



Bernice Peterson Jackson

June 28, 1928 - March 17, 2024



# Bernice Peterson Jackson

Bernice Peterson Jackson, the second of two children, was born in 1928, on Sugar Hill, in Harlem, New York. Her parents were Mr. Lorenzo Candido Petersen and Mrs. Maude Editha Clendinen-Petersen. At the age of three, she and her father took a cruise to St. Thomas to visit her grandparents, Mr. Anthony Petersen and Mrs. Eugenie Gumbs-Petersen, who lived on Kongens Gade in the "Upstreet" community. What a visit that turned out to be! Embraced by loving relatives, Lorenzo was persuaded by his parents to remain in St. Thomas with Bernice, who would be united with her older brother, Valdemar, and her stepsister, Eunice Simmonds. Pursuing her nursing career, Maude remained in New York during the early years of Bernice's life. Bernice, being showered with love from family and friends, stayed in St. Thomas until she was sixteen years old.

As an adult, Bernice would recall her memorable childhood around her grandparents and the family's business enterprises, which included a dry goods store, gas station, taxi stand, and one of the first auto repair shops. Her grandmother, affectionately called Ms. Gennie, was one of the renowned bakers in "Upstreet." Ms. Gennie had a team of domestic help that assisted with the daily household and business needs. She insisted that a girl had to know how things are done, whether she would ever have to do it herself or not. She was just as adamant about good manners. Under her watchful eyes, Bernice learned how to

Celebrating the Life of



Bernice P. Jackson

June 28, 1928 – March 17, 2024



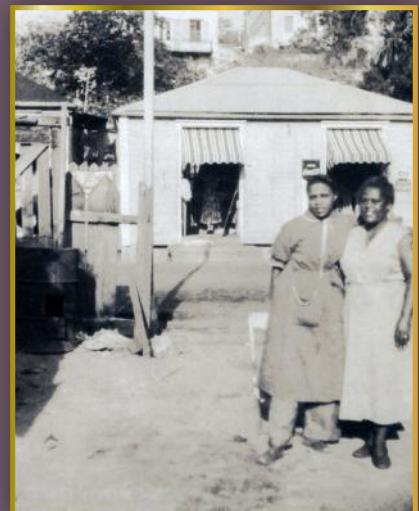
## Bernice Peterson Jackson

manage a household. By observation, she learned the art of washing and ironing clothes properly, Virgin Islands culinary food preparation, the raising and slaughter of chickens, the firing of a coal pot, cooking hearth, and outdoor oven. She also learned the making of Maubi, Sweetbreads, Shingle Cakes, and other delicacies. The arrival of guests was followed by the dismissal of children from the parlor. But only after the visitors had been appropriately greeted.

The Petersen's family compound and yard served many families over the decades. It was in this yard, and the neighboring areas, that Bernice amassed and enjoyed a wealth of childhood friends, many of them lasting a lifetime. The moonlight rides to the country, in the back of her father's 1928 Ford pickup truck, Wendell's Theatre, Sunday church services, and swims at Long Bay have remained cherished memories for Bernice throughout her adolescent and adult life.

As a youth in the "Upstreet" community, Bernice attended the school at the northern end of Hospital Gade, formerly known as Abraham Lincoln Elementary School, (later renamed the J. Antonio Jarvis School), and the Charlotte Amalie Junior High School. Her cherished memory of this period was when she was chosen among all the schools in the St. Thomas district, Queen of May Day. Also, Bernice was the Statue of Liberty and the Red Cross nurse in programs. In the 1940s, Bernice and her mother would return to New York City, where she completed high school at Wadleigh High School in 1948.

Following in her mother's profession, Bernice enrolled in Nursing School. In 1950, she graduated as a Licensed Practical Nurse from the Hospital for Joint Diseases-Helen Fluid School of Licensed Practical Nursing in New York. In the following years, Bernice worked at Presbyterian Hospital, Beekman Downtown Hospital, and Polyclinic Medical School and Hospital as Nurse in Charge and as an Emergency Room Nurse. In 1954, she married her childhood sweetheart, the late Hugo D. Jackson, a native Virgin Islander, in New York City. From their union, Myron D. Jackson and Sharon Jackson-McDonald were later born. After the loss of her beloved grandmother, Miss Gennie, and her mother-in-law, Mrs. Esseline Canton- Jackson, Hugo and Bernice returned home with their sons Myron and Ari Arri, in 1959. The young enterprise minded couple, following in their parents' and grandparents' footsteps, managed and expanded the family businesses over the next two decades. Hugo and Bernice grew their businesses to a greeting card, ice cream, toy store, and restaurant.



Bernice continued her nursing profession and served in various positions in the Department of Health and other health care facilities over the next three decades. She served as a Staff Nurse in charge of the Newborn Nursery and Post-Partum Unit at Knud Hansen Hospital, and Queen Louise Home for the Aged. Bernice served as a School Nurse at the Maternal and Child Health Care Division (MCH), where she retired from an illustrious nursing career in 1983.

After retirement, she worked in the office of the late Dr. Didace Monsanto, was Supervisor and a Case Manager at the Catholic Social Services -Teen Age Pregnancy Case



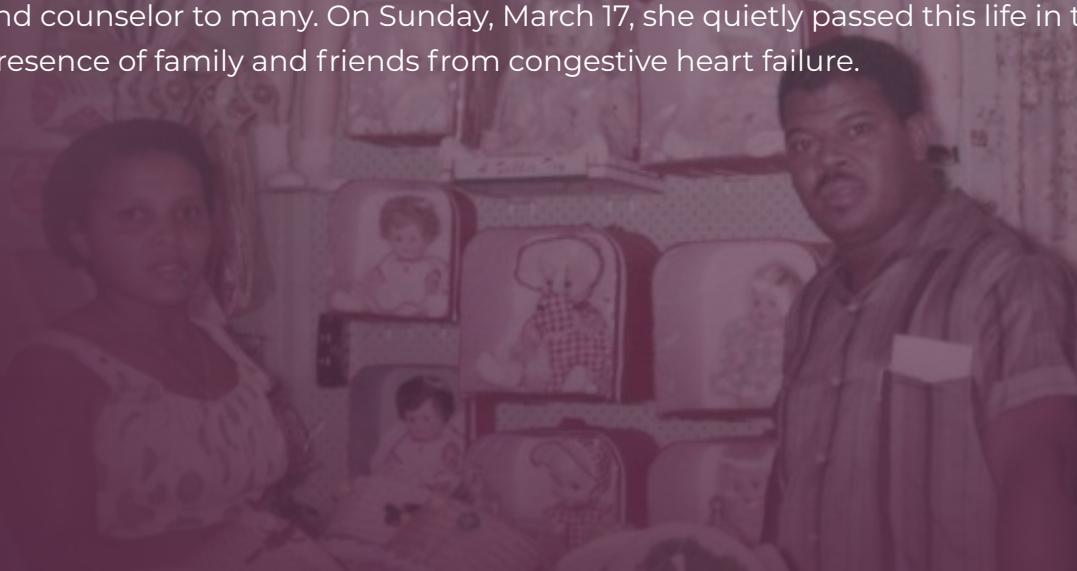


## Bernice Peterson Jackson

Management Program. Her civic involvements included Den Mother of Cub Scouts, President of the Virgin Islands Licensed Practical Nurses National Association, and the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), and We From Upstreet, Inc.

In 1982, the tragic and untimely death of her husband, Hugo, ended her twenty-seven-year marriage to her faithful life partner. In the following challenging years, Bernice continued to be a guiding force for and to her family, godchildren, and close friends. A deeply spiritual person, Bernice gave generously of her talents and time to civic and church affairs. She has been instrumental in organizing the health ministry served on the Vestry, Women Ministry, developed the Sign Language Program and committees at St. Andrews Church and has also served in various programs at Impacting Your World Christian Ministries. Bernice continues to remember the fond memories of her beloved husband, Hugo, who participated and assisted the St. Andrews Men's Choir. She has been and continues to be grateful for the opportunity to serve. She feels that her spiritual growth has significantly benefited from her involvement and endeavor to serve her Lord. Her willing spirit has also brought her certificates, honors, awards, and numerous letters of commendation.

During her more active years, Bernice enjoyed traveling to visit family and friends, as well as nursing and church conferences in the region and the United States. Her support and love to her children, Ari Arri, Senator Myron D. Jackson, Rev. Dr. Sharon Jackson McDonald, son-in-law Rev. Dr. Gerald McDonald, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family members, and the countless children and families, she has served over the decades, is infinite and especially cherished. Bernice rededicated her life to Jesus Christ in 1993. She praises God and thanks Him for His warm and loving presence in her life. In the subsequent years, Bernice remained active in family, church, community affairs, and was a mother, mentor and counselor to many. On Sunday, March 17, she quietly passed this life in the presence of family and friends from congestive heart failure.

