

Pallbearers

Family and Friends

Floral Bearers

Family and Friends

Acknowledgement

We, the family of Mrs. Shirley Mae Carter James, would like to express our appreciation for the many acts of kindness shown to us during our time of bereavement. May God continue to bless each of you with His love, grace, and mercy.

Services Entrusted To:

Taylor Street Chapel

1831 Taylor Street
Columbia, SC 29201
(803)771-7799

I. S. Leevy Johnson
-Owner & Director-

Leevy's

F U N E R A L H O M E

Chris Leevy Johnson
-President & Managing Director-

Lower Richland Chapel

9120 Garners Ferry Road
Hopkins, SC 29061
(803) 776-6922

Leverette A. Williams, II
-General Manager-

*A Celebration of Life
In Loving Memory
of*

MRS. SHIRLEY MAE CARTER JAMES



MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2023
12:00 NOON

LEEVEY'S FUNERAL HOME CHAPEL
1831 TAYLOR STREET
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

MINISTER QUEEN J. FLOWERS
-OFFICIATING-

She Is Gone

*You can shed tears that she is gone
Or you can smile because she has lived*

*You can close your eyes and pray that she will come back
Or you can open your eyes and see all that she has left*

*Your heart can be empty because you can't see her
Or you can be full of the love that you shared
You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday
Or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday*

*You can remember her and only that she is gone
Or you can cherish her memory and let it live on*

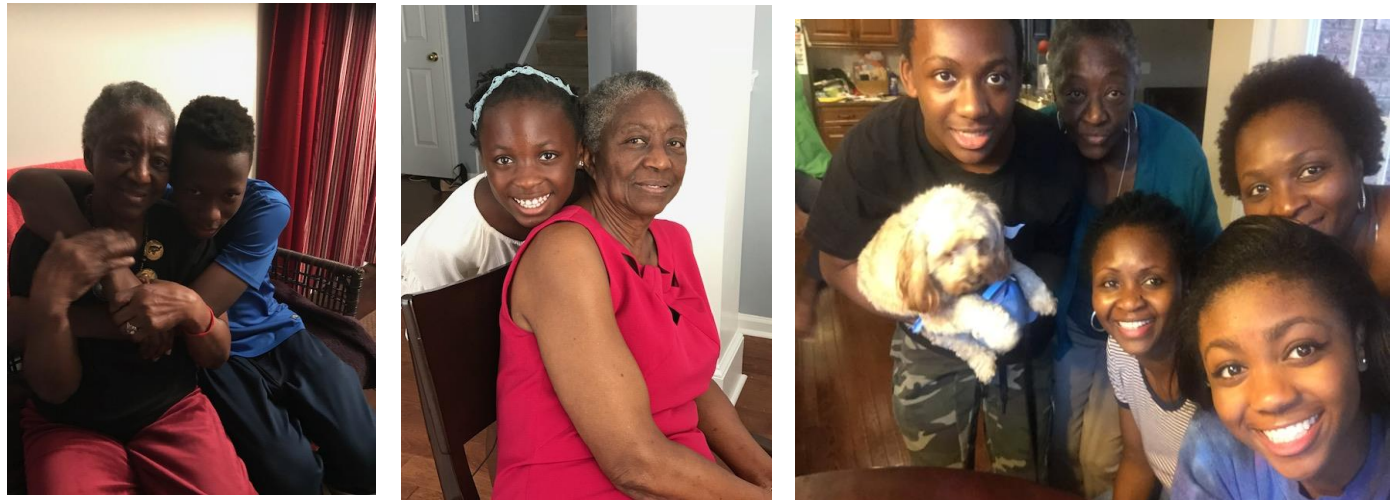
*You can cry and close your mind,
be empty and turn your back
Or you can do what she would want:
smile, open your eyes, love and go on.*



Memories



Memories



Order of Service

Prelude.....“I Know Who Hold Tomorrow”
Recording by: Kelly Price

Processional

Viewing.....Funeral Directors

Musical Selection

Old and New Testaments.....Minister Queen J. Flowers

Prayer of Comfort.....Minister Queen J. Flowers

Musical Selection.....Ms. Valerie Lawrence
“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

Poem.....Ms. Daisy Mitchell

Musical Selection.....“Falling In Love With Jesus”
Recording by: Kirk Whalum

Words of ComfortMinister Queen J. Flowers

Recessional.....“Jesus I Love Calling Your Name”
Recording by: Shirley Caesar

Postlude



Committal, Benediction, and Interment

2:00 p.m., Monday, April 24, 2023
 Fort Jackson National Cemetery
 4170 Percival Road
 Columbia, South Carolina

Life's Reflections

Shirley Mae Carter James received her professional nursing degree in NY State and obtained excellent work opportunities in nursing from Sloan Kettering Memorial Hospital for Cancer, New York State Department of Health, and the Kingsbridge VA Hospital. She later earned a Master's degree in Clinical Nursing from the University of South Carolina in Columbia.

Her work in SC has been focused on recognizing health disparities within the State and assisting with creation of resources and community solutions for persons in need. Her past employment in South Carolina included the Regional Medical Center, SCDHEC/Edisto Health Department, and South Carolina State University's Health and Wellness Centers.

In early 1970's Shirley worked, as a co-project director and field supervisor for the federally funded Family Planning Project needs assessment for Orangeburg and Calhoun Counties and assisted with the transition of the Federal Family Planning Project to the SC DHEC Family Planning Programs.

