

ANNIE'S EVOLUTION



## ANNIE'S ROSES

*White signifies peace and spirituality  
which was Annie's saving grace.*

*Green is Annie's favorite color and signifies abundance*

*Red signifies the everlasting love between  
Annie and Nathaniel*

*Pink signifies love, gratitude and admiration Annie  
bore for each of her children*

*Yellow signifies the friendship, happiness and joy  
Annie experienced with her siblings*

*Purple represents royalty and majesty,  
Annie was our "Queen"*

# Together Again

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*The family of Annie Lee Johnson wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many comforting messages, prayers, and other expressions of sympathy extended to them during this difficult time. Much love and appreciation to our East 100th and 108th Street Families. A special thanks to the entire staff, especially the Nursing staff, at Hospice of the Western Reserve for your tireless effort in providing around the clock care for our mom as well the loss of our loved one.*

### REPAST

*Camp George Forbes Recreation  
25440 Harvard Road  
Highland Hills, OH 44122  
(216) 263-5325*



ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO:  
**GAINES FUNERAL HOME**  
9116 UNION AVENUE, CLEVELAND, OHIO 44105  
5386 LEE ROAD, MAPLE HEIGHTS, OHIO 44137  
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PROGRAM BY CLAUDETTE NICOLE  
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# GOD'S GARDEN

FEATURING

QUEEN

# Annie

PLANTED: MAY 31, 1931 | HARVESTED: MAY 23, 2023

*Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come.  
She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness.  
She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness.  
Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her.  
Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.*

*Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain:*

*but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.*

*Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.*

PROVERBS 31: 25-31



## ANNIE SOWED A GOOD SEED

*Annie Lee was born on May 31, 1931, in Union Springs, Alabama. She was the 2nd child and oldest daughter born to the late Will and Allie Mae Patrick. She was the 3rd of 10 children. Annie had a wonderful childhood and loved to share fond memories of growing up on a farm. As the oldest girl, Annie was responsible for helping with her younger siblings. Her nurturing spirit would prove instrumental years later as she raised a family of her own. Annie's father was an avid hunter and on occasions she would go hunting with her father and brothers. Their favorite pastime was fishing, and although Annie was afraid of water, she would accompany them on a boat to catch fish in a nearby pond. This is the same pond where Annie was baptized, at age 15. She looked back on her childhood as "Good ole Days."*

*Annie was a devout Christian and loved to tell the story of her conversion. She was 15 years old working in the fields when overcome by the Holy Spirit. Annie states she started screaming and the animals around her began to run. During this time, she even lost her appetite. Annie would say with absolute certainty that she was a "Born Again" Christian. While attending church in Union Springs, Alabama, Annie served on the Usher Board along with her sister Betty. Annie often recalled getting up early on Sunday mornings, walking to church or riding on their horse driven wagon.*

*Annie received her formal education in Union Springs Alabama and graduated from Carver High School. After graduating, Annie relocated to Cleveland, Ohio. Once in Cleveland, Annie initially worked as a clerk in a grocery store, it was there she met her Nathaniel, who was the love of her life. They were married on October 10, 1953. Nathaniel preceded her in death on August 24, 2018, just two months shy of 65 years of wedded bliss. Annie later worked as a Nursing Assistant at St. Luke's Hospital as well as Metropolitan Hospital where she provided care to children. She retired in 1986.*

*Annie joined Second Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor B.G. Gilbert and later served under the leadership of Pastor C.D. Gant. Annie was a member of the Nurses Guild Ministry as well as an Eastern Star. Annie was "Ole School" and believed that a woman's head should be covered while attending church service. Therefore, on any given Sunday, apart from the Sunday's she served on the Nurse's Guild, Annie would sport a wide brim hat. When Annie's health began to fail, she enjoyed praising the Lord via television ministry in the comfy confines of her home.*

*Annie adored her family and appreciated any opportunity celebrating family gatherings or quality time on the phone with her siblings, especially Everlena whom she spoke with 3 – 5 times daily. Annie's hobbies included gardening, cooking, and traveling. Her last trip was in the month of June 2021. Annie was finally convinced to travel again via airplane. This time her destination was*

### PALLBEARERS

*Jerry (Jay) Johnson II  
Raynard Patrick  
Marcus Johnson  
Malik Johnson  
Edward Johnson  
Carl Nix*