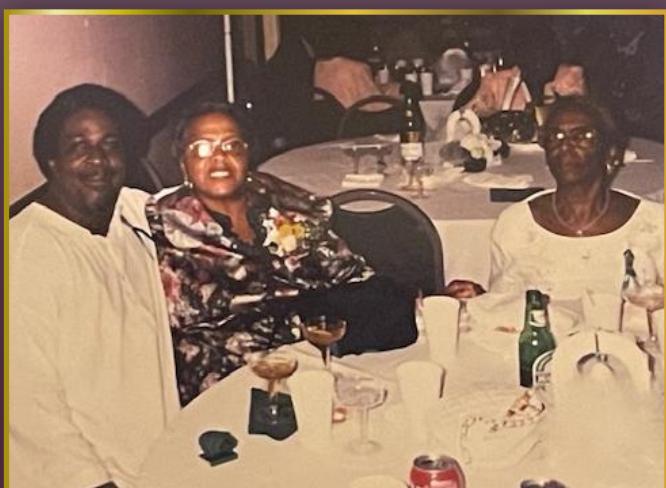




Bernice P. Jackson  
June 28, 1928 – March 17, 2024



Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson



*She is preceded in death by*

Her Mother: Maude E. Clendinen Petersen  
Her Father: Lorenzo Petersen  
Her Husband: Hugo D. Jackson  
Her Brother: Valdemar "Patches" Petersen  
Her Son: Ari Arri

*She is survived by*

Son: Senator Myron D. Jackson  
Daughter: Rev. Dr. Sharon Jackson McDonald  
Son-in-law: Rev. Dr. Gerald McDonald  
Grandchildren: Gerald, David, and Christopher Jackson McDonald, Haneik Jackson-Brisco, Hennen, Sh'reen, Chan, Choni, Chauni, and Zari Arri, Asha, Asi, and Osei Torres  
Great Grandchildren: Bryson, Caleb, and Kendall Briscoe, Azia Benton, Azani Henley, and Azai Zachery; Ha'neen Arri Jr., Deondre, Devonte, Hakeem and N'kayi Arri; Le'tavia Williams, J'ya and Jy'i Ottley; Arya Ashley and James Ashley IV; Alannah Lockhart and Arianna Anthony, Kashka and Amira Beazer; Avani Cooper and Osei Torres II  
Great, Great, Grandchildren: Zayden and Alorah Henely  
Nephews: John A. Petersen, Valdemar Candido Petersen, II, Paul Lorenzo Petersen, Mark A. Petersen, Lloyd Petersen Sr. (Sonia), Byron (Kathy), Angelo, Alex (Tammy), and Lawrence Williams, Albert Jurgen (Mercedes), Antonio George, Stafford Peets, Ohanio James  
Nieces: Beatrice Eugenia Petersen Gumbs (Knellar), Jo-Ann Petersen George Donovan (Maurice), Verna Francis (Franklin), Gwendolyn Peterson, Vernice Williams, Judith Peets, Delia Quiones, Star Hobdy, and Michele Jackson, Patricia Brown  
Great Nieces: Kayla Andrea Gumbs, La Toya Marie Petersen Duncan (Jerry), Mya A. Petersen, Ashley Humphries, Kimberly Petersen, Khalidia Furet, Kniquiah Francis, Nikima Dawson, Debra Petersen-Thompson (John), Tina Petersen-Callwood (Vernon), Nellerine Petersen-Benjamin (Vincent), Chandris Petersen-McCoy (Vincent), Yvonne A Peterson, Karen Cummings, Annette, Darlene, Nicole, and Kataisch James, Anika Harrell, Jayda Williams, Theresa George



Bernice P. Jackson

June 28, 1928 – March 17, 2024



Great Nephews: Kasim Andrew Gumbs, Kahleb Andrew Gumbs (Shavonne), Mark A. Petersen II, Malik J. Petersen, Laquan Petersen, John Anthony Petersen Jr. (Jennae), Darryl Humphries (Checwanda), Khalif Francis, Ramon George, Lloyd Petersen Jr., Lorenzo Petersen (Amanda Petersen), James Peterson, Joseph Hobdy, Ohanio, Glen Robert Kenneth, Richard, Robelto, Eugene, Elan Harrell, Jaron Williams, Cjay Jurgen, Hakeem George, Claude and Calvin Penn, Patrick Innis, and Nathaniel Brown

Great, Great,  
Nieces: Kamilia Arabella Snyder Gumbs, Kahlani Amarie Gumbs, Makenzie J'Lynn Petersen, Haleigh Marie Duncan, Monique Humphries-Braxton, Darisso Humphries-Williams, Kimesha Petersen, Cierra A. Petersen, Se'Nai Thompson, Ja'Naya A. Petersen, Juliza A. Petersen, Nikayla McMillian, Deshana Thompson, VerNae Callwood, VerNele Callwood, VeNiya Callwood, Vaniah Benjamin, Chiniere Petersen, Lyn-isha Petersen, Benaé Dawson, Yasmin Escarfullery, Elisha Williams, Kennedy Peterson

Great, Great,  
Nephews: Kahleel Andrew Gumbs, Kahleí Andrew Gumbs, Hampton Anthony Duncan, Shomari Wilson, Carson William, Brandon Alexander Humphries, John Thompson, Jaeden Thompson, Vincent Benjamin Jr. , Mateo Petersen, Miguel Petersen, Zayden Petersen, Benicio Dawson, Vincent "VJ" McCoy, Elijah Williams, Chad Cummings

Great, Great,  
Great Nieces: Ki'Briia Creque, Ahmyah Williams, Ahnika Davis, Adanne Cuthbertson

Great, Great,  
Great Nephews: K'Qualeek Christopher, K'Quadeem Christopher, Carson Williams, Ki'Mouri Todman, Ahmir Davis, Ahdam Davis

Cousins: Honorable Dwayne Degriff, Rev. Angelina Dewindt-Smith, Floricia, Alcenta, Othelia De Windt, Sonya Morales, Elizabeth Morales, Patricia Petersen, Alda Lockhart, Ken Fabio and Family Audrey Farrell, Beverly Williams, Ann Williams, Lorraine Reyes, Lisa Norman-Williams, Taya Leonard, Annette James, Dr. Eleanor

Blyden and Laverne and Ronald Blyden, Michele Richardson, Valarie Clendinen Francis and family, Monique Clendinen, Cletis A. Clendinen, Jr., Roque, Christian, and Victor Clendinen, Jackie Clendinen, and members of Clendinen Clan, Arlene Coleman, Michael Coleman, Charlyn Coleman Motley, David Coleman, Bryan Coleman, Hazel, Glenn, Joycelyn and Anselmo Roper, Beverly Roper-Austin, Roy Estrill, Ava Marie White, Corise and Shawn Kriger Family, Elmo Adams and Raymo Family, Ted Fred, Leo and Anwar Rohan, Shanell Rohan, Gerda and Gabriel Nathaniel, Victor and Thaderine MacFarlane, Denise MacFarlane, Terry MacFarlane, Edythe Brown, Gilbert Brown, Ellen and Ramon Mac Farlane, Allbert and Cecilia Romney, Denise, and Rufus Simmonds, Bernadine Jones-Evelyn, Gloria Jones-Pembleton, Stanford Pelage, Shakima Jackson-Petersen, Arri Sutton, Cynthia Romley, Romel and Muriel Wallace, Roy Anduze and family, Roy Watlington, Urma Williams, Janet Webb, Roy A. Watlington, Judith Watlington Edwin, PhD, Arturo R. Watlington, II, Esq., Honorable Debra Watlington, and Sarah Watlington-Connell, Catherine, Alicia Watlington Ellis, PhD, and Marie Louise Watlington Cameron

**Family Clans:** The Jackson, Clendinen, Petersen, Watlington, Anduze, Estrill, Faulkner, Lockhart, Canton, Kanton, Gumbs, Roumo, Blyden, Adams-Finch, Lytton-Raimer, and Wallace

**Extended Family:** Bernard and April Phillips, Jalani Phillips, Honorable Kathleen Mackay, Bernard Fauntleroy, Clarence Davis and Elris O'Garro-Davis, RN and Family, RN, Dr. Kenneth Moore and Carolyn O'Garro-Moore, Esq., and Family, Larry, Maggie, Vernon, Yvette, and Clifton Finch, Clarence and Celita Beverhoudt, Marlene Penn Trotman, Gail Williams, Jackie and Neil Graham, Gregory, Michael, Rodrick, and Bill Evans, Judith Bennett and the Graham Family, Horace Henry, Mabel Maduro, Shirley Richards, RN, Rev. Elva Richards-Goodwin, and Rosie Dennery-Francis, RN and Family, Sharon Rogers-Drummer, Evadney Rogers-Key, Brenda Rogers- Brooker and the Rogers Family, Vincent, Lovejoy, and Sophia Richards, Camela Francis, Linda, Joey, and Wendy Viallet, DII "Willie" Lewis, Liston Garfield, Victor and Lillian Garfield, Inez Garfield-Dixon and caretaker Gloria James

**God Children:** Honorable Senator Donna Frett-Gregory, Makeba Frett-Hodge,

Celebrating the Life of



*Bernice P. Jackson*

June 28, 1928 – March 17, 2024



Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

Family

Diane Dawson, John Webb, Ari-Yanna Petrus, Monaly Richards, Ray Dawson, Gowin Cid, Laverne Morring, and LaToya Jules, Laurel "Sophie" Elsa Gordon, Joycelyn Smith, Jasmine Walters, Lavan Maddox

Special Friends:

Gladys Broom, Honorable Senator Cleone Creque, Cleone Beverhoudt, Claude and Leona Simmonds, Krim and Rosalie Ballentine, Lydia Simmonds Lettsome, Nathan and Carol Simmonds, Paul Simmonds, Dante and Janet DeCastro, Wilhelmina Commabatch, Alda Monsanto and Family, Eugiene Bolton and Family, Marigold Browne, Dorette Carter, Julia Callwood, Yolanda Francis, George and Joy Harris, Ronald Harrigan, Dr. David Hall and Dr. Marilyn Baithwaite-Hall, Jackie Jeffers, Rev. Dr. Judith Hodge, Rev. Ambrose Gumbs, Margret "Del" Gumbs, Idena Brown Adams, Frances Boynes, Dorothy Lockhart and Family, Jerri Lafranc, Doris Henneman, Locueta Hodge, Doris Lindqvist, David and Delores Pinney, Marlene Penn Trotman, Brian, and Karen Turnbull and members of the Turnbull Family, Anthony and Janice Thomas, Lynette Moolenar George, Dr. Elsie Casimir, Dr. Melba Bonelli, Mary Echols, Joyce E. Sample, Joshua and Annette Freeman, Lyle Baptiste, Esther Camilo, Cheryl Plaskett, Lola Warrington, Dr. Howard and Bernice Newton and Family, Hubert and Cresida Raimer and Family, Kepprine and Kurt Richards, Koren Richards Piper, Maria Leerdam, Leona and Doris Penn, Rita Harris and Francine Scipio, Allie and Beverly Petrus, Effield A. Petrus, Vincent, Lovejoy, and Sophia Richards, Janet Smalls and Family, Joseph, Saudi, Esteban and Safiya Smith

Church, Professional,

Civic and Cultural

Organization:

Impacting Your World Ministries, Global Impact Prayer line, New Covenant Church of Philadelphia, St. Andrews Church, Former MCH Colleagues, Party Hardie Carolers, Voices of Love, We From Up Street, Inc., and Virgin Islands State Nurses Association

Pallbearers:

Gerald McDonald, II, David Jackson-McDonald, Christopher Jackson-McDonald, David Coleman, Daryl Humphries, Candido Petersen

Honorary

Pallbearers:

Rt. Rev. Ambrose Gumbs, Bernard Phillips, Myron D. Jackson, Rev. Dr. Gerald McDonald, Claude Simmonds, George Harris, Dante De Castro, David Pinney, Horace Henry, Kenneth Moore, MD, Clarence Davis, Clarence Beverhoudt, Jalani Phillips, Paul and Mark Petersen

# Order of Funeral Service

Viewing and Tributes 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Reception of the Body

**Eulogy** ..... Senator Myron D. Jackson

**Hymn** ..... "For All The Saints"

**Collect/Prayer** ..... Dean Sandy Wilson

## First Reading

Lamentation 3:22-26 (KJV) ..... Christopher E. Jackson McDonald

**Psalm 23** ..... Rev. Dr. Sharon Jackson-McDonald

## Second Reading

Revelations 7:9-17 (KJV) ..... April Munroe Phillips

**Hymn** ..... "It Is Well With My Soul"

## The Holy Gospel

John 14:1-6 (KJV) ..... Rev. Dr. Gerald McDonald

**Sermon** ..... Rev. Lenroy K. Cabey, *Rector*

**The Apostles Creed** ..... Congregation

**The Prayers of the People** ..... Rosalie Simmonds Ballentine, Esq.

## The Peace

**Eucharist** ..... Form B pg. (367)

**Hymn** ..... "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

## The Commendation

## The Blessing

**Hymn** ..... "When We All Get To Heaven"

Celebrating the Life of



Bernice P. Jackson

June 28, 1928 – March 17, 2024



### For All The Saints Who From Their Labors Rest

1. For all the saints who from their labors rest, who  
Thee by faith before the world confessed; Thy  
name, O Jesus, be forever blest.

*Alleluia, Alleluia!*

2. Thou wast their Rock, their Fortress and their  
Might; Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-  
fought fight; Thou, in the darkness drear, their  
one true Light.

*Alleluia, Alleluia!*

3. O blest communion, fellowship divine! We feebly  
struggle, they in glory shine; yet all are one in  
Thee, for all are Thine. *Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*Alleluia, Alleluia!*

4. And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,  
steals on the ear the distant triumph song, and  
hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.

*Alleluia, Alleluia!*

### It Is Well, It Is Well With My Soul

1. When peace like a river attendeth my way, when  
sorrows like sea billows roll; whatever my lot,  
thou hast taught me to say, "It is well, it is well  
with my soul."

*Refrain (May be sung after final stanza only):*

*It is well with my soul; it is well, it is well  
with my soul.*

2. Though Satan should buffet, though trials  
should come, let this blest assurance control:  
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,  
and has shed his own blood for my soul.

*Refrain*

3. My sin oh, the bliss of this glorious thought! my  
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the  
cross, and I bear it no more; praise the Lord,  
praise the Lord, O my soul!

*Refrain*

4. O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be  
sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;  
the trump shall resound and the Lord shall  
descend; even so, it is well with my soul.

*Refrain*

### Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

1. Guide me, O Thou great \*Jehovah, [\*Redeemer]  
Pilgrim through this barren land;

I am weak, but Thou art mighty, Hold me with  
Thy pow'rful hand. Bread of heaven,

Bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more;  
Feed me till I want no more.

2. Open now the crystal fountain, Whence the  
healing stream doth flow; Let the fire and  
cloudy pillar

Lead me all my journey through.

Strong Deliv'rer, strong Deliv'rer,

Be Thou still my Strength and Shield; Be Thou  
still my Strength and Shield.

3. Lord, I trust Thy mighty power, Wondrous are  
Thy works of old;

Thou deliver'st Thine from thralldom, Who for  
naught themselves had sold:

Thou didst conquer, Thou didst conquer Sin  
and Satan and the grave,

Sin and Satan and the grave.

4. When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my  
anxious fears subside;

Death of death and hell's Destruction, Land me  
safe on Canaan's side.

Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever  
give to Thee;

I will ever give to Thee.

### When We All Get to Heaven

1. Sing the wondrous love of Jesus; Sing his mercy  
and his grace.

In the mansions bright and blessed

He'll prepare for us a place.

*Refrain*

*When we all get to heaven,*

*What a day of rejoicing that will be!  
When we all see Jesus,*

*We'll sing and shout the victory!*

2. While we walk the pilgrim pathway, Clouds will overspread the sky;

But when traveling days are over, Not a shadow, not a sigh.

**Refrain**

*When we all get to heaven,*

*What a day of rejoicing that will be!*

*When we all see Jesus,*

*We'll sing and shout the victory!*

3. Let us then be true and faithful, Trusting, serving every day; Just one glimpse of him in glory Will the toils of life repay.

**Refrain**

*When we all get to heaven,*

*What a day of rejoicing that will be!*

*When we all see Jesus,*

*We'll sing and shout the victory!*

4. Onward to the prize before us! Soon his beauty we'll behold; Soon the pearly gates will open; We shall tread the streets of gold.

**Refrain**

*When we all get to heaven,*

*What a day of rejoicing that will be!*

*When we all see Jesus,*

*We'll sing and shout the victory!*

## **Valiant Virgin Isles**

*words and music by Gylchris Sprauve*

1. Crown jewels of the Caribbean Sea With love created for you and me

Grand majestic vistas, charming emerald sisters

None can equal their beauty!

We celebrate our history

Great men and women of dignity

Firm determination, talent, inspiration Timeless is their legacy!

**Refrain**

*Lift your voice in thanks and praise For momentous, glorious days Pressing on through arduous trials, Valiant are my Virgin Isles!*

2. I sing of Crucian royalty,

3 queens who fought for equality

With fearless hearts they dared to break apart

The hateful chains of human slavery,

Without our sister, where would we be? St. Croix, the largest of the three.

Resistance is her truest name, her candor without shame

And matchless bravery!

**Refrain**

*Lift your voice in thanks and praise For momentous, glorious days Pressing on through arduous trials, Valiant are my Virgin Isles!*

**Bridge**

St. Thomas, Rock enduring Beacon bright, ensuring

Futures filled with hope and pride!

A melting pot of peoples and languages Cradle of advancement,

for all who try...

3. St. John, in seventeen thirty-three, Kantá, Bolómbo and Aquashi Despite the traitors' faithless acts That saved their masters' backs For 6 months they were free!

God, give us wisdom as we Stand firm in perfect unity Together victory can be ours, We cannot bow to powers That threaten liberty!

**Refrain 2**

*Sing, oh sing of brilliant minds! Fine examples of mankind!*

*History's pages tell no lies; Valiant are my Virgin Isles!*

*Sing oh sing, in thanks and praise For momentous, glorious days!*

*Pressing on through arduous trials, Noble are my Virgin Isles!*

*Determined are my Virgin Isles! Valiant are my Virgin Isles!*

Celebrating the Life of



Bernice P. Jackson

June 28, 1928 - March 17, 2024



# Alternative Forms of the Great Thanksgiving

## Eucharistic Prayer B

*The people remain standing. The Presider, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says*

May God be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Presider* Lift up your hearts.

*People* We lift our hearts to God.

*Presider* Let us give thanks to the One who created us.

*People* It is right to give God thanks and praise.

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Presider proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, the Maker of heaven and earth.

*Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Presider and People*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Presider continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. Through Mary's Holy Child, you have delivered us from evil and made us worthy to stand before you. You have brought us out of error

into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. \*

*At the following words concerning the bread the Presider is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night before he died for us, Jesus\* took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this

for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O God,

*Presider and People*

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

*\*Note: This section has been truncated.*

## 2 Communion

*The Presider continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Dear One; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time,

gather all things into the circle of Christ's love, and bring us to that heavenly country where with [ ] and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of all your children; through Jesus Christ, \* the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Most Blessed One, now and forever. AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

*Continue with the Lord's Prayer on page 364.*

### 3 Communion

*People and Celebrant*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,

thy kingdom come, thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those

who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

### The Breaking of the Bread

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

*Then may be sung or said*

[Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]

*In Lent, Alleluia is omitted, and may be omitted at other times except during Easter Season.*

*In place of, or in addition to, the preceding, some other suitable anthem may be used.*

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

### 364 Holy Eucharist II

*At the Eucharist*

*The service continues with the Peace and the Offertory*

*In place of the usual postcommunion prayer, the following is said*

Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet. Grant that this Sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but the fullness of joy with all your saints; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Celebrating the Life of



Bernice P. Jackson

June 28, 1928 - March 17, 2024



Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

# Letters to the Family



THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
GOVERNMENT HOUSE  
1105 King Street  
Christiansted, V.I. 00820  
340-773-1404

## A MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

On behalf of the people and the Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States, I extend my deepest sympathies to you during this time of sorrow. The passing of Bernice Peterson-Jackson, a beacon of love, service, and strength, leaves a void in our community that words can scarcely fill. Her story, from her early days on Sugar Hill in Harlem to her invaluable contributions to our islands, is a testament to a life richly lived and generously shared.

Bernice's journey back to St. Thomas as a child marked the beginning of a lifelong dedication to her community. Her achievements, from being crowned Queen of May Day to her distinguished career in nursing, reflect a life of exceptional service. Bernice's passion for nurturing and her unwavering spirit of giving enriched the lives of many, from the newborns she cared for to the elders she served with compassion.

The legacy of Bernice and Hugo D. Jackson, through their children, former Senator Myron Jackson and Pastor Sharon Jackson-McDonald, and their grandchildren, is a testament to their love and dedication to family. Bernice's spiritual dedication and civic involvement, from health ministries to church boards, have left an indelible mark on our community, inspiring many to follow in her footsteps of service and faith.

I personally understand the profound loss of a mother, regardless of age or circumstances. The absence of such a foundational figure in one's life is a profound loss, one that I, too, have felt with the passing of my own mother. It is a journey of grief and remembrance that we embark on, carrying their love and teachings with us always.