She was selected by Orangeburg's local physicians and SCHEC to become the first Nurse Practitioner in the state of South Carolina in 1973. She attended the New Jersey College of Medicine and Planned Parenthood affiliate in Newark, New Jersey and was certified to practice. Shirley worked as a Women's Health nurse practitioner from 1973-1980. Her practice was centered in the six-county area of Lower Savannah District 1 & 2 (Orangeburg, Bamberg, Calhoun, Aiken, Allendale and Barnwell). She also provided clinical services to women in isolated areas through the Margaret Weston Planned Parenthood Clinic of Clearwater, SC and the Midlands Planned Parenthood Clinic of Columbia, SC.

From 1980-1984, she worked as clinician/administrator for thirteen programs under the Maternal and Child Health area in the Edisto Health District (to include adult and pediatric Sick Cell Clinics and the SCDHEC pilot project for newborn sickle cell testing.) With support of the community, many dedicated individuals, local groups, and organizations, she was instrumental in launching the Orangeburg Area Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation (OASCAF)

1973-1974. The foundation continues to exist under state and local management.

In 1988 Minority AIDS Council of Orangeburg, Bamberg, and Calhoun Counties, Inc. was organized as a community-based organization on the campus of SCSU, and was housed in Brooks Health Center. Shirley was appointed President/Director of the Council.

The Minority AIDS Council became an umbrella organization for service to the community-providing numerous collaborative educational programs to Colleges and Universities, community organization, and State agencies.

Shirley partnered with the SCDHEC/CDC/USC/SPH on the "SC HIV Risk Behavior Survey" Study to facilitate current data for CDC for the SC HIV Community Planning Group, which provided 8 scholarships through the SCSU Brooks Health Center to students in the professional science programs. All students were successful with their programs.

She functioned as Community consultant to the "Health Improvement Diabetes Project for Orangeburg and Calhoun Counties" in partnership with Clemson University, South Carolina State University Department of Nursing, and the Regional Medical Center. The project mobilized community clients, family members, and local physicians through survey assessments, focus groups, focus education, and proved to be very useful in creating alternatives for access to community-based care.

Life's Reflections

She also served as clinical team leader and health expert on the SCSU "Horizon Flu Project" in partnership with Carolina Medical Review. The goal of the project was to increase flu vaccine rates in Medicare eligible consumers. Flu rate was increased from 33% to 70% in the Medicare population as a result of the Horizon Flu Project.

Although retired, Shirley was still very active in the community and consulted with the USC-Claflin Center of Excellence for HIV/AIDS and Cancer Research, formerly known as EXPORT, to eliminate health disparities in Orangeburg and surrounding areas through partnership in leadership, research, resources, and evidence-based community education. The Minority AIDS council was the main partner for the Orangeburg Community-based grant and was represented by a 30 member Orangeburg County Advisory Board.

She widely volunteered as a health advisor and referral resource for the National "SISTER Project" for early detection of breast cancer through genetic and environmental investigation, MC Butler Health screening and Resource Center in collaboration with the Regional Medical Center Community Outreach Program, The Free Clinic of Orangeburg & Calhoun Counties, Mt Pisgah Baptist Church Health & Education Wellness Programs, Samaritan House/Transition Shelter of Orangeburg, and the CORE Center in Holly Hill.

In addition, she continued to serve as volunteer director of the Minority AIDS Council of Orangeburg, Bamberg, and Calhoun Counties, Inc. and provides HIV/AIDS/STI/substance abuse prevention education, HIV testing, counseling and referral in partnership with SCDHEC, HBCU, SCSU Brooks Health Center, Claflin University, Hope Health-Edisto (Ryan White Clinic), OCAB Community Action Agency, Inc, Victory Tabernacle Church/MC Butler Community Resource Center, Low Country Healthy Start, A Family Affair, Sororities and Fraternities, and numerous churches and other faith-based organizations.

She was a member of numerous local and national organizations and boards to including serving as Vice Chair on the OCAB-Community Action Agency Board; Orangeburg Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Health and Wellness and social Action Committee, American Cancer Society-SC Cancer Alliance HPV taskforce; and a charter member of Chi Eta Phi Nursing Sorority-Charter Chapter in Columbia and Orangeburg; National Minority AIDS Council, Inc. and Orangeburg Area NAACP.

She was born on October 9, 1941 in Rembert, SC and was the fourth of five children from the loving union of Pearl and John Carter. She was married to Samuel E. James. They have two daughters, Dr. Shana D. James-Nzambebe, (Paulo Nzambebe) and Dr. Stephanie James-Averette, DNP, Family Nurse Practitioner. They have four grandchildren whom they are very fond of Taylor Averette (ER registered nurse in Augusta, GA), Chad Averette (freshman computer science major at Clemson University) , Donovan Nzambebe (Senior at Nation Ford High School who is planning to attend Clemson University in the fall), and Julianna Nzambebe (freshman at Nation Ford High School, volleyball Queen, and aspiring entrepreneur). She also has a brother, John Carter, one brother in-law, many sisters-in-laws, nieces and nephews.

We would like to express our gratitude to Vivian Elmore, Octavius Scott, and Geraldine Riley who were her special caregivers in her final years of life who provided love, laughter, and chocolate.

The family would also like to acknowledge the caring staff at The Blake, Watercrest Senior Living, and Lexington Medical Center.