



Ms. Elisabeth Watkins

April 11, 1930 - March 25, 2021

Obituary

Elisabeth Jean Watkins was born in McKinney, Texas on April 11, 1930 to the union of the late Johnnie and Flora Swanson. She was the oldest of three siblings born to this union. Her parents and one sibling preceded her in death.

Elisabeth was educated in the Denison, Texas and Hugo, Oklahoma public schools. After completing her education, she moved to St. Louis, Missouri where she enrolled in Cosmetology School. In 1960 she met Paris L. Watkins, Sr., he moved to Los Angeles, California. In 1964 Elisabeth moved to Los Angeles to join Paris where they united in marriage. No children were born to this union, Paris had a son Paris, Jr., whom she treated like her son. In 1972 they moved to Detroit, Michigan and united with the Greater St. Stephens Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Dr. Nathaniel T. Howard. It was there she served with the Ushers and Nurses Guild.

Elisabeth and Paris later moved to Kansas City, Missouri and united with the New Hope Baptist Church under the leadership of Dr. Nathaniel T. Howard, she also served in the Usher Ministry at the church and with the New Era District Association and served as President of the District Ushers. She later united with the United Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev.

Robert L. Graves and remained there until her husband was called from labor to reward on May 10, 2006.

Elisabeth then united with the Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Dr. John Modest Miles. While serving at Morning Star, she was a member of the Usher Ministry and the WMU, where she served as 2nd Vice President.

Elisabeth departed this life on Thursday, March 25, 2021 at the home. She will forever be cherished as a loving faithful ardent church worker and friend to all who met her.

She leaves to cherish her memory, one son, Paris L. Watkins, Jr. (Patricia); four grandchildren, Gloria C. Watkins, Lisa Russell (Antonio), Angela Watkins and Paris L. Watkins III; two brothers, Johnnie L. Swanson of Oklahoma and Dr. Nathaniel T. Howard, of Kansas City, MO; two nieces Lorna Ann Winfrey and Jackie Sykes; god sister, Billie W. Hughes, a host of other family and friends who loved her dearly.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, April 17, 2021, 11:00am at Morning Star Baptist Church. Interment Monday, April 19, 2021, Leavenworth National Cemetery, Leavenworth, Kansas.. Visitation will be from 10:00am-11:00am at the church. Services conducted by Lawrence A. Jones Funeral Chapel. Condolences may be shared on our website. Due to COVID-19, social distancing and face coverings are required. Temperature check for all guest(s).

To send flowers

to the family or plant a tree
in memory of Ms. Elisabeth Watkins, please visit our floral store.

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Tribute Wall

AW

“ *A Memorial Tree was planted for Ms. Elisabeth Watkins
We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ the staff at Lawrence A. Jones
& Sons Funeral Chapels
Join in honoring their life - plant a memorial tree*

A Memorial Tree was planted for Ms. Elisabeth Watkins - May 25, 2023 at 01:33 PM

BF

“ *We will definitely miss Mrs. Elisabeth Watkins. Affectionately known as "Geno" Mrs. Watkins shared many holidays with our family. We very quickly came to know her personal food tastes, and made sure we included her special delicacies at all occasions. We loved to hear of her many stories in working with the National Baptist, and State conventions in Michigan, and Missouri, and in the churches she attended through the years. Likewise she enjoyed working at the state camp in Central Missouri to clean and prepare the camp for usage. Mrs. Watkins loved church and was a diligent worker in all of her involvements. Rest in heaven Mrs. Watkins* †

Bauchum, Gumby, Gines Family - April 15, 2021 at 07:06 PM

TR

“ *Aunt Jean has known me since my early childhood. I remember seeing her every Sunday at church. I served on the Junior usher board under her leadership. My fondest memories of my church family include her. She was a sweet and wonderful woman. She will be missed. Tonya Ruper-Simpson & Family (Detroit, MI)*

Tonya Ruper-Simpson - April 15, 2021 at 03:56 PM

PJ

“ *Sister Elisabeth was a great friend to the Ministers Wives and Widows of New Era District. She was gracious and kind and had a lovely sense of humor. She was able to correct and teach with love and a little sass. Sister Elisabeth was a model for the MWW Fashion Show for more than ten years. She loved modeling some of the beautiful clothing from her wardrobe. If we could only have more of ‘Elisabeth Watkins spunk’ supporting us, who could ask for anything more! Time and place sojourning here has been replaced with a land of golden streets, heavenly hosts and eternal to live for evermore. We will miss you, Sister Elisabeth, but we will never forget you. Patricia A. Jones, New Era MWW President*

Pat Jones - April 01, 2021 at 06:49 PM

CB

“ *To a lady, a respectful woman and friend of 30 years, Ms. Elizabeth filled in the gap as mother and grandmother for me when my biological where called home. She was a person of her word and very dedicated to the committees she served on. I have fond memories of our visits in each others homes on special occasion or just because visit. I introduced her to my father whom she lived across the parking lot from and would let me know if he was home or not home before I came to visit. sometimes checking on him to make sure he was doing okay. Ms. Elizabeth showed herself friendly when we work at the same company. I have fond memories to cherish and thank God.*

Cheryl Boone - March 31, 2021 at 02:45 PM