To former Senator Myron Jackson, Pastor Sharon Jackson-McDonald, and all who loved Bernice, please accept my heartfelt condolences. May the love and memories you shared with Bernice bring you comfort during this time. Her spirit, dedication, and love continue to inspire us all, and her legacy will forever be a part of the fabric of our islands.

With deepest sympathy,

Albert Bryan Jr.  
Governor of the Virgin Islands of the United States



OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR  
UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

### **MESSAGE FROM THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

I write to offer heartfelt condolences to the family, friends, and loved ones of Mrs. Bernice Peterson-Jackson, a life-long and compassionate public servant whose work uplifted and comforted so many in our community. The loss of a loved one is always difficult, with the loss of a mother being even more so, and so it is with deepest sympathy that I extend wishes for God's grace to her son Myron, daughter Sharon, her grandchildren, extended family, godchildren, and close friends.

Mrs. Peterson-Jackson was born in New York City but raised in her father's native island of St. Thomas. She attained her nursing education and training in New York City and began her career there as a Licensed Practical Nurse. Upon relocating to St. Thomas in 1959 with her family, she continued her nursing profession with grace and dedication. Her nursing positions included the Virgin Islands Department of Health, Kund Hansen Hospital, and the Queen Louise Home for the Aged. She also served as a school nurse, and at the Maternal Child Health Division from which she retired in 1983.

Her commitment to service and helping others continued after retirement, where she worked in the office of Dr. Didace Monsanto, and with the Catholic Social Services. Mrs. Peterson-Jackson was also a member of the Virgin Islands Licensed Practical Nurses Association and AARP. She was a prayerful woman of strong faith and spirituality, often serving in various capacities at the St. Andrews Episcopal Church. She was loved and cherished by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Undoubtedly, the legacy and memories of Mrs. Peterson-Jackson will continue to live on. Her love of family and commitment to service will be remembered. During this time of mourning, I encourage everyone who knew Mrs. Peterson-Jackson to find comfort in the wonderful times they shared with her and in knowing that so many others share in this great loss.

May she rest in eternal peace.

Tregenza A. Roach, Esq.  
Lieutenant Governor



Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

# Letters to the Family

STACEY E. PLASKETT  
VIRGIN ISLANDS

## Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

2059 RAYBURN BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

### **A MESSAGE FROM CONGRESSWOMAN STACEY E. PLASKETT**

On behalf of the Members of the 118th Congress, my staff, and my family, I extend heartfelt sympathies to the family, loved ones and friends of Mrs. Bernice Peterson Jackson.

A life well-lived is most importantly about the joy, love, and impact you have made on those in yours. Mrs. Jackson did this to the fullest. She was many things to so many people - wife, mother, grandmother, nurse and a woman of faith. We can see the fruit of the full life she lived by of the impact she had on those around her who called her by all these titles.

Mrs. Jackson gave of her time and talent as a nurse and served in various capacities at the VI Department of Health and other healthcare institutions over the course of 30 years, and even in her retirement continued to serve our community while working with the Catholic Social Services Teen Pregnancy Case Management Program. Her love for her community was evident in her civic, social, and faith-based engagement with numerous organizations to include the Cub Scouts, the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), We from Upstreet, Inc, St. Andrew's Church and Impacting Your World Christian Ministries. And yet, even with her passionate dedication to her community, Mrs. Jackson's devotion to her family was second to none—she fiercely loved and supported her husband and her children, Ari Arri, Sen. Myron D. Jackson and Rev. Dr. Sharon Jackson McDonald. She was also a significant source of encouragement and deeply cherished love for her grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, and extended family members.

Mrs. Jackson belongs to a generation of Virgin Islanders that were tremendously resilient, forward thinkers and risk takers who did it all with elegance. Particularly those from our islands who were part of the migration to New York in the mid-20th century; they knew how to hold community and culture. In the cold harsh city, these Virgin Islanders didn't just survive, they thrived, and Mrs. Jackson was definitely a woman that exemplified the best of us from that time and space. I am thankful and hold dear her kindness and grace at my every engagement with her.

The condolences of my entire family, Jonathan and my mother, my staff, as well as the Plaskett, Clendinen and Hendricks family go out to the entire Peterson-Jackson family. Our family ties are strong, and we are grateful for Mrs. Jackson's joining with our ancestors! Words cannot express the pain that death brings, but we can take great comfort in knowing that Mrs. Jackson lived a tremendously meaningful life and is now at rest. Let us remember her for the many ways she enriched and bettered the lives of her family, friends and our entire community. During this time, I pray that God will comfort and sustain her children, grandchildren, her loved ones, and all those bereaved by her passing.

May her soul rest in eternal-heavenly peace.

Sincerely,

Stacey E. Plaskett  
Delegate to Congress

ST. CROIX DISTRICT OFFICE  
60 KING STREET  
FREDERIKSTED, VI 00840  
(340) 778-5900  
FAX: (340) 778-5111

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

ST. THOMAS DISTRICT OFFICE  
9100 PORT OF SALE MALL, SUITE 22  
ST. THOMAS, VI 00802  
(340) 774-4408  
FAX: (340) 774-8033



SENATOR NOVELLE E. FRANCIS, JR.  
35<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS  
PRESIDENT

**TRIBUTE FROM THE SENATE PRESIDENT**

My wife, Avril and I were saddened to learn of the passing of Ms. Bernice Peterson Jackson, mother of former Senate President Myron D. Jackson.

Mrs. Jackson spent the majority of her years in the noble profession of nursing. Nursing professionals will forever be synonymous with strength, kindness and compassion, certainly qualities that Mrs. Jackson exemplified. As a nursing professional, Mrs. Jackson made a difference in this community. When things were blurry and seemed ambiguous, she clarified with empathy. I believe if I had an opportunity to ask Mrs. Jackson why she chose the profession of nursing as a career path, she would have emphatically answered, "*I just wanted to help people.*" Additionally, she was a devout Christian woman. Her church commitments coupled with her compassion for our community and her unwavering devotion will be remembered for many generations to come.

Mrs. Jackson will also be remembered as a gentle soul, a devoted mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt and friend. Mrs. Jackson was always her family's biggest supporter and cheerleader. She had strong faith which grounded and defined her. I am sure it was that same strong faith sealed with prayer that Ms. Jackson relied on to see her family through good as well as very challenging times.

On behalf of the members of the 35<sup>th</sup> Legislature, my family and staff, I offer heartfelt wishes for God's abiding grace and comfort to everyone who knew Mrs. Jackson. I am particularly mindful of her son, former Senator Myron D. Jackson, and daughter, Pastor Sharon Jackson-McDonald, and her close-knit family for whom this loss is so deeply felt.

As we say farewell to Mrs. Bernice Peterson Jackson, be comforted with the words of our dear Savior Jesus Christ who proclaimed, "*I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.*" (St. John 11:25-26). Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Novelle E. Francis, Jr." The signature is fluid and cursive.

Novelle E. Francis, Jr.  
Senate President, 35<sup>th</sup> Legislature



Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

# Letters to the Family



*The Honorable  
Marvin A. Blyden  
Vice-President*

## Legislature of the Virgin Islands

CAPITOL BUILDING, P.O. BOX 1690  
ST. THOMAS, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS 00804  
(340) 774-0880

**CHAIRMAN**  
Housing, Transportation &  
Telecommunications

**VICE CHAIR**  
Culture, Sports, Parks, & Youth

**MEMBER**  
Economic Development &  
Agriculture  
Finance

Health, Hospitals, & Human Services

## MESSAGE FROM SENATOR MARVIN A. BLYDEN

*"And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you."*

*John 16:22, KJV*

It is with a tremendous sense of loss that I join the Legislative family and thousands of Virgin Islands in mourning the passing of family matriarch and culture bearer, Ms. Bernice P. Jackson.

I didn't have the opportunity to meet Ms. Jackson in her younger years, but I had the honor of knowing her has a result of serving in the Legislature with her son, former Senate President Myron Jackson. As a result of meeting her, and from seeing her influence through her son, it was obvious that she carried the deepest love for her family, her culture and her people; and that love, dedication and steadfast commitment has been carried on by her children. And I cannot speak of her children's commitment without commanding and honoring them for the loving care that they bestowed on her in her last years of life, and I know that God will honor them as they have honored their mother.

On behalf of my family and my staff, I extend deep and heartfelt condolences to her son, Senator Jackson, her daughter Sharon McDonald, and the countless other family members and friends of a kind and godly woman and Virgin Islands culture bearer—Ms. Bernice P. Jackson. May God be with you and please know that our prayers, love, and support go with you always.

In Deepest Sympathy,

Marvin A. Blyden  
Vice-President  
35<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the Virgin Islands



# Legislature Of The Virgin Islands

CAPITOL BUILDING, P.O. 1690 ST. THOMAS, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS 00804

Tel. (340) 693-3515 Fax. (340) 693-3633 Email: senatorcarlajoseph@legvi.org Website: www.senatorcarlajoseph.com

THE HONORABLE  
**Carla J. Joseph**  
LEGISLATIVE SECRETARY  
35TH LEGISLATURE OF  
THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

## CHAIR

Committee on Government Operations, Veterans Affairs, and Consumer Protection

*Liaison to the United States Department of Interior and Office of Insular Affairs*

## MEMBER

Committee of the Whole

Committee on Rules and Judiciary

Committee on Education and Workforce Development

Committee on Disaster Recovery, Infrastructure, and Planning

Committee on Housing, Transportation, and Telecommunications

## IN MEMORY OF MRS. BERNICE PETERSON JACKSON

*God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them. Hebrews 6:10*

On behalf of my family and staff, I offer my sincere condolences to the Peterson-Jackson and McDonald families on the passing of your beloved matriarch, Mrs. Bernice Peterson Jackson.

Mrs. Peterson Jackson's radiating smile and heart of service will be remembered by the lives and hearts she touched. Her humble and loving demeanor is evident in the character of her children, who have continued her legacy of service to our community.

