

Pallbearers

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| Jusef D. Lewis | Neckael J. James | Kedryck J.A. James |
| Stefan Pinckney | Barry Harley | Corey Harley |
| Jernigan Williams | Darryl Jumper | Darryl Surginer |
| Samuel Orange III | | Billy Morris, Jr. |

Floral Bearers

Deaconess Ministry of First Nazareth Baptist Church

Acknowledgement

We, the family of Deaconess Emerita Jeanette Gadsden Kearse, would like to thank each of you for your prayers and acts of kindness during the passing of our loved one. It is our prayer that the Lord blesses each of you in a very special way. A special thank you to her caregivers, Ms. LaKeadra Moore, Mrs. Shenita Jackson, and Mrs. Yashica Smith; and companion, Mrs. Carnella Harley.

Services Entrusted To:

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| Taylor Street Chapel 1831 Taylor Street Columbia, SC 29201 (803)771-7799 I. S. Leevy Johnson -Owner & Director- | Leevy's FUNERAL HOME 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- |
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**A Service of Remembrance
Celebrating the Life
of
Deaconess Emerita Jeanette Gadsden Kearse**



**Friday, December 22, 2023
11:00 a.m.**

**First Nazareth Baptist Church
2351 Gervais Street
Columbia, South Carolina**

**Reverend Dr. Blakely N. Scott
-Pastor-**



Reflections of the Life of Deaconess Emerita Jeanette Gadsden Kearse

Blessed are the pure in heart; for they shall see God. Matthew 5:8

Deaconess Emerita, Mrs. Jeanette Gadsden Kearse, was born November 18, 1932, in Allendale, South Carolina. She was the daughter of the late Norman Gadsden and Elizabeth Dopson Gadsden. She was the eldest of three daughters. She moved into eternity to meet her Lord and Savior on Tuesday, December 12, 2023.

Mrs. Kearse was educated in the Allendale Training Schools in Allendale, SC. She graduated from Allendale Training High School, where she was Valedictorian of her class. She entered Benedict College in Columbia, SC and graduated with honors with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education. While attending Benedict College, she was inducted into the Alpha Kappa Mu Scholastic Honor Society, became a member of Future Teachers of America and the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. Additionally, she earned certificates from the University of South Carolina, in Columbia, SC and a Master of Education from South Carolina State College in Orangeburg, SC with honors.

In 1952, She married her high school sweetheart, the love of her life, LeVander C. Kearse.

After retiring from teaching elementary school for over thirty years with Richland County School District One, Mrs. Kearse devoted her time tutoring children in the Washington Carver Development Program and AmeriCorps, coaching youth academically. She would often receive a special “hug and thank you” from adults she taught as children. She would delight in being introduced by her former students as their “favorite teacher” to their own children. She was a member of the River View Terrace Neighborhood Association, a lifetime member of the NAACP, a member of First Nazareth Baptist Church, where she served faithfully with the Deaconess Ministry, Women’s Missionary Society, Senior Ministry, as a Sunday School Teacher and Bible Study. She attended numerous Sunday School Conventions over the years. Two of her favorite things were to teach her children hymns and to travel with the Senior Ministry. She loved to plant flowers and spent countless hours beautifying her yard. During the spring and summer months, their house would be filled with various floral arrangements from her yard. She was often asked to speak at various Women’s Day programs and events. Her creativity to redesign her own hats and clothing was unlike any other.

Mrs. Kearse was preceded in death by her parents, Norman and Elizabeth Gadsden, loving husband, LeVander Kearse and sisters, Norma G. Speights and Jacqueline W. Mason.

She leaves to cherish her memory: children, LaVerda Kearse-James, of North Charleston, South Carolina, Yolande (Grant) Lewis, of Ardmore, Alabama, Kevin Kearse, of Goose Creek, South Carolina, Charlette Speights Orange, of Fort Worth, Texas, and Yvonda Speights, of Fairfax, South Carolina; grandchildren, Jusef (Dominique) Lewis, Neckael James, Aisha Stedman, Samuel (Regina) Orange III, Terence Jones, Jazmon Kearse, Kaula Jones, Kedryck James, and Stefan Pinckney; seven great-grandchildren; a host of nieces, nephews, loving friends, and her dearest friend of over 55 years, Mrs. Betty Morris, all of whom will miss her dearly.

Who Walks with God

Anonymous

Who walks with God must make his way
Across far distances and gray.
To goals that others do not see
Where others do not care to be

Who walks with God must have no fear
When danger and defeat appear,
Nor stop when hope seems all but gone
For God, our God, moves ever on.

Who walks with God must press ahead
When sun or cloud is overhead;
When all the waiting thousands cheer
Or when they only stop to sneer.
When all the challenges leave the hours
And naught is left but faded powers;
But he will someday reach the dawn
For God, our God, moves ever on.

Memories



Order of Service

Prelude.....Mrs. Carnella W. Harley
 Processional
 Viewing.....Funeral Directors
 Opening Hymn.....The Kears Family Singers and Congregation
 "Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus"
 Old Testament.....Minister
 New Testament.....Minister
 Prayer of Comfort.....Reverend Hazel Reese
 Musical Selection.....Minister Kim Jackson
 "Jehovah Jireh"
 Remarks.....Mr. Kevin D. Kears, Son
 Mr. Jusef D. Lewis, Grandson
 Deacon Curtis Watson, Deacon
 Musical Selection.....Ms. Aisha Lewis, Ms. Danitza Mack, and Ms. Donna Harley
 "As The Deer Panteth For The Water"
 Words of Comfort.....Reverend Dr. Blakely N. Scott
 Medley of Hymns.....The Kears Family Singers and Congregation
 Recessional
 Postlude



**Committal, Benediction, and Interment
 Crescent Hill Memorial Gardens
 2603 Two Notch Road
 Columbia, South Carolina**



Memories



Memories