### HONORARY PALLBEARERS

*Jerry Johnson I  
Jerry Johnson Jr. III  
Shane Connor  
Donald Patrick  
Leonzo Bufford II  
Leonzo Bufford III  
Aiden Ingram  
Bryce Coleman  
Maverick Johnson  
George Bryant  
Raymond Cooper*

### FLOWER BEARERS

*Nieces*

## "GIVE ME MY FLOWERS, WHILE I YET LIVE"

*GIVE ME MY FLOWERS  
WHILE I YET LIVE  
SO THAT I, I, I CAN SEE THE BEAUTY  
THAT THEY BRING*

*SPEAK KIND WORDS TO ME  
WHILE I CAN HEAR THEM  
SO THAT I, I, I CAN HEAR THE  
COMFORT  
THAT THEY BRING*

*FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES  
MAY GIVE ME FLOWERS  
WHEN I'M SICK?  
OR ON MY SICK BED  
BUT I'D RATHER HAVE  
JUST ONE TULIP RIGHT NOW  
THAN A BLANKET FULL OF ROSES  
WHEN I'M DEAD*

*GIVE ME MY FLOWERS  
WHILE I YET LIVE  
SO THAT I, I, I CAN SEE THE BEAUTY  
THAT THEY BRING*

*SPEAK KIND WORDS TO ME  
WHILE I CAN HEAR THEM  
SO THAT I, I, I CAN HEAR THE  
COMFORT  
THAT THEY BRING*



*If Roses grow in Heaven Lord, please pick a bunch for me. Place them in my mother's arms and tell her they're from me. Tell her that I love her and miss her, and when she turns to smile, place a kiss upon her cheek and hold her for a while. Because remembering her is easy, I do it every day, but there's an ache within my heart that will never go away.*

LOVE, JERRY

*Although perfection does not lie in man or woman, as our mom, you were as close to perfection as anyone could be. The unselfish way you gave, the sacrifices you made, the discipline, the lessons, and the unconditional love. You will always remain our perfect rose, with soft petals glistening from the morning dew. There aren't enough words to adequately convey what you mean to me and how eternally grateful I am that God chose you to be my mother. I am the woman I am today because of your example. I love you mommy, but you knew that just as I knew you loved me because we not only demonstrated this, but we also told each other every day and blew sweet kisses to each other at night. I am at peace today because I believe in my heart that you and my daddy are now resting together!  
Goodnite Mommy, "MUAH"*

LOVE, ELAINE

*My Mother, Annie L. I have loved you since the beginning of my time. Thank you for being married to my daddy my whole life. Thank you for setting the example of how a Christian woman is supposed to live. I always tell people that my mother is ALWAYS the same. She would say that people will have to stand before God for themselves. That is WORD and strength for me. It is not about people but how I treat people. It is because of the relationship with Jesus that Momma shared with her family. THANK YOU.*

LOVE BEV BEV

*Our Tutu..  
You can have one special grandmother, patient kind and true; no other friend in all the world. Will be the same to you. When other friends forsake you, to grandma 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 grandma up above; tell her how we miss her, and give her all our love.*

WITH LOVE,  
YOUR GRANDCHILDREN, GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN, &  
GREAT-GREAT GRANDCHILDREN

## DEAREST MOMMY,

*I Only Wanted You*

*They say memories are golden*

*well maybe that is true*

*I never wanted memories*

*I only wanted you.*

*A million times I needed you*

*A million times I cried*

*if love alone could have saved you  
you would have never died.*

*In life I loved you dearly*

*In death I love you still*

*In my heart you hold a place*

*no one could ever fill.*

*If tears could build a stairway*

*and heartache make a lane*

*I'd walk the path to heaven*

*and bring you back again.*

*Our family chain is broken*

*and nothing seems the same*

*But as God calls us one by one*

*the chain will link again.*

*Florida where she would visit her eldest daughter, Elaine and son-n-law, Ransom. While there, she was able to enjoy another hobby that she had not experienced in years, a trip to the casino! When Annie spoke of her Florida visit, she stated that she "enjoyed it to the highest."*

*Annie was an amazing cook, and her love of cooking was on full display at family gatherings during the holidays and every Sunday. Annie would cook large Sunday dinners to make sure she had enough just in case someone stopped by for a visit. Some of her favorite dishes were her delicious collard greens, cabbage, corn bread, mouth-watering peach cobbler and melt-in-your mouth pound cakes.*

