

When Tomorrow Starts Without Me

*When tomorrow starts without me, and I'm not here to see,
If the sun should rise and find your eyes, filled with tears for me.*

*I wish so much you wouldn't cry the way you did today,
while thinking of the many things we didn't get to say.*

*I know how much you love me, as much as I love you,
and each time you think of me, I know you'll miss me too.*

*When tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand
That an angel came and called my name and took me by the hand*

*The angel said my place was ready in heaven far above
And that I'd have to leave behind all those I dearly love.*

*But when I walked through Heaven's gate, I felt so much at home
When God looked down and smiled at me from His great golden
throne.*

*He said, "This is eternity and all I've promised you."
Today my life on earth is past, but here it starts anew*

*I promise no tomorrow but today will always last
And since each day's the same day, there's no longing for the past.*

*So when tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far apart,
For every time, you think of me, I'm right there in your heart.*

Pallbearers

Columbia's Deacons and Ushers

Floral Bearers

Columbia's Women's Department

Acknowledgements

We, the family of Sister Gail Ballenger Jackson, wish to express our sincere gratitude for all acts of kindness extended to our family during the illness and passing of our loved one.



A Celebration of Life In Loving Memory



Sister Gail Ballenger Jackson

Saturday, November 29, 2025
11:30 a.m.

Progressive Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ
2224 Barhamville Road
Columbia, South Carolina

Bishop Theodore Jenkins
Pastor
&
Presiding Bishop

CONTACT US:
Taylor Street Chapel
803-771-7799
Lower Richland Chapel
803-776-6922
WWW.LEEVY.COM

I. S. Leevy Johnson
-Owner-

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Chris Leevy Johnson
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Obituary

In Proverbs 31, a virtuous woman is defined as one who is faithful and trustworthy, speaks with wisdom, works willingly with her hands to make provisions for her family, is clothed in silk and purple, is called blessed by her children, praised by her husband, and one who feareth the Lord

Sister Gail Marie Ballenger Jackson was born on June 26, 1953, in Greer, South Carolina. The fourth of seven children, born to the late James Haskell Ballenger, Sr. and Mildred Goforth Ballenger. She peacefully transitioned from this life on Thursday, November 20, 2025.

She was educated in the Greenville County Public School System and graduated from Greer Senior High School. She continued her studies at North Greenville University, where she received an associate's degree, and later earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from South Carolina State University. She furthered her studies, completing graduate coursework at the University of South Carolina, toward a master's degree in education.

She was a loving wife to Mr. Norward Earl Jackson Sr. for forty-seven joyous years of marriage. Their union was blessed with three children. Sis. Jackson began her professional career with the South Carolina Department of Education in Columbia, where she served faithfully for ten years. She later worked as a law clerk for the E.W. Cromartie Law Firm, before beginning a longstanding career with the United States Postal Service. She served as a dedicated mail carrier for over a decade, retiring in 2021.

In her early years, Gail became a member of the New Salem Baptist Church, in Tigerville, SC. At the age of twenty-five, Sis. Jackson surrendered her life to Christ and became a devoted member of the Progressive Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Inc. In obedience to God's word, she was baptized in the name of Jesus Christ and received the gift of the Holy Ghost, in July 1979. As a member, she exhibited her love for the Lord by attending Bible Study, Sunday School, and serving faithfully as a member of the Columbia Senior Choir, the Joyful Tones singing group, and the Senior Women's Auxiliary. She also found joy and love in playing the piano.

Sister Jackson will be remembered for her gentle spirit, unwavering faith, and deep love for her family, friends, and church community. Her life was a testament of grace, kindness, and steadfast devotion. Her legacy will continue to live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved her.

Mrs. Gail Marie Ballenger Jackson was preceded in death by her parents, and her brother, Haskell Ballenger, Jr. She leaves to cherish her precious memories: her husband, Norward, of the home; three children, Shanette Jackson (Columbia, SC), Norward Jackson, Jr. (Sarasota, FL), and Vonda Jackson Fulton (Columbia, SC); two granddaughters, Mariah and Chanel Fulton; three brothers William (Linda) Ballenger, Stanley Ballenger, and Samuel (Tomracida) Ballenger, all of Greer, SC; two sisters, Sylvia (Henry) Robinson (Orangeburg, SC), and Dolores B. Scott (Columbia, SC); one adopted daughter Jessica (Dandridge) Hingleton (Columbia, SC); friend and adopted sister Rebecca Blanks (Columbia, SC); one adopted niece Gwendolyn (Hercules) Felder (Columbia, SC), and a host of aunts, nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, and friends.

Memories



A Service of Remembrance

Elder Thomas J. Smith, Officiating

- Musical Prelude.....Progressive Church Senior Choir
- Processional
- Viewing.....Funeral Directors
- Opening Selection.....Progressive Church Senior Choir
"Thank You Lord"
- Old Testament.....Elder George Dennis
- New Testament.....Elder James Robins
- Prayer.....Elder Robbie Jenkins
- Musical Selection.....Progressive Church Choir
"Keep Patiently Waiting"
- Reflections.....Sister Rebecca Blanks
Sister Gail Jenkins
Dr. Katie Parks
Bishop Henry Watson
- Solo....."I Won't Complain"
- Family Tributes.....Siblings, Children, and Grandchildren
- Musical Selection.....Progressive Church Senior Choir
"I'm Still Holding On"
- Acknowledgements.....Sister Janie Davis
- Musical Selection.....Progressive Church Senior Choir
"Have Faith In God"
- Words of Comfort.....Bishop Theodore Jenkins, Sr.
- Musical Selection.....Progressive Church Senior Choir
"Till We Meet Again"
- Recessional
- Postlude



Committal, Benediction, and Interment

Woodlawn Cemetery
10216 Farrow Road
Blythewood, South Carolina