

### **ACTIVE PALLBEARERS**

(Nephews/Greats)

Ray Lewis Hannon  
Kenneth Harris  
Ronnie Harris

Maurice Johnson  
Cody Williams  
Lee Williams

### **HONORARY PALLBEARERS**

(Great Grands)

J'Kolby Christopher  
Richard Christopher, Jr.

James Charles Roberson  
Kendrick Williams



### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

*Our family sincerely would like to thank each one of you individually and collectively for all your expressions of love and acts of kindness shown us during this time. Most of all, we thank you for your prayers ... we thank you for your calls, text messages, flowers, cards, and donations. Words cannot express what it means to know that you love us enough that many of you made such a drive as you did to be with us today. A special thanks is extended to Johnesha Jackson, affectionately known as "Chip" and Clarissa Logan at Marshall Manor Nursing and Rehab who were special to my mom and me. We want to express our sincere appreciation to the staff of Hospice of East Texas who made sure that mom stayed comfortable and pain free. And of course, you always have that one person who visits more, does more, and goes above and beyond, Yvonne Johnson - all love to you.*

### **INTERMENT**

New Zion Baptist Church Cemetery  
State Highway 2208 @ 3001  
Jefferson, TX

### **FINAL ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO:**

Craig Funeral Home  
2001 South Green Street  
Longview, Texas 75602

# Homegoing Celebration of



## *Ruth Johnson Roberson*

SUNRISE: September 2, 1931 – SUNSET: April 16, 2023

11:00 am Saturday, April 22, 2023

New Zion Church of Christ

State Highway 154 @ Airlite Road

Marshall, TX 75670

Bro. Jason Roberson, Eulogist

*God writes with a pen that never blots,*

*Speaks with a tongue that never slips,*

*Acts with a hand that never fails,*

*Bless His Holy Name – He never makes a mistake.*



On September 02, 1931, Ruth Verdell Johnson was born to the late parentage of Armstead "Son" and Elnora Johnson. Ruth was the 10<sup>th</sup> child born into a family of 14 other siblings. She received her formal education in Harleton, Texas. Ruth later met and married James Dell "J. D." Roberson. To this union, one son, James and one daughter, Ruth Doris, who preceded them in death, were born. Ruth later was taught and obeyed the gospel of Christ at the New Zion church of Christ where she remained a faithful member until her health failed her. She had dedicated her life to service as a cook for Oak Haven Nursing Home, Marshall Manor Nursing Home, and Robert E. Lee School (MISD). She was well known for her famous Cornbread Dressing, Sweet Potato Pies, and Pineapple Cakes throughout the area.

On Sunday, April 16, 2023, about 1:10 pm, Ruth received the call that each of us will receive, "time's up!" Her memory forever will be cherished by her son James (Eulalia) of Tomball, TX; three sisters: Faye Scales of Navasota, TX, Lillian Harris of Houston, TX and Mary Alice Random of Houston, TX; three grandchildren: Lisa (Richard) Christopher of Marshall, TX, Jason (Takisha) Roberson of Forney, TX, and Janis Roberson of Magnolia, TX; Six great-grandchildren: Kendrick, Ebony, Richard Jr., James Charles, J'Kolby and Audrey; One great-great grandson, Khza. Being born into a family of 14 siblings, one must know that she has a great number of nieces, nephews, cousins and many other relatives and friends.

Grandma,

The love I feel for you is endless. Although I could never get you to admit that I was your favorite, I knew we shared a special connection. You would often say that we could be good friends; we were only like 50 years and a few days apart in birth. Over the years, I learned so much from you, your mannerisms, sayings, and habits – from holding onto/saving money to baking cakes that look uglier than sin but taste like a piece of heaven. Thank you. Your love, support, and encouragement were evident and always felt. I remember the joy you shared when I graduated with my doctorate and introducing me to everyone we saw in the nursing home as your "grand-doctor."

As much as I love you, I just couldn't bring myself to visit you in your final few days because I wanted to preserve my memories of you greeting me with those abnormally hard pats on the back, you pulling me to the side to ask me if I was doing alright, your greasing my hair and styling it in a way that Jason would make fun of me, me greasing your hair, and your persistent checking to see whether I met someone yet.

Unfortunately, I could not introduce you to your "grandson-in-law" no matter how many times you would randomly call and ask to see if I'd met him yet or try to send men my way. But know, should I ever meet him, he will know of you through the foods you taught me to cook in love... I'll fry him some pork chops, cook some greens, make some "sweet cornbread", and then bake a pineapple cake like you taught me.

You and your presence will never be forgotten...

Love you always,

Your grand-doctor "Miss Janny-Ranny"





Put simply, Grandma Ruth was a gift.

**Jason:** Grandma Ruth lived a full, long life and I'm thankful she was around to be a part of many of my big milestones—High school and college graduations, marriage, children, and home ownership. Because of her, I learned to slow down and love people. Janis and I cherished spending summers at her Marshall home, often playing outside all day and visiting with her friends while they talked all evening. Her nurturing and love yielded the best pies and pineapple cake known for its signature lean only Grandma Ruth could make. She was always giving and never let us leave her presence empty-handed. Our homes have been blessed with many nice things due to her kindness.

