birth to her and Memnar’s first son, Begat James Cornelius Grayton. She grew up in the Catholic Church and was a faithful Catholic. She married Memnar in 1963 and begat Memnar Grayton in 1963, and Anthony Maurice Grayton in 1966. Throughout her lifetime Catherine loved music, dancing, reading, and movies. She loved all kinds of music, especially R&B music - her favorite. She loved hand dancing and could rip any floor up. She had a crush on Lil Anthony of the singing group “Lil Anthony and Imperials.” She would take her kids to concerts, and even received a kiss from the lead singer of the Dells, Marvin, while rushing the stage and holding her sons James, Memnar, and Anthony at Howard Theatre. She was an avid reader, especially anything concerning Black History – because she loved her Black Culture. After living with her mother-in-law, Fronie Grayton on 15th Street Northeast for a brief time, she and Memnar relocated to the Brentwood Section of Northeast, D.C., and then to the Langdon Park Section of Northeast, D.C., where she resided for the past 46 years. After her marriage with Memnar ended, Catherine met a kind, caring, and loving man, Henry Edward Lee. She and Henry were married in 2001, creating a life of love until her passing.

In her professional life, she always served with a faith filled, Catholic Spirit, as a secretary, dietician, waitress, bank teller, and administration assistant. She worked for several major companies in the Washington Metropolitan Area, such as Mays Construction, Suburban Trust Bank, Sovereign Bank, Bank of America, Chevy Chase Bank, Hungry Herman, Jerry’s Sub Shop, and Fannie Mae. During her time at Suburban Bank in the 70’s, she met Jo Ann Campbell who became her best friend. They were like peas in a pod – if you saw Sug, you saw Jo Ann. She treated Jo Ann like her sister, and that’s how her entire family treated Jo Ann – like a sister and aunt. Catherine was like a grandmother to Jo Ann’s kids, Kamesa Patrick and Rodney Campbell, Jr. (Godson).

She loved everybody, every culture, and every race. She opened her arms to the LGBTQ community before there was such an acronym. She threw parties at her home for the Queens (the common phrased used back then) to showcase their talents in private settings without being questioned about their sexuality. She touched all that graced her presence with wisdom in an outspoken and spiritual way.

She celebrated a life through music, dance, movies, advocacy, advice, and strength in God. She instilled the word of God into her sons and ensured that they were raised and practiced the Catholic Faith at a high standard. Her life’s motto: “Treat people right and they will treat you right.”

Catherine is survived by her husband of 18 years and 2 months, Henry E. Lee of Washington, D.C.; sons, James Grayton (Christina), Memnar M. Grayton, and Anthony M. Grayton (Arecia); stepchildren Bridgette Bellard (Waylon), Kevin Lee, Henry Lee, Jr.; grandchildren, Aquia Abdul-Hakim, Jessica Morel, James Cornelius Grayton, Jr., Jantrony Price, Anthony Maurice Grayton, Jr., Aneia Grayton, Jamir Grayton, Brooke Lynne Grayton, Chaisse Crayton-Wood, Jania Beckwith, Morgan Malia Grayton, Mira Grayton; Aunt, Molly Butler; sisters, Barbara Ann Martin (John), Shirley Matthews (Abraham-deceased); brothers Joseph Mason, Jr. (deceased), Francis Mason (Anna), Tony Mason, Sr., John Mason, Arvil Mason (deceased) and Kevin Brown (Dawn); great grandchildren, Zahir Abdul-Hakim, Ali Abdul-Hakim, Haneef Abdul-Hakim, Kylie Guzman, Sadiyah Abdul-Hakim, Gia Morel, Nusaybah Abdul-Hakim, Tyrell Cauthern, Aubrey Scott, JoJo Beckwith, James Beckwith; Godsons Robert Mason, Sean Lampkin, Darryl Lampkin, Tony Mason, Jr. (deceased), and a hosts of nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her mother Catherine Mason-Matthews, father Joseph Mason, brothers Joseph Mason, Jr., and Arvil Mason.

# *Celebration of Life Order of Service*

**Celebrant**.....Father David Bava

**Opening Hymn**....*You're the Best Thing That ever Happened to Me*..... Shelita Settles

## **Liturgy of the Word**

**First Reading** *Book of Wisdom, 3:1-9*.....Ania Grayton

**Responsorial Psalm** *Psalm 27*

"The Lord is My Light and My Salvation"