As a Community Nurse and entrepreneur, Mrs. Peterson Jackson took great care in serving our community compassionately. Her selfless service and kind heart brought warmth to everyone she met. Her family and our community will continue to remember Mrs. Peterson Jackson for her unwavering service and the love she showed by helping people. May her soul rest in eternal peace.

With Deepest Sympathy and Love,

Carla J. Joseph  
Legislative Secretary  
35th Legislature of the Virgin Islands

March 22, 2024  
Date



Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

# Letters to the Family



*The Honorable*  
**Donna A. Frett-Gregory**  
Liaison to Congress

## Legislature of the Virgin Islands

CAPITOL BUILDING, P.O. BOX 1690  
ST. THOMAS, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS 00804  
Office: (340) 693-3686 • Fax: (340) 693-3642  
Email: senatorfrett-gregory@legvi.org

**CHAIRPERSON**  
Committee on Budget, Appropriations and Finance

**VICE CHAIRPERSON**  
Committee on Education and Workforce Development

**MEMBER**  
Committee on Economic Development & Agriculture

Committee on Health, Hospitals and Human Services

*“May the hope of heaven give you peace, and the tender touch of God bring you comfort.”*

It is with profound sadness that my family, staff and I offer condolences to the family and friends of the late Bernice Peterson Jackson. She was a remarkable individual whose impact on the Virgin Islands community will forever be cherished and remembered.

Ms. Bernice was more than just a community health nurse; she was a warm and compassionate spirit who was dedicated to those she served. She not only excelled in her professional endeavors, but she also played an integral role in shaping the values and principles of other Virgin Islanders, to whom she took seriously her role as “Godmother”. As a deeply spiritual person, she gave much of her talents and time to the St. Andrews Church organizing the health ministry, the women’s ministry and other programs that impacted children.

In this time of mourning, let us remember Ms. Bernice Peterson Jackson for the countless lives she has touched and the legacy of service she leaves behind. To my former colleague, Honorable Myron D. Jackson and Sharon Jackson-McDonald, I admired the care you provided your mother in her golden years. May your hearts be comforted with the knowledge that your mother lived a purposeful life, walking closely with God and filled with love. May her soul rest in eternal peace.

Sincerely,

Donna A. Frett-Gregory  
Senator, 35<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the Virgin Islands



## Legislature of the Virgin Islands

CAPITOL BUILDING, P.O. BOX 1690  
ST. THOMAS, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS 00804  
(340) 774-0880  
(340) 693-3513

*The Honorable*  
**Senator Dwayne M. DeGraff**  
*Minority Leader*

**MEMBER**  
*Committee on Budget, Appropriations & Finance*  
**MEMBER**  
*Committee on Education & Workforce Development*  
**MEMBER**  
*Committee on Economic Development & Agriculture*  
**MEMBER**  
*Committee on Homeland Security, Justice & Public Safety*  
**MEMBER**  
*Committee on Housing, Transportation & Telecommunications*

### A MESSAGE FROM SENATOR DWAYNE M. DEGRAFF

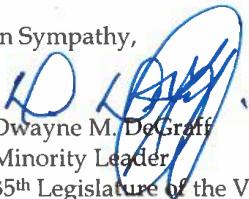
#### To the Family and Friends of Mrs. Bernice Consuelo Peterson Jackson

I was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of my dear cousin, Mrs. Bernice Consuelo Peterson Jackson. My family, staff and I extend our deepest sympathies to her family and friends. Especially in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time are her children, former Senator Myron D. Jackson and Mrs. Sharon Jackson McDonald.

Mrs. Jackson was one of my mom's closest family member and friend. They both shared the love for their nursing profession and always hung out together in their earlier years. She was a wonderful woman, who gave me lots of good advice throughout my life. I will always remember the memories that I've shared with her.

I hope that in some small way the family is uplifted by the expressions of care and concern conveyed by others and myself. May you find strength in each other and in the warm embrace of friends. May Mrs. Jackson find peace and comfort in the arms of her loving Savior, Jesus Christ.

*"For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's." (Romans 14:8)*

In Sympathy,  
  
Dwayne M. DeGraff  
Minority Leader  
35<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the Virgin Islands



Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

# Letters to the Family

## Legislature of the Virgin Islands

P.O. BOX 1690  
ST. THOMAS, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS 00802  
(340) 712-2278



The Honorable  
**Angel Bolques, Jr.**  
Senator-At-Large  
35<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the Virgin Islands

**CHAIRMAN**  
Committee on Culture, Youth, Aging, Sports, & Parks

**VICE-CHAIRMAN**  
Committee on Economic Development & Agriculture

**MEMBER**  
Committee on Rules & Judiciary  
Committee on Homeland Security, Justice & Public Safety  
Committee on Housing, Transportation, & Telecommunication  
Subcommittee on Energy & Infrastructure Development

### To the Family and Friends of Bernice Consuelo Peterson Jackson,

In this moment of profound sorrow, The Office of Angel Bolques Jr., Senator-At-Large, extends its deepest sympathies to you on the loss of a remarkable soul, Bernice Consuelo Peterson Jackson. As she entered into eternal rest on March 17, 2024, surrounded by her loved ones.

Bernice's journey from the streets of Harlem to the heart of St. Thomas tells a story of resilience, love, and unwavering commitment to community. Her early years, marked by a significant move that would define the course of her life, blossomed into a legacy that reached far beyond the boundaries of her family and touched the lives of all within her reach. Her tireless dedication as a nurse, her entrepreneurial spirit alongside her late husband Hugo, and her active participation in our community stand as a testament to a life lived with purpose and passion. Bernice's influence extended through her involvement in civic organizations, church, and work, leaving an indelible mark on the Virgin Islands and beyond.

As we come together to honor and remember Bernice, let us find solace in the memories we shared with her. Her life was a beacon of hope and a source of strength for many, guiding us toward a path of service, kindness, and faith. In these memories, her spirit continues to live on, inspiring us to carry forward the values she held dear.

Please know that my office and I stand with you during your mourning. May the legacy of Bernice Consuelo Peterson Jackson comfort and encourage you in the days to come. As we bid her farewell, let us celebrate her remarkable life and the profound impact she made on all who were fortunate enough to know her.

With deepest condolences,

Wholeheartedly

Angel Bolques, Jr.  
Senator-At-Large  
35<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the Virgin Islands

# Franklin D. Johnson

**Senator**

35<sup>th</sup> Legislature of United States Virgin Islands



## Committees:

Rules and Judiciary  
Education and Workforce Development  
Disaster Recovery, Infrastructure and Planning  
Homeland Security, Justice and Public Safety  
Culture, Youth, Aging, Sports and Parks

### A CONDOLENCE MESSAGE TO THE FAMILY OF THE LATE BERNICE PETERSON JACKSON

My family, staff and I would like to extend our deepest condolences to the family and friends of **Ms. Bernice Peterson Jackson**. I am sure her death leaves a considerable emptiness in the lives of those who loved her dearly. During this time of great loss, it is important that the family maintains a strong bond, to get through this difficult period.

Ms. Bernice Peterson Jackson made a significant contribution to your life and touched the lives of many with her dedication, passion, and service. Losing a mother is a profound loss, I can only imagine the depth of sorrow you must be experiencing. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.

May you find comfort in the memories you shared with your mother and the love and support from your family and friends. May her legacy continue to inspire and guide each and everyone.

*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Psalm 23*

With Deepest Sympathy,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Franklin D. Johnson".

Franklin D. Johnson

Senator

35<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the Virgin Islands



Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

# Letters to the Family

## 35<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the Virgin Islands



CAPITOL BUILDING, P.O. BOX 1690  
ST. THOMAS, US VIRGIN ISLANDS 00804  
(340) 693-3577

From the Office of  
The Honorable Senator  
**RAY FONSECA**

**CHAIRMAN**  
Health, Hospitals & Human Services  
**VICE CHAIR**  
Homeland Sec., Justice & Public Safety  
**MEMBER**  
Budget, Appropriation & Finance  
Housing, Transportation & Telecommunications  
Gov't Operations & Consumer Affairs

### To the Family and Friends of Ms. Bernice Peterson-Jackson

It is with great respect for her lifelong achievements, and for her dedication to her loving family, that my staff and I offer condolences to the surviving relatives and friends of Ms. Bernice Peterson-Jackson. May we all live to experience the comfort and joy of being blessed by the love and appreciation of so many who have benefitted from her unselfish contributions to the people of the Virgin Islands.

May her family, friends, and this entire Virgin Islands community continue to appreciate the value of her many contributions during her long and gifted life and may Ms. Bernice Peterson -Jackson rest in peace.