**Takisha:** I had been without my grandparents since childhood when Jason introduced me to Grandma Ruth more than 20 years ago. The first thing she did after meeting me was to make sure I was fed. It made me feel like part of the family and I gained an instant new grandmother in that moment. Grandma Ruth was funny and witty and I enjoyed listening to her tell stories about her youth.

**James Charles and Audrey:** We were so blessed to have had a great-grandmother. We loved visiting Grandma Ruth and playing around the house when she lived in Marshall. She came to some of our school events and always liked giving us fun things to take home with us. We loved Grandma Ruth and we're going to miss her.

Audrey & James Charles



Takisha & Jason



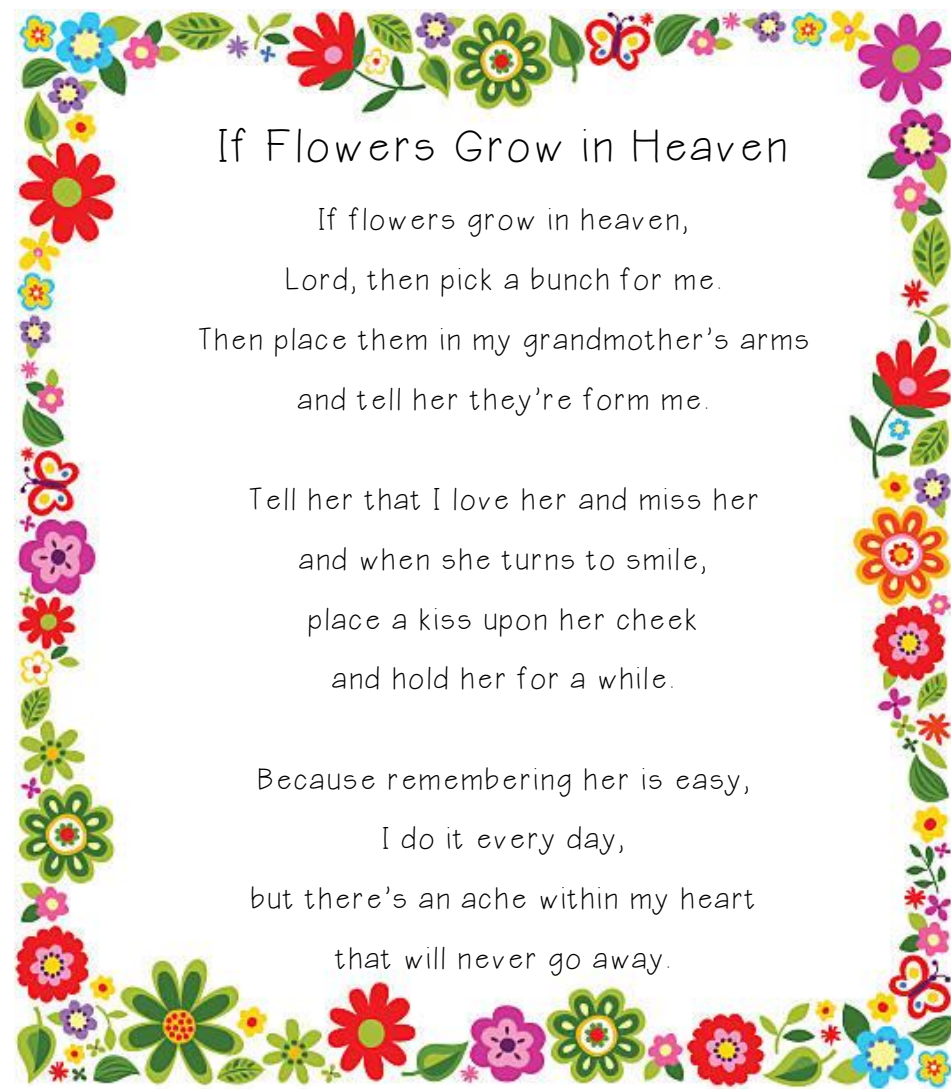
## ORDER OF SERVICE

Eric Jackson, Emcee

|                                  |                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Processional.....                | Family & Clergy |
| Hymn of Comfort .....            | Justin Felder   |
| Opening Prayer .....             | Victor Walker   |
| Scripture Reading:               |                 |
| Old Testament .....              | Gary McMillian  |
| New Testament .....              | Barry Gibson    |
| Hymn of Hope .....               | Justin Felder   |
| Prayer of Solace .....           | Gary Smith      |
| Resolution(s).....               | Janet Davis     |
| Acknowledgement .....            | Janis Roberson  |
| Songs of Spirit .....            | Crosby Family   |
| Remarks (2 minutes please) ..... | Audience        |
| Ministerial Remarks .....        | Eric Jackson    |
| Song of Encouragement .....      | Justin Felder   |
| Eulogy.....                      | Jason Roberson  |
| Recessional .....                | Matthew Johnson |







## If Flowers Grow in Heaven

If flowers grow in heaven,  
Lord, then pick a bunch for me.  
Then place them in my grandmother'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.

Forever in our hearts,  
*Lisa, Kendrick, Ebony,  
R.J, J'Kolby, Khaza*