*There was a special spot in Annie's backyard that was reserved for her annual vegetable garden. Annie would plant everything from collards to tomatoes, cabbages, beans, onions, you name it, she planted it. This tradition continued until her health would not allow it. Therefore, a new tradition was started that entailed planting and hanging flowers in the front yard every Spring to celebrate Annie's birthday. This tradition was handed down to Annie's children and grandchildren and the tradition continued each year.*

*Although later in life Annie's memory was compromised, there were certain talking points she used to let us know when she meant business. When we spoke with her regarding her knowledge of medicine, she would say, "I worked in the hospital many a years," when we talked about religion, she would say, "I'm a born-again Christian," when her health began to fail her, she would say, "Thank God, I'm still here." And when she felt that no explanation was required, Annie would say, "You got to do what you got to do."*

*Annie was completely devoted to her family. She would always remind her children of the lessons her parents instilled in her and her siblings, "If one of them was in trouble, they were all in trouble." Annie led an exemplary life in words and deeds! She was unwavering in her faith and how she viewed life issues. Although Annie only had 3 biological children, she was "Mama" to many, especially her 100th and 108th Street Families. Annie was loved and respected by her children's friends, her nieces, nephews, cousins, neighbors, and anyone who came to know her. Annie shared her wisdom and faith with anyone who would listen.*

*Annie was cherished and adored by her children who spoiled her every chance they got. Celebrations were plentiful in the Johnson household, we celebrated everything, especially birthdays and holidays. When her children were young, they were beyond excited to be able to purchase a Mother's Day gift, a punch bowl with the little cups. They even sang a song written by her son, Jerry to celebrate their mom. This gift would be cherished by Annie for many years. One year on Christmas Eve, the entire Johnson clan stayed overnight so everyone could wake up on Christmas morning with Nathaniel and Annie. During covid, Annie could not have an in-house celebration for her 89th birthday so her baby girl, Beverly decided to organize a parade for her that*



## ROSE VINES

included a line of decorated cars which was led by her granddaughter, Ayanah. The following year, Annie turned 90 and was blessed to be able to celebrate this milestone birthday both indoors and outdoors with family and friends.

Yesssss, loving and caring for Annie was a family affair which included each of her children, grands, great grands, and great-great grands, each of whom played a part in putting a smile on her face. Annie often spoke of how blessed she was to have children who truly loved her.

God has blessed this beautiful woman of God to live a full and blessed life for 91 years. She has now taken a much-needed rest, joining her loved ones who have gone on before her, especially her beloved Nathaniel whom she referred to as "A good man gone home."

Annie was preceded in death by six of her siblings: Eugene Patrick, Bishop Edward Patrick, Betty Mae Pruitt, Dorothy Hopps, William Patrick and Jimmie Lee Patrick. Jimmie Lee passed away in 1986 leaving three children, Donald, Raynard and Kimberly. Annie, along with her surviving siblings at that time, provided guidance and support for their sister's children. Kimberly Patrick preceded Annie in death on September 9, 2017.

Annie made her majestic transition on Tuesday, May 23, 2023, surrounded by Angels of Mercy. Precious memories of Annie will forever be cherished by her children, Jerry (Lorraine), Elaine, and Beverly (Maverick). One stepson, Frank, (Dorothy Jean) of Jackson, Mississippi and one stepdaughter, Pam. Six grandchildren: Takenya, Jerry Sr. (Erica), Marcus, Shane (Zenobia), Ayanah and Malik. Eight great-grands: Courtnee, Destinee, Leonzo Jr., NaJayla, Jerry Jr., Caila, Zuri, and Zoe. Five great-great grands: Aiden, Rylee, Leonzo III, Kennedi and Bryce. Two special nephews, Donald (Lynn) and Raynard. Two loving sisters: Everlena Eiland and Lucille Ligon. One Loving brother, Linton Patrick. Three Sister-in-Laws: Cynthia Patrick of Newark, NJ., Francis Nix and Clara Young. A devoted and loving Goddaughter, Dale Young, and George Bryant whom Annie fondly referred to as her "Other Son." A host of Nieces, Nephews, Cousins other family members and Friends, too numerous to name and too important to overlook.

