

A Dream

(A poem by Bill Covington written to Johnsie when Bill was a student at JCSU (Charlotte) and Johnsie was a student at Bennett College (Greensboro))

'Tis more than ninety miles between us;
The fare is much too keen.
To be near you is my daily lust,
I'll see you in my dreams.
In my arms I'll take you and hold you.
With strength of all my might;
Here, my love, I promise you'll never be blue.
I'll love you day and night.
Together we'll stroll down the aisle, my dear.
The parson will make us one.
We'll have strength and courage and nothing to fear.
Life will have just begun.
We'll live in a house that's covered with vines,
With white picket fence and roses ,
And light green shutters and floors that shine;
Together we'll be real cozy.
Now to make our love strong and complete
And bring happiness through the years,
We'll welcome the sound of the third one's feet
And praise it with our cheers.
As I awake from this dream tonight,
And still you are not near,
But in my heart you'll find that burning light
Because you are so dear.

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James B. Humphrey, III, Funeral Director in Charge

Programs by JEAN'S PRINTSHOP, LLC



Homegoing Celebration for Johnsie Jackson Covington



Monday, August 5, 2013

Visitation: 11:00 am ~ Service: 12:00 Noon

Simpson Gillespie United Methodist Church

3545 Beatties Ford Road

Charlotte, North Carolina 28216

Reverend Walter Pegues, Officiating

Order of Service

Prelude		
Processional	"We're Marching to Zion"	
Omega Service - The Charlotte Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.		
Litany Service	The Chums of Charlotte, Inc.	
Officiant	Rev. Walter Pegues	
Invocation	Bishop John McCullough	
Hymn	"It Is Well With My Soul"	
Old Testament Reading: Psalm 27:1-6	Rev. Andrew Brown	
New Testament Reading: Revelation 21:1-6	Rev. James Graves	
Prayer of Comfort	Dr. Carl Arrington	
Affirmation of Faith		
The Gloria Patri		
Obituary		
Solo	"His Eye Is On the Sparrow"	Yvonne Stinson
Resolutions/Acknowledgements		
Solo	"The Last Mile of the Way"	Rev. Walter Pegues
Remarks	Robert L. Patterson, Jr., Grandson	
	Christian A. Patterson, Grandson	
	Mark Jackson, Nephew	
	Joyce Flournoy, Niece	
Solo	"Goin Up Yonder"	Voncilla Fulson
Eulogy		Dr. Sheron Covington Patterson
Recessional	"I'll Fly Away"	
Interment		Oaklawn Cemetery

Casket Bearers
United Methodist Men

Flower Bearers
United Methodist Women

Honorary Flower Bearers
The Chums of Charlotte

Acknowledgements

The family wishes to express their sincere gratitude for the many deeds of kindness shown during their time of sorrow.
May God be with you always.

The Obituary

Johnsie Jackson Covington was born in York County, South Carolina to Frank Aaron and Daisy Alexander Jackson. She was the 9th of 10 children and had a happy childhood growing up and frolicking with her brothers and sisters, Freddie Que, Corelious, Wardell, Mary, James, Bernice, Mason, Heyward and George. They all preceded her in death.

Johnsie's early Christian life and elementary studies were in South Carolina. She moved with her family to Charlotte, North Carolina, and graduated from West Charlotte High School. Johnsie's next educational steps were to Bennett College in Greensboro, NC, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Early Childhood Education. She went on to earn a Master's Degree in Education from Teacher's College at Columbia University in New York City, NY. Additional training came from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC.

As a result of this education, Johnsie served as a gifted and talented educator in the Charlotte Mecklenburg School System for 35 years. She maintained a deep love for children and dedicated herself to elementary age education. Some of the schools where she taught include Isabella Wyche Elementary, Hidden Valley Elementary and Lincoln Heights Elementary schools in Charlotte, N.C.

In 1948, Johnsie met her sweetheart and life-long companion, William C. Covington. They married in 1954 and were blessed with one child, Dr. Sheron Covington Patterson. Sheron is married to Robert L. Patterson, Sr, and they are the parents of Robert Jr. and Christian.

Johnsie was an active member of Simpson Gillespie United Methodist Church for over fifty years. A devoted church member, her contributions there ranged from Sunday School teacher, Communion Board leader, United Methodist Women, and Board of Trustee chair.

The broader Charlotte community was also blessed by Johnsie's presence. She was a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated, was a founder of the Charlotte chapter of Chums Incorporated. At her death, she was the treasurer of the Charlotte chapter. Her affiliation with Tots and Teens Incorporated afforded Johnsie with numerous opportunities to impact the lives of others positively.

Johnsie loved to travel, and she and her family ventured to many of the 50 United States of America, the Caribbean islands, Mexico and many European countries.

She was the matriarch of the family and always had warm encouragement to offer.

Johnsie is survived by her husband William C. Covington, daughter Dr. Sheron C. Patterson, (Robert), grandsons Robert and Christian Patterson; and a host of other relatives and friends; sisters-in-law Wanda Jones of Charlotte and Sarah Jackson of Brooklyn, NY; nieces and nephews, Tina Jackson-McLendon (Gerry), Mark Jackson (Tracee), Ann Turner (Willie), Jacqueline McNeil Watts, Patricia McNeil, Samuel McNeil Jr. (Ruth), Langston Wertz (Whitni), and Lori Wertz, all of Charlotte, Deborah Jackson, Mark Jackson, Daryll Jackson, Michael Jackson, William Covington (Helen), Lyndora Jackson and David Covington, Jr., all of New York, Frankie Bright (Rodney) of Clinton, MD, Mary Joyce Flournoy of Atlanta, GA, Shelia Dalcoe of Greensboro, NC, Victor Horsey (Sarah).of Baltimore, MD Elizabeth Covington of Los Angeles, CA and Robert Covington of Seattle, Washington; and a host of cousins and grand nieces and nephews.