



**WHEN TOMORROW STARTS  
WITHOUT ME**

*When tomorrow starts without me,  
and I'm not there to see;  
If the sun should rise and find your eyes,  
all filled with tears for me;  
I wish so much you wouldn't cry,  
the way you did today,  
while thinking of the many things,  
we didn't get to say.  
I know how much you love me,  
as much as I love you,  
and each time that you think of me,  
I know you'll miss me too;  
But when tomorrow starts without me,  
please try to understand,  
that an Angel came and called my name,  
and took me by the hand,  
and said my place was ready,  
in heaven far above,  
and that I'd have to leave behind,  
all those I dearly love.  
So when tomorrow starts without me,  
don't think we're far apart,  
for every time you think of me,  
I'm right here, in your heart.*

*With Love,  
Paula Gist*

**CELEBRATING THE LIFE & LEGACY OF**

*Prayer for Serenity  
God, grant me the serenity  
to accept the things I cannot  
change,  
the courage to change the things  
I can,  
and the wisdom to know the  
difference.*

*Living one day at a time,  
enjoying one moment at a time;  
accepting hardship as a pathway  
to peace;  
taking, as Jesus did,  
this sinful world as it is,  
not as I would have it;  
trusting that You will make all  
things right  
if I surrender to Your will;  
so that I may be reasonably happy  
in this life  
and supremely happy with You  
forever in the next.  
Amen.*



*Paula Laverne Gist*

**JULY 9, 1947 - SEPTEMBER 2, 2021**

**27,085 Days Served on Earth  
NOW SERVING IN HEAVEN**

**CASKET BEARERS**

*Paul Demetrius Gist  
Emanuel Kline Jr.  
Calvin Lenard  
Duane Stewart  
Clarance Pride*

**FLOWER BEARERS**

*Family & Friends*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

*The family of Ms. Paula Laverne  
Gist sincerely appreciates all the love  
and kindness shown during the loss  
of their loved one. May God bless  
and keep each of you and may his  
S O N forever shine upon you.*

ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO:



**GAINES FUNERAL HOME**  
9116 UNION AVENUE, CLEVELAND, OHIO 44105  
5386 LEE ROAD, MAPLE HEIGHTS, OHIO 44137  
216-641-4802  
WWW.GAINESFUNERALHOME.COM

PROGRAM BY CLAUDETTE NICOLE  
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# Order of Service

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2021

*Celebration of Life 12:00 PM*

WARRENSVILLE COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH  
5045 Warrensville Center Road, Maple Heights, OH 44137  
Reverend Dr. Gregory Walker, Officiant & Eulogist

*Musical Prelude.....Mr. Earl McElrath*  
*Processional....."Amazing Grace"*  
*Scripture.....Psalm 23 & Proverbs 3:56.....Rev. Dr. Gregory Walker*  
*Prayer of Comfort.....Minister Dewine Charles*  
*Solo.....Barsha Gist*  
*Tributes.....To Be Read Silently.....Family & Friends*  
*Letter To My Sister by Ella Marie*  
*Letter From The Grandchildren*  
*Obituary.....To Be Read Silently*  
*Selection....."Never Would Have Made It".....Mr. Earl McElrath*  
*Eulogy & Words of Comfort.....Rev. Dr. Gregory Walker*  
*Recessional.....Mr. Earl McElrath*

## INTERMENT

Cleveland Memorial Gardens  
4324 Green Road  
Cleveland, OH 44128

# Tributes

"WE MISS YOU"

*To My Sister, Paula*

*Oh, how I'll miss you. You have been my earthly rock ever since childhood. We had a "Sister Love" that transcended all relationships. You always had my back. You were my friend, my counselor, someone who knew me in and out. You felt my pain and sadness without me saying a word. We were like twins, feeling each other when in distress. Oh, how I'm going to miss you. You always comforted me and after my son Marcus was murdered, you recalled dates and events that I had forgotten. We shared laughter, experienced hardships, loss of loved ones, challenges, sickness and happy times. We traveled together for four years, all over Los Angeles, California, Nevada and yes, Hawaii! Boy, did we have a time in Hawaii! I remember in February, we were visiting our cousin Faye. We went to the beach and we called back to Cleveland and Cleveland had 3 inches of snow and freezing cold and here we were jumping the waves, well, I was, Paula, you wouldn't even go in the water above your knee \*Smile\*. I remember that as if it were yesterday and you were so proud and so happy! When you visited the White House in Washington, DC and hugged Michelle Obama, you talked about that as if you had won the lottery! Oh, what a joy that was! Then sickness hit you, but God extended your life 4.5 more years. I thank God for that.*

*I am blessed to have had you that long. Sweet memories I will always remember. You will always live in my heart and I will always carry you in my heart as I do Marcus.*

*Sleep, my Beautiful, Fashionable, Caring, Loving Sister Paula. I'll miss you so much, but I know that cancer can't hurt you anymore. Rest my Beautiful Sister...*

*With Love Always,  
Ella Marie*

**TO MY GRANDMOTHER**  
*Dear Grandma,*

*It's going to be very sad without you. I'm going to remember all that you've taught us. We love you very much. May your beautiful angelic Wayne's sore in heaven until we see you again.*

*Love, your Granddaughters  
Latasha and Vivian*

*Grandma,*

*I'm going to miss you. You took care of me. I will always look up to the sky and I know you're looking down on me watching that I am being good. I will never be alone because your eyes are always on me.*

*Love you, Grandma  
Your Grandson, Michael*



# Paula's Journey

*Paula Laverne Gist was born on July 9th 1947 in New York City, New York. She was the oldest of Dorothy Mae Jackson and Paul Edward Gist (both deceased). Paula departed her life September 2, 2021. She attended school in Columbia, South Carolina but came to Cleveland, Ohio in the 10th grade. She graduated from East Tech High School and returned to Columbia, South Carolina and received an associate's degree in nursing.*

*She joined AA in 2004 where she met Shirley Payne, Wanda Leverette, Jet Lyons, Calvin L and James P. She remained active until God called her home. She was the secretary of Mustard Seed for over 7 years which she loved dearly.*

*Besides attending meetings Paula loved to shop. She was a very fashionable coordinating and proud dresser.*

*Paula was a faithful member of Warrensville Community Road Baptist Church where she served as an Usher.*

*Paula is survived by her loving and devoted family. She leaves to cherish her memory one daughter, Barsha Laverne Gist; one son, Paul Demetrius Gist Sr; one sister, Ella Marie Gist Posey of Columbia, SC; three brothers, William Douglas Gist, Clifford Herbert Jackson (Teri Johnson), Mother in Law, Rose Webbs, and Allan Gist of Cleveland, OH; also a stepmother, Sarah Josephine Gist of Cleveland, OH; 6 grandchildren, Michael, LaTasha, Vivian, Ronald, Paul I and Paul II; two great grandchildren, Alaina and Dremelle and a host of nephews, nieces, other relatives and loving friends; a special nephew, Alvin "Diller" Posey (Candy) of Columbia, SC; her dear friend, Wanda Leverette and all of her AA members. Paula was preceded in death by her nephew, Marcus Mandrell Posey of Columbia, SC.*

*She was greatly loved by all who met her because of her friendly smile and kind words.*



JULY 9, 1947 - SEPTEMBER 2, 2021