**Second Reading** *1<sup>st</sup> Letter of Paul, 5: 5-11*.....James Grayton, II

**Gospel Acclamation** "Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia"

**Gospel Proclamation** *Luke 13: 10-17*

**Homily**.....Father David Bava

**Offertory Hymn**.....*Because of You*.....Toya Mason

## **Rite of Communion**

**Communion Song**.....Deacon Willis Daniels

**Family Words**.....John Mason, Anthony Maurice Grayton,  
Memnar Grayton, James C. Grayton, Aquia Abdul-Hakim

**Going Forth Song**.....Deacon Willis Daniels

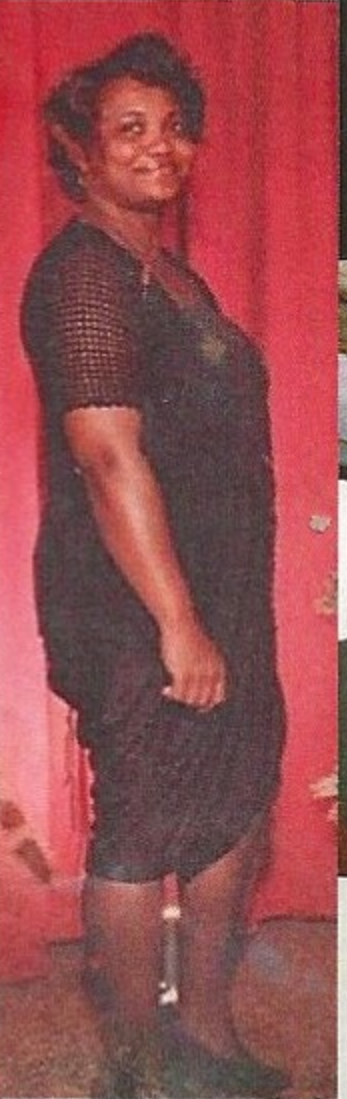
### **INTERMENT**

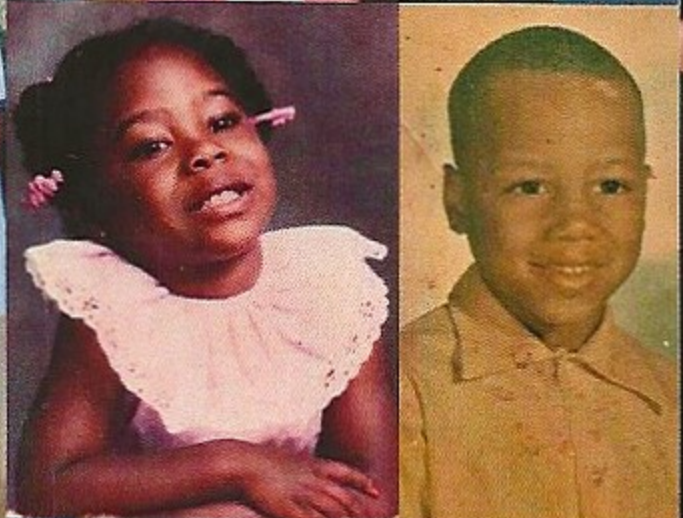
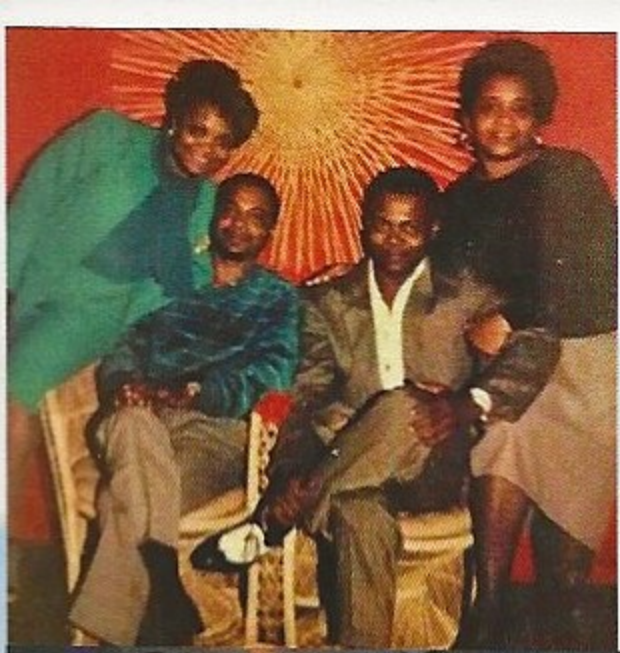
Fort Lincoln Cemétery  
3401 Bladensburg Road  
Brentwood, MD 20722

### **REPAST**

Holy Redeemer Catholic Church  
206 New York Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20001







## Pallbearers

James Grayton II  
Ali Abdul-Hakim  
Jamir Grayton

Maurice Grayton Jr.  
Haneef Abdul-Hakim  
Jahsuan Bellard

Zahir Abdul-Hakim  
Rodney Campbell

## Floral Bearers

Family and Friends

## Acknowledgments

The family of the late Catherine E. Grayton-Lee thank each of you most sincerely for your kind expressions of sympathy as well as your encouragement for the days ahead. It's with great appreciation and thanks for your prayers, visits, phone calls, cards and many other expressions of love and care during our time of bereavement. May God bless each of you.

### The Family

You can only have one mother  
Patient kind & true;  
No other friend in all the world  
Will be the same to you.  
When others 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.*

*Professional Services Entrusted To*  
Robinson Funeral Home  
1313 6th Street NW  
Washington, DC 20001

*Professional Printing Services*  
MMRJOY Creative Designs  
Phone: (301) 742-0363



**When I Look Around  
& I Think Things Over,  
All Of My Good Days  
Out Weight My Bad Days.  
Thank You Lord...  
I WON'T COMPLAIN!**

