

A Mother's Crown

Heaven lit up with a mighty presence, as the Angels all looked down. Today the Lord was placing the jewels into my mother's crown. He held up a golden crown, as my darling mother looked on. He said in His gentle voice, 'I will now explain each one.'

'The first gem,' He said, 'is a Ruby, and it's for endurance alone, for all the nights you waited up for your children to come home.'

'For all the nights by their bedside, you stayed till the fever went down. For nursing every little wound, I add this ruby to your crown.'

'An emerald, I'll place by the ruby, for leading your child in the right way. For teaching them the lessons, that made them who they are today.'

'For always being right there, through all life's important events. I give you a sapphire stone, for the time and love you spent.'

'For untying the strings that held them, when they grew up and left home. I give you this one for courage.'

Then the Lord added a garnet stone. 'I'll place a stone of amethyst,' He said, 'For all the times you spent on your knees, when you asked if I'd take care of your children, and then for having faith in Me.'

'I have a pearl for every little sacrifice that you made without them knowing. For all the times you went without, to keep them happy, healthy and growing.'

'And last of all I have a diamond, the greatest one of all, for sharing unconditional love whether they were big or small.'

'It was your love that helped them grow feeling safe and happy and proud; a love so strong and pure it could shift the darkest cloud.'

After the Lord placed the last jewel in, He said, 'Your crown is now complete, You've earned your place in Heaven with your children at your feet.'

Unknown Author

Psalm 23

A Psalm of David - The Shepherd's Psalm

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Acknowledgements

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent those beautiful flowers, that we saw sitting there. Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say. Perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts we thank you so much for whatever part.



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CELEBRATION OF LIFE



Ms. Shonda Jamika
WATKINS

Sunrise
February 18, 1978

Sunset
April 5, 2023

Saturday, April 15, 2023 ~ 2:00PM

The Soutel Chapel
5065 Soutel Drive
Jacksonville, Florida 32208

Reverend Bryant Hill, Sr., Officiating
The Citadel Church

Obituary

A precious spirited angel, Shona Tamika Watkins Hester, age 45, passed away April 5, 2023. Born in Jacksonville, Florida in 1978, Shona was a talented athlete playing Little League Softball at Turtle Creek Ball Park. She graduated in 1996 from First Coast High School where she was the Football Team's Manager. Shona received her Certificate of Gerontology from Florida State College in 2018. Her career led her to be employed by several Healthcare and Customer Service companies throughout Jacksonville.

In her spare time, she loved listening to music and spending quality time with her family and friends. Most of all, many will remember how her smile could change the energy of an entire room. It has been said that a mother's love endures forever; this bond was prominently displayed between Shona and her mother.

Shona was preceded in death by father, Elbert Watkins. She leaves to cherish her memory, children, Adaja Burns, Shurron Hester Jr, Tiauna Hester, Kimora Hester, George Donald Jr; mother, Brenda Watkins; brother, Marlon Watkins; sister, Erika Jones (Maurice); nephews, Daishon Jones, Jekhari Jones (Currtez), Jemell Jones; nieces, Tameya Jones, Maryah Jones; great nephew and nieces, Ariyana Jones, Journee Jones, Jekhari Jones Jr, Angel Jones, Kh'Mari Jones; dear cousin, Michelle Baker Kirkland; close friends at heart, Kesha Cummings, Bryant Hill Sr, Joyce Fortenberry, Nicole Thomas, Lavern Laviolette, George Donald Sr; a host of family and friends.



Order of Service

<i>Processional</i>	<i>"Every Praise"</i>	<i>Hezekiah Walker</i>
<i>Invocation</i>		<i>Reverend Bryant Hill, Sr.</i>
<i>Old & New Testament</i>		<i>Reverend Bryant Hill, Sr.</i>
<i>Selection</i>	<i>"I Told The Storm"</i>	<i>Greg O'Quin</i>
<i>Reflections (2 minutes please)</i>		
<i>Friend</i>		<i>Nishaunda Abia</i>
<i>Family</i>		<i>Erika Jones</i>
<i>Acknowledgement</i>		<i>Michelle Kirkland</i>
<i>Selection</i>	<i>"I Need You Now"</i>	<i>Smokie Norful</i>
<i>Words of Comfort</i>		<i>Reverend Bryant Hill, Sr.</i>
<i>Committal/Benediction</i>		<i>Reverend Bryant Hill, Sr.</i>
<i>Recessional</i>	<i>"Stand Up"</i>	<i>Latasha Lee</i>