

I'm Free

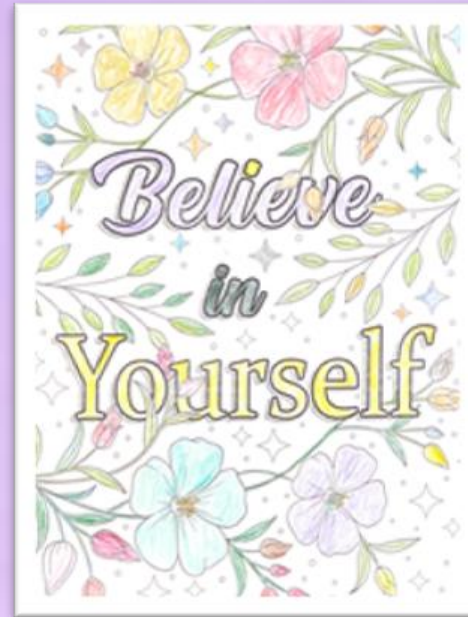
Don't grieve for me for now I'm free,
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took his hand when I heard him call,
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I've found that peace at the close of day.
If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish for you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I've savored much,
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart, rejoice with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free.

Pallbearers

Family and Friends

Floral Bearers

Family and Friends



The words "Believe in Yourself" were among the last things LaTrell chose to color. Looking back, it feels like a final message from her, a reminder to her family and friends to keep believing, keep pushing forward, and keep finding joy in life's simple moments. Her love, laughter, and beautiful spirit will never be forgotten. ❤️

Acknowledgement

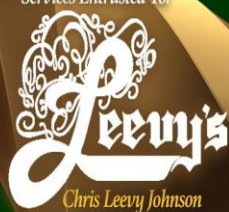
We, the family of Ms Latrell Vonthreece Harts, wish to thank each of you for the many loving and wonderful acts of kindness rendered during the passing of our loved one. May God bless each of you with His grace and mercy.

Repat

R.C. Wilson Fellowship Hall
3404 West Beltline Boulevard
Columbia, South Carolina

CONTACT US:
Taylor Street Chapel
803-771-7799
Lower Richland Chapel
803-776-6922
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Chris Leevy Johnson
-Managing Director-

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-General Manager-

In **Loving Memory of**

Ms. LaTrell Vonthreece Harts



**Saturday, June 27, 2026
10:00 A.M.**

**Saint John Baptist Church
3404 West Beltline Boulevard
Columbia, South Carolina**

**Reverend Dr. Jamey O. Graham
-Officiating-**

Obituary

On the evening of June 20, 2026, La'Trell Vonthreec Harts departed this earthly life as God’s angels graciously ushered her spirit into the presence of her Heavenly Father.

Born on March 31, 1969, in Columbia, South Carolina, to Johnnie and Mary Smith Harts, La'Trell grew up in a loving home rooted in faith, service, and community. She was a proud graduate of A.C. Flora High School, Class of 1987, and continued her education at Spartanburg Methodist College before transferring to Benedict College, where she earned her Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies in 2010.

La'Trell carried her faith into every aspect of her life, especially her work. She gave 17 years of dedicated service to Richland County School District One. Before she became a Parent and Family Engagement Specialist in 2025, La'Trell was an instructional assistant and media center assistant at Columbia High School from 2006 to 2023. Her commitment to students and families earned her recognition as Classified Employee of the Year at Columbia High School (2018–2019). She was also a proud member of the National Association of Tax Professionals (NATP) and worked with Integrity Tax Service. Throughout her career, she was employed at CM Tucker, Saint John Preschool (later becoming Saint John Preparatory School), and Saint John Baptist Church.

La'Trell found joy in the simple, beautiful rhythms of life. She loved watching things grow—flowers, gardens, and especially children. Her nurturing spirit touched every young person who crossed her path. Her love for purple reflected her personality - a blend of creativity, spirituality, and emotional depth. A gifted cook, she delighted in trying new recipes and sharing them at church and family gatherings. She often said she would have enjoyed being a caterer. She loved reading, traveling, and cheering for her beloved Buffalo Bills and South Carolina Gamecocks. She adored dogs, especially Rottweilers, and her quick wit and warm Southern charm could brighten any room.

Inspired by her love of reading and her deep compassion for others, Latrell aspired to further her education and earn a Master’s in Library and Information Science and become a librarian. She also envisioned herself attending Seminary school and becoming a minister. Though her journey was cut short, her vision endures in the lives of those who loved her

Her life of faith began early at Saint John Baptist Church in Columbia. She served joyfully in numerous ministries: YWA’s, SJBC Food Pantry, Budget Committee, Repast Committee, Rogers/Wallace/Counts/ Geter Family Ministry Unit Coordinator, Gardening Committee, Parking Lot Ministry, and Mixed Ensemble. Her quiet acts of service reflected her deep love for others. She also served faithfully on the Saint John Baptist Church Trustee Board, and Chairperson of the Transportation Ministry. Latrell was nominated for the Silent Servant Award in 2025 by the Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Association.

La'Trell’s commitment to her community extended far beyond the church walls. She served on the City of Columbia Planning Commission (June 7, 2016–June 30, 2022), Urban Design Review Commission for the City of Columbia (March 3, 2026 - present), and earlier as Chairman of the Trustee Board at Pleasant Rock Baptist Church.

Though she is no longer with us physically, La'Trell’s legacy of love, faith, and service will continue to inspire generations. She was preceded in death by her father, Johnnie W. Harts, her brother, Reverend Kelvin Harts, and a host of cherished family members who welcomed her home.

She leaves to cherish her memory: her devoted mother, Mary Smith Harts; her sister, Renee (James) Wilson; her godsons, Hunter and Aiden Williams; and her god family, Hilda David, Mark David, Kenneth David, and Ladonna (Jerald) David Harvin. She is also remembered by three loving aunts; Mrs. Bessie (James) Gilchrist, Mrs. Cleo Hamilton, and Mrs. Mackie Harts; and an uncle; Mr. Joe A. Smith; a host of cousins, nieces, extended family, and countless friends who will miss her dearly.

Memories



A Service of Remembrance

- Prelude
- Processional
- Viewing.....Funeral Directors
- Opening Hymn..... “Sweet, Sweet, Spirit”
- Old Testament.....Reverend James Gilchrist
- New Testament.....Reverend Donald Hall
- Prayer of Comfort.....Minister Marcel Dillon
- Solo..... “I Trust In God”
- Remarks.....(Three Minutes, Please).....Trustee James Whitmire
Deacon Wilfred Rogers, FMU Deacon
Ms. Kathy Stewart, Former Supervisor CHS
Latorsha M. Murray, RCSD One Supervisor
Mrs. Bessie Gilchrist
- Selection..... Regina Williams
“Wind Beneath My Wings”
- Resolutions.....Commissioner Jamie L. Devine, RCSD One
Councilman Ed McDowell, City of Columbia
Deacon Wallace Brown & Trustee Yvette Thompson
- Words of Comfort.....Reverend Dr. Jamey O. Graham
- Recessional
- Postlude



Committal, Benediction and Interment

Pleasant Rock Baptist Church Cemetery
307 Pleasant Rock Church Road
Ninety-Six, South Carolina