



Mother



Bessie
Mae Gray “Mother”

JANUARY 20, 1934 - OCTOBER 22, 2023

CELEBRATION OF HER LIFE
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2023
11:00 AM

SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH
500 W. MADISON AVENUE
LAS VEGAS, NV 89106



Official Order of Celebration for

Bessie

Mae Gray "*Mother*"

Shawn & Courtney Hemphill, MC's

Musical Prelude.....Ronnie Thomas & Rachel Ducksworth
Processional.....Clergy & Family
Greeting.....Shawn & Courtney Hemphill
Old Testament Reading.....Minister Owen Jackson III
New Testament Reading.....Minister Owen Jackson III
Prayer.....Minister Owen Jackson III
Musical Selection.....Rachel Ducksworth
Reading of Obituary & Acknowledgements.....Thomas Preston V
Praise Dance.....Anna Jackson
Video Presentation.....Giddens Memorial Chapel
Family Reflections
 As A Mother.....Her Children
 As A Grandmother.....Her Grandchildren
 As A Great-Grandmother.....Her Great-Grandchildren
Remarks & Expressions.....**2 Minutes Please!!**
Musical Selection.....Courtney Hemphill
Eulogy.....Pastor Clayton D. Moore
Parting View.....Giddens Memorial Chapel
Musical Selection.....LaShawnda Gray
Recessional.....Clergy & Family

Interment

Bunkers Memory Gardens Cemetery
7251 W Lone Mountain Rd
Las Vegas, NV 89129

Repast

(Immediately Following the Interment)
V.C.L. Coleman Fellowship Hall
Second Baptist Church
500 W Madison Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89106





The Life Story of
Bessie
Mae Gray "*Mother*"

Bessie Mae Gray, was born on January 20, 1934 in Flora, Mississippi to Lucille and Walter Morris Sr. She was the 4th of 5 Children, and the only remaining sibling of her parents lineage. Bessie had six children Annie Mae, Roosevelt, Essie Mae, Sallie Mae, James Edward, & Johnnie Lee. She raised her family in Mississippi, until they relocated to Flint, MI in 1971, ultimately later moving to Las Vegas, NV in 1982. There she continued working as a domestic worker until retirement. "Mother" as she became known by her family lived life her way, unapologetically too. She loved to dance, and listen to music, especially her "Down-home Blues", and get her nails done. Mother also loved spending time with her family. She really enjoyed going to Olive Garden, and she would ALWAYS order the Zupa Toscana, and not to mention she loved drinking her Coca Colas. and not to mention she loved drinking her Coca Colas.

Mother was blessed to lead a life where she would see Four Generations that followed after her. She became a Mother, a Grandmother, a Great-Grandmother, and even a Great Great-Grandmother over the course of her Eighty-Nine years here. She would often be the main babysitter, and she took pride in her role as the matriarch of the family.

Bessie was preceded in death by her Husband Jesse James Robinson, Her Two sons Roosevelt Gray, and Johnnie Lee Gray; Her Parents Lucille and Walter Morris Sr.; Two brothers Jimmy Lee Morris, and Walter Morris Jr.; Two Sisters Ora Lee Morris, and Mary Jo Holloway (Robert Lee), One Grandson Thomas Preston IV., & one Son-in-law Milton Ransburg.

She is survived by her 4 Children Annie Mae Ransburg (Milton), Essie Mae Williams (Ozzie), Sallie Mae Waters (James Sr.), & James Edward Gray; **Her 14 Grandchildren** Quentin Ransburg, James Ransburg, & Yolanda Leggins (Cortez), LaShawnda Gray, Talisa Gray, Owen Jackson III (Valerie), and Ricky Jackson Jr., LaKeisha Gray-Preston (Thomas), Nyla Walker (Sabastian), James Waters Jr., & Roosevelt Waters (Crystal), Jamal Gray, Tyrance Sain-Gray, and Melissa Wilkerson (John); **33 Great-Grandchildren** Jamiyah Jackson, Janiyah Jackson, Corey Jackson Jr., Thomas Preston V, J'Lynn Preston, Freddie Jackson, Frederick Jackson, Monique Jackson, Courtney Hemphill, Shawn Hemphill, Iverson Jones, James Jones III, Aniyah Waters, Precious Littles, Anna Jackson, Nia Jackson, Lyric Jackson, Jehloni Whitfield, Saniya Walker, Savion Walker, Samir Walker, Messiah Waters, Malachi Waters, Kamari Cooper, Charlie Waters, Cross Waters, & Roosevelt Waters, as well as 5 other Great-Grandchildren of Canton, Mississippi; 2 Great Great-Granddaughters Yhume Whitfield, & Laila Kaior; Nephews Robert Earl Holloway, Willie Earl Holloway, James Holloway; Nieces Pearlle Holloway, Peggy Holloway, and a host of other Nieces, Nephews, Cousins, and Friends that love her dearly.

Loving Tribute to
Bessie
Mae Gray "Mother"

I Just Woke Up to Check on You

I just woke up to check on you in the wee hours of the day.

I just wanted to make certain that you were still okay.

As I approached your room it dawned on me, your presence was not in sight.

A not so gentle reminder that you had recently taken flight.

I just woke up to check on you Like I'd done many times before.

Then it hit me like a ton of bricks that your earthly presence was no more.

It was a beautiful Sunday Afternoon, when you quietly slipped away.

After spending time with all of our family, hearing the many things we had to say.

I just woke up to check on you, as you had always done for me.

When my parents would have you babysit, and you took good care with glee.

I looked for you this morning, I miss your pretty face.

That smile and gentle kiss, your infectious laugh and warm embrace.

I can still hear you clearly, your voice blows in the wind.

The shooting star flying over the house was proof that you made it in.

I just woke up to check on you in the wee hours of the day.

Soon realizing, that with God, you are now more than okay!

His kingdom must be beautiful, His presence in full view.

And all of our family that is there... Whom with open arms greeted you.

Where you are there is no sickness, no ailments keeping you bound.

I pray that you find happiness in the place where you're safe and sound.

I just woke up to check on you, like I'd done many times before.

God's Plan for you was always Greater, It's Just for now life seems a little sore.

I love you Gramma,
Love always "Your Friend" Courtney

Active Pallbearers

Courtney Hemphill
Shawn Hemphill
James Waters, Jr. "Man"
Ricky Jackson, Jr.
Iverson Jones
James Jones, III

Honorary Pallbearers

Thomas Preston V
Roosevelt Waters
Sabastian Walker
James Gray
Owen Jackson, III
Oswald Williams

Acknowledgement

The family of Bessie Mae Gray would like to thank each and every one of you for your acts of kindness, outpouring of love, and support that you've shown our family during this exceedingly difficult time. We pray God's blessings be upon each and every one of you tenfold in the days ahead. Please continue to pray for us as we begin to adjust to our new normal.

THANK YOU FOR BEING THERE!

-The Family of Bessie Mae Gray

Special Thank You's

We would like to extend a very heartfelt thank you to the Teams at Southwest Medical & Associates & Optum Care, Theta Theta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Starlight Chapter of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc., Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc. & Silhouettes, Mrs. Billie Rayford, Mrs. Brenda Dumas, Dr. Kim Mitchell-Martin, Ms. Shawina Tims, Jerry & Nanette Lindsey, Ronnie & Josiah Thomas, Pastor Clayton D. Moore & Our Second Baptist Church Family, and The Staff and Management of Giddens Memorial Chapel.

Professional Services Entrusted to



2737 N. Lamb Blvd
Las Vegas, NV 89115
702-982-8670

www.giddensmemorialchapel.com