**"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."** (Isaiah 41:10)

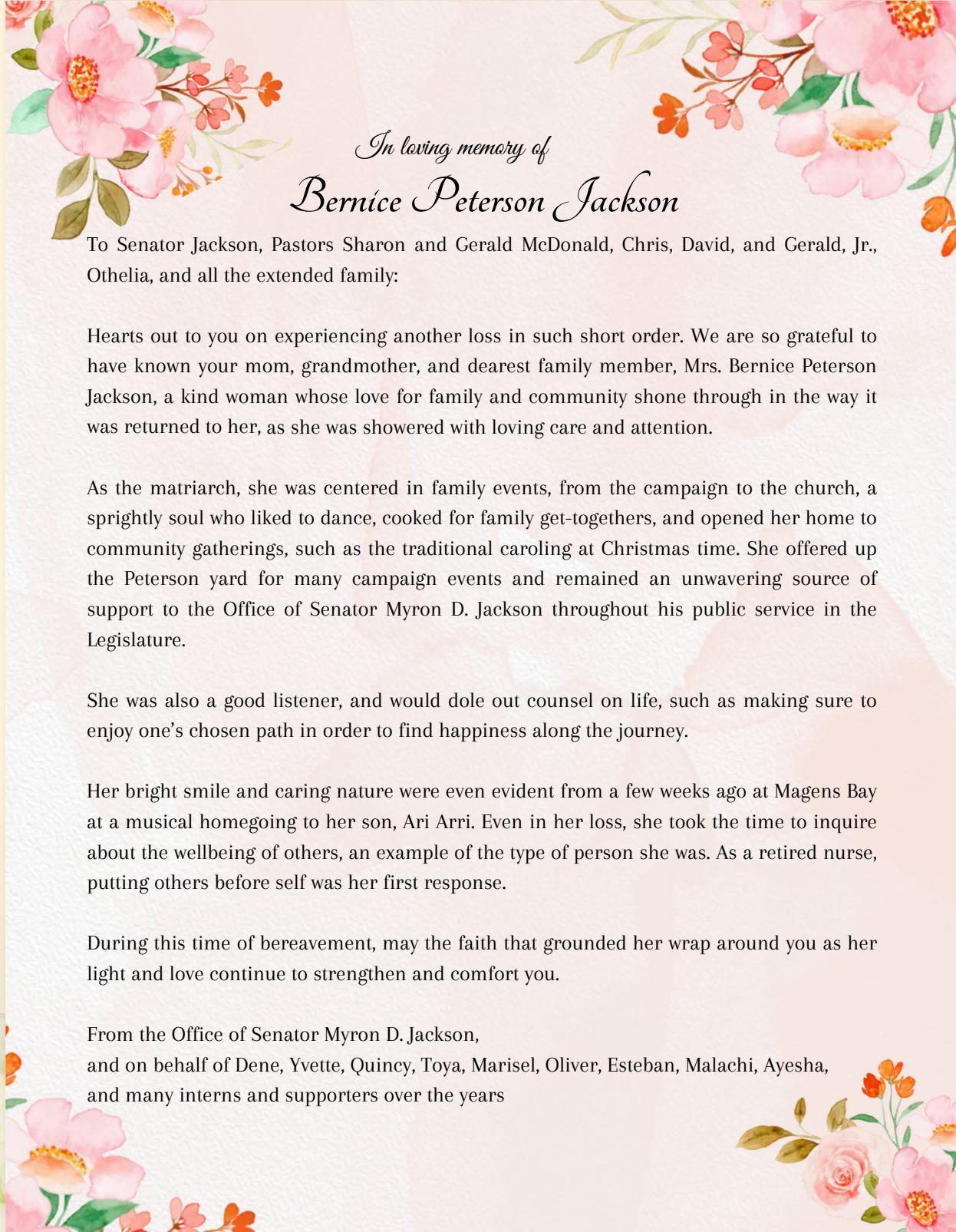
May God grant you peace and comfort as you commit her to eternal rest.

With my deepest sympathy,

Senator Ray Fonseca  
35<sup>th</sup> Legislature of the Virgin Islands

Email: [Senatorrayfonseca@legvi.org](mailto:Senatorrayfonseca@legvi.org)

*Accountability, Transparency and Experience*



*In loving memory of*  
**Bernice Peterson Jackson**

To Senator Jackson, Pastors Sharon and Gerald McDonald, Chris, David, and Gerald, Jr., Othelia, and all the extended family:

Hearts out to you on experiencing another loss in such short order. We are so grateful to have known your mom, grandmother, and dearest family member, Mrs. Bernice Peterson Jackson, a kind woman whose love for family and community shone through in the way it was returned to her, as she was showered with loving care and attention.

As the matriarch, she was centered in family events, from the campaign to the church, a sprightly soul who liked to dance, cooked for family get-togethers, and opened her home to community gatherings, such as the traditional caroling at Christmas time. She offered up the Peterson yard for many campaign events and remained an unwavering source of support to the Office of Senator Myron D. Jackson throughout his public service in the Legislature.

She was also a good listener, and would dole out counsel on life, such as making sure to enjoy one's chosen path in order to find happiness along the journey.

Her bright smile and caring nature were even evident from a few weeks ago at Magens Bay at a musical homegoing to her son, Ari Arri. Even in her loss, she took the time to inquire about the wellbeing of others, an example of the type of person she was. As a retired nurse, putting others before self was her first response.

During this time of bereavement, may the faith that grounded her wrap around you as her light and love continue to strengthen and comfort you.

From the Office of Senator Myron D. Jackson,  
and on behalf of Dene, Yvette, Quincy, Toya, Marisel, Oliver, Esteban, Malachi, Ayesha,  
and many interns and supporters over the years



Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

# Reflections



## **Tribute to our Queen Mother Bernice Peterson Jackson 1928-2024**

Our Mother was an amazing woman and human being. She was our matriarch, our Queen Mother, *an ancient title given to African women, in matrilineal societies, where the royal descent of nobility and power is reckoned. I don't remember exactly when we stopped calling her Mommy and began calling her Mother, however this title eventually evolved to Mother Jackson which was used by extended family members, friends, and the community.*

Mother Jackson gave us and those she loved and admired unconditional love. Before her departure she said to those who surrounded her, *"I love you all!"* Mother taught us by example. She was gracious, kind, caring, compassionate, generous and fair, deeply spiritual, a healer, and God fearing. I was her first born and her birthing of me was difficult. Over the decades, we cultivated a close mother and son relationship that was compounded and sealed with a vow I made, after the sudden death of our father in 1982, that I would take care and provide for her and my grandmother until death. A promise made and a promise kept. In taking that vow, I also requested of God that he grant her a long life so that my sister and I would not be parentless... a request and prayer made and granted. Mother was blessed with four scores and fifteen. What a blessing, thank you oh great Jehovah!

In reflection of the long life she lived, Mother taught us daily by example up to the very end of her existence. She reminded us of the importance of commitment and public service, to be gracious and kind, to stand up for your principles, and to assist and advocate for those who may be less fortunate. In times of adversity, she said to stand firm and do the very best you can, and that what cannot be achieved or accomplished by you, leave it to the power of God.

Queen Mother you have now joined the realm of our ancestors. We return you to our maker, the Great Architect of the Universe, we will for generations venerate and call your name.

Rest In Power!

Your loving son

*Myron D. Jackson*



## My Tribute To My Beautiful Mother

It's unbelievable that I am taking the time to comprehend and write my thoughts simultaneously. This feels so unreal to me. It hurts to know that you are no longer with the family. Tears flow as the beautiful memories flood my mind. I can't thank God enough for the Mother you have been to Myron and me, Gerald, and your handsome and amazing grandsons. You have taught us well and brought us to a strong place of security that you know we will be alright.

Mother, you have always been in our lives from the time you carried us in your womb through our adult lives to the present, and for that, we are ever grateful to the Lord for keeping you strong and alert and keeping us all on track. Your memory was sharp, and you reminded us of so many things that we would say, Mother, you remember that? Indeed, the hand of God was on your life. You shared with me that your grandmother prayed for you at a childhood age, and her

blessings, along with your parents, kept you in the fountain of youth and God's strength. You were our encyclopedia, Smithsonian, historian, Best Parent in the world, a strong pillar of love, kindness, strength, and wisdom, a faithful and compassionate nurse, an entrepreneur of 4 businesses, the best cook, the queen of excellence and hospitality, a pray warrior, that had an eagle eye that scored high to protect and guide us all. You exemplified what a Proverb Thirty-one women look like you were our role model and our hero.

Mother, your legacy and values will continue to resonate within us, and we will continue to make you and Daddy proud. God kept you here on Earth after Daddy died 43 years ago. That is a gift from God all by itself. You never complained, you did what you had to do as we grew from childhood to adulthood, and you never missed a beat. Mother, you had a BIG heart, and your heart extended globally so that you have become a mother to many. Your upbringing, from your parents to your grandparents and all those involved in your life, had groomed you to be the most BEAUTIFUL person on Earth.

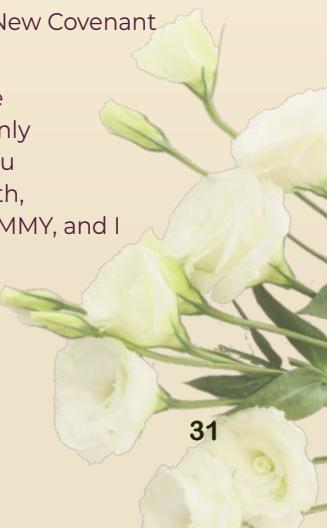
You outlived many people, and you remained steady and focused. You stayed up with the news and always kept the family aware, especially with today's national politics. You have seen generations change from your era from outdoor ovens and coal pots to a generation with high technology, and as intelligent as you were, you never missed a beat as one generation changed from another. You did better than me using FaceTime to talk with your friends and relatives, and you would always say, "Aloha." Mother, you were funny too and would love to laugh. I am smiling now as we had so much family fun, traveling to Disney World, family trips, and Cruises, and you selflessly opened up your home for over 75 years to carolers and those who reside in the VI community and abroad. We will continue to make your favorite dishes. The family has acquired your taste and approval.

Mother, Thank you for all you have done for each of us. We can't thank you enough for all your sacrifices for your family to enjoy life and understand what FAMILY means and looks like. You were an actual author of many books. I will never forget the beautiful wedding you gave Gerald I and the four hundred guests who witnessed that beautiful day and the hospitality you provided to everyone, including friends, the family who traveled from abroad, and Seventy families who traveled from Philadelphia, and to this day, many are still speaking about how kind you were, and your warm and loving hospitality was second to none. Mother Myron, Gerald, and the boys (your adult grandsons) will always continue your legacy and will continue to show kindness. I now understand why you and Daddy never allowed us to use the word "hate" because you understood the POWER of LOVE. You loved God and served God. You rededicated your life to Christ in 1993. You were water baptized at our home Church, New Covenant Church of Philadelphia, where you established family relationships with too many to mention.

Serving God and having your family was a high priority, and we are so grateful to you. I am glad we hugged daily and told each other we loved one another. Mother, you have transitioned with our heavenly father, which brings the family peace and ensures that you are safe in the arms of God. We will miss you dearly, and we know you, Daddy, and Arri are now together singing praises. God will give us His strength, peace, and comfort as we continue to run this race and be a light like you and Daddy. I LOVE YOU, MOMMY, and I will forever LOVE and Miss you.