Annie was much more than the matriarch of our family; she was our "Rock." Her devotion was consistent, her love for us and her influence over us was even greater. She was the epitome of a strong, Black, Christian woman who put God first and allowed her faith to guide her in every decision. Annie embodied the woman described in Proverbs 31: 25-31. As we her children attempt to live by her example, we are mindful of her sacrifices, her unconditional love, and unwavering commitment to her family. We are forever grateful to God for choosing this wonderful woman as our mom. "Rest well Queen Annie, we will take it from here. We got this, and God's got us."





**ROSE VINES**

**GARDEN OF PRAISE AND REFLECTION**



*Pastor A. Charles Ligon, Officiant*

*Organ Prelude*

*Processional.....“I Just Want to Praise You” by Maurette Brown Clark*

*Old Testament Reading: Psalms 91.....Pastor James Ligon Jr.*

*New Testament Reading: Revelations 21: 2-7.....Bishop Elect Anthony Ligon*

*Prayer.....Pastor Clovice Ramsey*

*Family Selection.....“Let Jesus Lead You” (Annie’s favorite song)*

*Remarks.....Deacon Curtis Spivery, Deacon Board Chairman*

*Acknowledgement of Cards, Telegrams, and Resolutions*

*Obituary.....Ayanah Johnson (Granddaughter)*

*Solo.....Jerry Johnson (Son)*

*Family Reflections.....Takenya Johnson (Granddaughter)*

*Selection.....Male Chorus*

*Poem.....Caila (Great-Granddaughter)*

*Solo.....Hold on Just a Little While Longer (Nawassa Brown)*

*“A Grandmother’s Love”.....Marcus Johnson (Grandson)*

*Selection.....Male Chorus*

*Tribute to “AJ”.....Shirley Eiland (Niece)*

*Selection.....Pastor Cynthia Patrick*

*Eulogy.....Minister Beverly A. Johnson*

*Recessional*

**INTERMENT**  
*Cleveland Memorial Gardens  
4324 Green Road  
Cleveland Ohio 44122*







ROSE PETALS

A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME IS: "ANNIE"



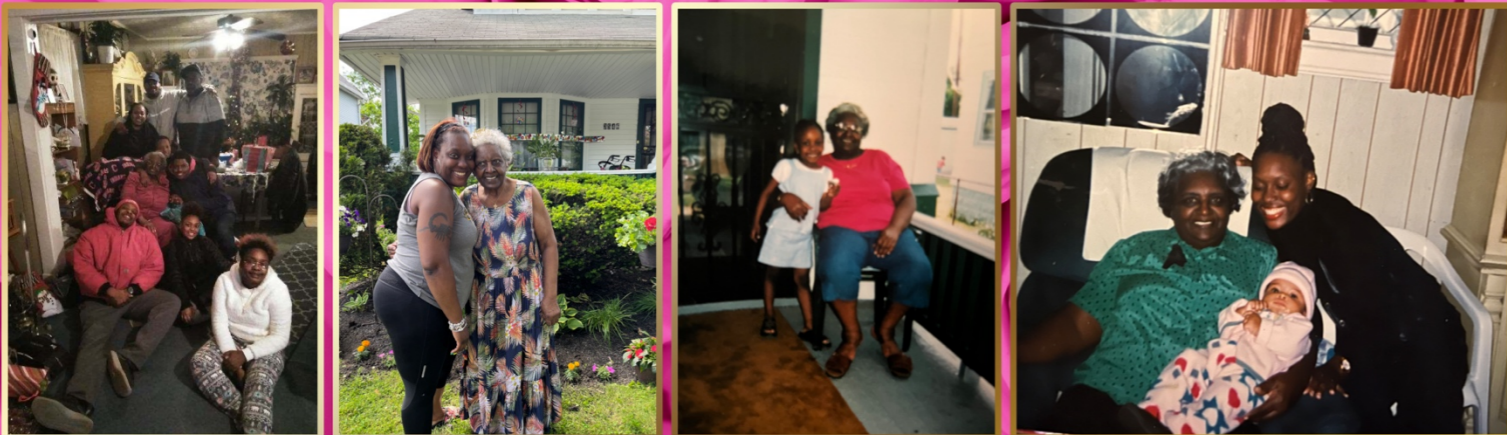






ROSEBUDS

PERENNIAL LOVE





ROSES

ROSES