Love, your daughter

*Sharon "Sherry" Jackson McDonald*





## Tribute Mother Jackson

Dear Mother Jackson,

Writing this tribute is one of the most challenging tasks I have ever faced. As I put these words down, tears well up in my eyes. Mother, for the past 33 years of my life, you have not just been a mother-in-law by legal definition; you have been a true mother to me, and for that, I am profoundly grateful. Your love and care have made you more than just an in-law – you have been a guiding light and a pillar of strength in my life.

You have treated me as your own son, always giving selflessly and generously. Your kindness knows no bounds, as you have consistently put others before yourself. I remember countless instances where you would offer your last meal to me, Christopher, my wife, or anyone else in need without a second thought. Your selflessness and compassion are qualities that have touched my heart deeply.

One memory that stands out is our long journeys together, with the three boys and Sharon in the backseat and you by my side as my trusted copilot. Your presence kept me awake and alert, ensuring our safe travels. Your concern for my well-being, constantly checking in to see if I was okay, has impacted me.

From being there for the birth of our three boys – Gerald, David, and Christopher – in Philadelphia to your continuous love and support over the years, your presence in our lives has been a blessing. I will truly miss you, Mother Jackson.

Thank you for not only being an incredible mother to me but also for raising a remarkable daughter who has been my loving wife for the past 33 years. Your influence and guidance in shaping her into the wonderful person she is today, alongside Myron, have not gone unnoticed. Your legacy of love and kindness will live on in our hearts forever.

I hold dear every moment we shared, especially the cherished summers when we ventured to Disney World with the boys when they were little. Those were truly magical times that will forever be etched in my heart. Your boundless love for your grandchildren and the special bond you shared with each of them have left an indelible mark on our family.

Mother Jackson, you epitomize what it means to be a mother, a mother-in-law, and a grandmother. Your selfless love, genuine support, and nurturing spirit have touched all of our lives in profound ways. Your dedication to your family knows no bounds, and your presence has been a source of strength and joy for us all.

As I say goodbye, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for all you have been to me and our family. Your love, guidance, and warmth have enriched our lives beyond measure. I will truly miss you, but I take peace in knowing that you love the Lord Jesus with all your heart and are now resting peacefully in the arms of God.

With all my love and gratitude,

Your son-in-law,

*Rev. Dr. Gerald McDonald*



Dear Grandma,

Been struggling to find the words. My heart is heavy knowing that you are no longer with us. No words will ever measure to what you meant to me, but I find comfort in God knowing you are in a better place. You were truly our Matriarch - everything we did and every decision we made as a family was catered around you. You were always there for me and it wasn't always easy but I know I benefited from certain situations because of your constant prayers. You were a woman of compassion, integrity, elegance, faith and most importantly discipline! The



# University of the Virgin Islands

Office of the President

Historically American. Uniquely Caribbean. Globally Interactive.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Dear Peterson, Jackson & McDonald Family:

It is my honor to share this tribute celebrating the life of your mother, grandmother, and matriarch. Mother Bernice Peterson-Jackson was a remarkable soul whose presence graced our lives with warmth and light. Her gentle spirit and kind heart touched all who had the privilege of knowing her. She carried herself with grace and dignity, leaving behind a legacy of love, compassion, and strength. My family was so blessed to know her and be inspired by her life. She always greeted us with such joy and an authentic smile. Though biologically she was not my mother or my children's grandmother, she always made us feel that way as we attended church together and celebrated so many milestones with her. My wife Marilyn and my daughter Sakile still feel so privileged and blessed to have attended her 90th birthday celebration last year.

Ms. Jackson's wisdom, unwavering support, and infectious laughter brightened even the darkest days. Her unyielding faith and positive outlook on life inspired us to face challenges with courage and resilience. The children she brought to earth and the grandchildren she nurtured and inspired greatly impacted the Virgin Islands and my life. Her grandchild Christopher was a stellar student and leader at UVI, and we were as proud of him as she was. Mother Jackson was a pillar of strength, a source of comfort, and a beacon of hope for all who crossed her path, and she passed that on to her children and grandchildren.

As we bid farewell to a beloved mother, grandmother, and friend, let us hold dear the memories we shared and the lessons she imparted. Mother Jackson's love will continue to guide us, her wisdom will echo in our hearts, and her spirit will forever shine bright in our lives. May her soul find peace in the arms of eternity, knowing that she was cherished, admired, and loved beyond measure. Her legacy will live on in the hearts of those she touched, a testament to the profound impact of a life well-lived.

Rest in peace, dear Mother Jackson, knowing that your memory will be eternally cherished, and your presence deeply missed.

With Deepest Sympathy and Love,

David Hall and Family  
President of the University of the Virgin Islands

#2 John Brewers Bay • St. Thomas • U.S. Virgin Islands 00802 • Tel: 340-693-1000 • Fax: 340-

## Letters to the Jackson Family



OFFICE OF  
THE COMMISSIONER

GOVERNMENT OF  
THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS



Mailing Address:  
2314 Kronprindsens Gade  
Charlotte Amalie, VI 00802

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

Phone: (340) 774-4750  
Fax: (340) 776-4028

Street Address:  
76 Kronprindsens Gade  
Charlotte Amalie, VI 00802

March 21, 2024

In loving memory of Christopher McDonald's beloved grandmother,  
In loving memory of Christopher McDonald's beloved grandmother,

Today, we gather not only as colleagues but as a supportive family to honor the life of someone deeply cherished by our dear colleague. Though words may feel inadequate in times of loss, it's essential to acknowledge the profound impact that Ms. Bernice Peterson Jackson had on Chris and all those fortunate enough to have known her.

Ms. Bernice Peterson Jackson lived a remarkable life, spanning an incredible 95 years. Throughout her journey, she undoubtedly touched countless hearts with her wisdom, kindness, and enduring love. It's evident from Chris's passionate devotion to her that she held a special place in his heart, leaving behind cherished memories that will be treasured forever.

As we extend our heartfelt condolences to Chris and his family, let us also celebrate the beautiful legacy Ms. Peterson Jackson leaves behind. May the warmth of her love and the strength of her spirit continue to guide and comfort them in the days ahead.

In this time of sorrow, may we find solace in the memories shared and the profound impact Ms. Peterson Jackson had on all their lives. May her soul find eternal peace, and may her memory live on in the hearts of those who were touched by her presence.

With deepest sympathy and harmony,

Respectfully,

Commissioner Kevin McCurdy and the DOF Family



love you had for my brothers and myself was unmatched - you did everything you can and never hesitated whenever I needed help. You lived an accomplished and beautiful life full of accolades and achievements. I've learned a lot from you just from your passion of helping and caring for others. The strongest and purest soul! I will truly miss you Grandma - and all of our fond memories, phone calls and facetimes we had. God allows pain to happen but he never gives us a reason why - but I'm at peace because that must mean your assignment on earth has been fulfilled. We will forever live through your Spirit and the times we spent together. It still feels surreal but I know you are now in a better place. I love you Grandma - you will never be forgotten, till we meet again.

Love Your Grandson

*Gerald D. McDonald II*



Grandma,

Words cannot express the void I feel with you being gone and how much I miss you. The days are just not the same. Your joyful smile, contagious laughter, compassion, and selfless care should be emulated by everyone. Your presence alone impacted numerous lives.

I remember moving down to St. Thomas to live with you and Uncle Myron when I was five years old. I reflect on the times when you would pick me up from school. I would beg you to go to McDonalds, and your answer was always yes. Your order was always the same: fish fillet and a vanilla shake, and I'll order my McNuggets kid meal. We will drive down to Crown Bay Marina, sit by the dock, eat our meal while feeding the numerous seagulls, and admire the island's beauty. Just me and you. Moments like these are the ones I will never forget. I can go on and on for paragraphs about the stories we had together and our fun times together, whether it was our annual family trips to Orlando, FL, traveling on cruises, or even just simple times of driving in the car.

The memories and laughs we shared I'll never forget. You'll always call to check up on me, making sure I made it to church, and if I didn't, give me a proper scolding. I'm going to miss those calls. I'll miss hearing your voice. I miss you asking me if I wanted something to eat as I walked through your door, replying no, but then you'll still ask ten more times. Always making sure my belly was full; that was the type of person you were a loving, caring, selfless human being. That's one in a million and

can never be duplicated or replicated.

Grandma, it will be hard knowing that you're gone physically, but I find peace and solace knowing that you are in heaven surrounded by family and friends, and more importantly, you're no longer in pain, no more wheelchair, no more walker, no more limping. You can run up and down as many stairs as you want, do as many jumping jacks as you want, and do as many push-ups as you wish; with that, I find peace. I will love you always Grandma.

*Your Grandson, "Davey".*

*David E. Jackson McDonald*



Dear Grandma,

Words can't express the feeling I felt when you were called home on Sunday, March 17 at 1:50 pm. You were there when I took my first breath, and I was there when you took your last. I knew holding your hand as you transitioned brought warmth to your heart. I also knew you felt loved in your final days because you were surrounded by my family members, prayer warriors, and soothing music. Grandma, you will always be my rock and my greatest supporter. Our conversations uplifted and inspired me to be where and who I am today. Grandma, your strength, wisdom, courage, and perseverance are the traits I admire most about you. You always looked at the positive in every situation and emphasized the importance of being resilient. Grandma, you taught me Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord will all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct your paths."

Grandma, thank you for the memories we had together, from eating ice cream to watching our favorite television shows. I remember the laughter and joy that those moments will bring you. I am glad that I was there to share those moments with you. Every once in a while, you will remind me of my childhood memories and how the small moments impacted your life as a grandmother. You have always been at my side and showed up for every event that caters to your Grandchildren. These events included academic awards, graduation, soup sales, sports games, doctor appointments and birthday parties. Thank you for showing me the importance of the roles and responsibilities of a grandmother.

When you enter a room, your presence will light up. When you spoke, it brought volume and compassion.



VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Letters  
to the Jackson Family

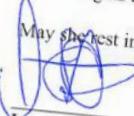
A MESSAGE FROM ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL IAN S.A. CLEMENT

*To the Family and Friends of Bernice Peterson Jackson*

On behalf of the entire staff of the U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Justice (DOJ), I wish to express my deepest sympathies and condolences to Pastor Sharon Jackson-McDonald on the passing of her mother, the late Bernice Peterson Jackson. Mrs. Jackson-McDonald serves as the Access & Visitation Program Administrator of the DOJ Paternity and Child Support Division.

Mrs. Peterson Jackson will be remembered for her contributions to the U.S. Virgin Islands, especially in the nursing profession. She served in various positions in the Department of Health and other healthcare facilities in the Virgin Islands. She was active in family, church, community affairs, and a mentor and counselor to many. Her service to this community will always be remembered and appreciated.

Our thoughts and prayers for comfort are with you during this difficult time.  
May she rest in eternal peace.

  
Ian S.A. Clement, Esquire  
U.S. Virgin Islands Acting Attorney General

3438 Kronprindsens Gade | GERS Complex, 2nd Floor | St. Thomas, VI 00802-5749 | (340) 774-5666  
Division of Paternity & Child Support | 8000 Nisky Shopping Center | 2nd Floor, Suite 500 | St. Thomas, VI 00802 | (340) 774-5666  
St. Croix  
213 Estate La Reine | Kingshill, St. Croix, VI 00850 | (340) 773-0295  
Division of Paternity & Child Support | 3018 Orange Grove, Suite 4 | Christiansted, St. Croix, VI 00821 | (340) 775-0295



1834 Kongens Gade, Charlotte Amalie  
St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands 00802-6746  
Tel: (340) 775-2250  
Fax: (340) 775-7381  
www.vide.vi

Stefan V. Jürgen, Ph.D.  
Insular Superintendent

Desha Powell  
Deputy Superintendent  
Symra Dea Brown, Ph.D.  
Deputy Superintendent

An Offer of Sympathy  
to the Family, Friends & Survivors of Ms. Bernice Peterson-Jackson

The entire Virgin Islands' Department of Education joins me in remembering and mourning the passing of Mrs. Bernice Peterson-Jackson.

Mrs. Peterson-Jackson was ever present in the lives of her family. She held true to the title of "Matriarch" and loved spending time talking, laughing, praying and expecting the best from her offspring. She remembered and celebrated birthdays, graduations, births and other special occasions. She lived a vibrant life and watching her family grow brought her tremendous joy.

As survivors, you have spent a significant amount of time caring for your beloved and the process of healing will take some time. Be comforted in knowing that you came together as a family to care for your loved one when she needed you most. You have shared many common joys, pains, and sorrows. In the end, you are left to care for each other while still holding onto the memories of your beloved. We stand beside you as you mourn Ms. Peterson-Jackson's passing and encourage you to ban together to support each other so that even in death you continue to make her proud.

May she Rest in Peace, eternally.

"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us" Romans 8:18.

Again, please accept my heartfelt condolences on behalf of the VI Department of Education as you continue to mourn the passing of your beloved: mother, sister, grandmother, aunt, God Parent, and friend, Mrs. Bernice Peterson-Jackson.

There is no more suffering and no more strife, let's rejoice in reflections of her blessed life.

Respectfully,

**Stefan V. Jürgen**  
Stefan V. Jürgen, PhD  
Insular Superintendent



Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

# Reflections

When you cooked, the love and spices were tasted. You were always designated to cook the turkey and ham but was always willing to help and assist in every capacity. Grandma you are the "Queen of All Trades" and a wealth of knowledge. You were 95 and never missed a beat. You always dressed with poise and carried yourself with class. You had 95 years of beauty that was reflected in the lives of those you touched. Your legacy will always be displayed and embellished for generations.

I am thankful that I was here to keep you energetic, and I am grateful that I had the opportunity to share our last memories together. Our last Christmas, our last birthday, our last conversation, and our last hug. I love you Grandma and I know you will always be with me. Continue to watch over me and guide my steps that I can follow into your footsteps. You have impacted my life tremendously and I am forever grateful to call you my Grandmother.

Love Always

*Christopher E. Jackson McDonald*



What I love most about my auntie is her laughter. Her laughter was so joyous, and she was amusing. We shared a lot of conversations, and she helped me through many of my sad times and my difficult struggles with decisions; she just needed to be here. I was not ready for her to go, but God had his plans, so I'll always love you, keep your memory fresh, and think of all the good things and the good times we had together. You are a lovely auntie.

Rest in peace, Auntie.

Love you.

*Jo-Ann Petersen George Donovan*



**Auntie Bernice,**

There's so much on my heart and mind when it comes you. You were always such a wonderful person and one of a kind. You will truly be missed. Until we meet again..... Rest in Eternal Peace.

Love Always,

*Lloyd and family*



I love my Aunt Bernice Dearly!

I will truly miss her love.

*Love from your Nephew*

*Candido Petersen*



**Dear Aunty Bernice,**

I wanted to thank you for the blessing in my life. Your love and kindness will forever be in my heart. You were always focused on the well-being for the family and your heartfelt love, knowledge and experience was in every conversation we shared. I will always feel gratitude and forever cherish the memories from our special family gatherings: Christmastime in Philadelphia, vacationing in Orlando at Disney World, attending my son Kahleb Gumbs' wedding in Maryland and the many times we met at the Peterson Villa for numerous celebrations. Rest in Heavenly Peace with the Ancestors. ~

Your loving niece,

*Eugenia Beatrice Petersen Gumbs*



**Aunt Bernice:**

Thank you for making me feel special and always comfortable like family over the years. I will always love you and never forget your smile, dynamic and energetic personality, and the leadership and guidance you provided to the family. You will be missed but your legacy will live on through our actions. You have fulfilled your obligation on this earth and God has called you home to rest. God bless you and keep you and continue to shine his light on you and give you peace

*Kuellar Gumbs*

*(nephew-in-law).*



**Gone But Will Never Be Forgotten.**

We can shed tears that she is gone, Or we can smile because she lived, We can close our eyes and pray that she will come back, Or we can open our eyes



### From the Desk of Bishop Kenneth M. Benjamin Sr.

394-321 Hidden Valley, St. Thomas, VI 00801  
Phone: (340) 998-2944; (340) 626-0064  
Email: Bishop.Kenneth.Benjamin@gmail.com

#### A Note of Consolation

To The Peterson-Jackson and McDonald Family in memory of the passing of your Mother Bernice Peterson Jackson:

Dear Family of Bernice Peterson Jackson,

My family and I, share our sincerest condolences with you and the family. In the midst of life, there is death, for death is not the end, on the other hand, death serves us, as the children of God, as an exit from this life and leads to the entrance of life eternal. I would like to share with you the words of Job recorded in Job 1:21b KJV: "the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD."

We would like for you to be of good cheer and trust in the Lord. Our God will comfort you as He comforted Mary and Martha, during the death of Lazarus. Our God is "the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves received from God. Tell God what you need and thank Him for all He has done. (2 Corinthians 1:3b)

I would like to leave this blessing with you during this time of your bereavement:

The Lord bless thee and keep thee:  
The Lord make His face to shine upon thee,  
and be gracious unto thee,

The Lord lift up the light  
Of His countenance upon thee,  
And give thee peace,

Amen

Yours in the Master's Service,

Bishop Kenneth M. Benjamin, Sr.

Bishop Kenneth M. Benjamin, Sr.

# Letters to the Jackson Family



Bishop C. Milton Gramnum, Ed.D., D.Min., Ph.D. & Pastor Hyacinth Bobb Gramnum, D.D.  
FOUNDING PASTORS

Sunday, March 24, 2024

My dear friends,

Kindly accept my sincere condolences on the passing of your beloved Mother, Bernice Jackson.

"How do we deal with grief and sorrow concerning such a significant loss? One of the most powerful accounts of Jesus' life in the Gospels is when He experienced the loss of His dear friend Lazarus. Even though Jesus knew Lazarus had died, He also knew that Lazarus could be resurrected, yet John 11: 32-36 shows us that Jesus still wept at the loss of His friend. Grief is unavoidable, yet it allows those close to you to show love and support.

Whether the person we are grieving was a friend, neighbor, or a family member like your dear mother, we sometimes struggle to share the impact that special individual has had on us and many others. I am sure that the passing of the matriarch of your family, whom you loved so much and loved you too, has been an upsetting experience and has made you feel very fragile.

May the memories of her commitment, love, and affection for you and the family help ease your sorrow. Remember the special times, particularly the meaningful and enjoyable times that you had and shared. While reflecting on your extraordinary family journey down through the years, remember that "*the Lord your God is a merciful God; He will not fail or forsake you*" (Deuteronomy 4:31). The Father of compassion is with you, and He will give you His strength and peace. When you are weak, He will sustain you; when your heart is heavy, He will lift you up.

Mother Bernice Jackson has indeed passed on to glory, and her loss leaves a vacuum in your hearts and the hearts of many people she touched over the decades. However, the Bible reminds us that for true believers, "...Absent from the body is present with the Lord" (2 Corinthians 5:8).

Please know that the entire New Covenant Church Of Philadelphia and I share your grief today.

Amid your sorrow, may God's peace be with you all always!

In His love,

Bishop C. Milton Gramnum Ed.D., D.Min., Ph.D.



and see all that she has left.

Our hearts can be empty because we can't see her or we can be full of the love that she shared, We can turn our back on tomorrow and live yesterday, Or we can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.

We can remember her and only she is gone or we can cherish her memory and let it live on, We can cry, close our minds and be empty and turn our backs or we can do what she would want: smile, open our eyes, love and go on.

Forever in our hearts . We love and miss you always  
Auntie Bernice

Love

*Mark, Denise, Mark II, Malik, and Mya  
Petersen*

To my dearest loving sweetest Auntie ever:

I was blessed to have you in my life. We shared so many life lessons, that you have instilled in me. Now I have to walk alone with those lessons we shared together. You were the last Matriarch in my life, that I always looked for was that beautiful smile and guidance. You will be truly missed and loved, Auntie B.

*Darryl A. Humphries*

Aunt Bernice,

Auntie, you were such an amazing woman and inspiration to many. When visiting St. Thomas, I was always excited to go up the hill to see you with my mom. You were the most beautiful woman with a smile that warmed my heart and gave me comfort. You made me proud to be part of such a great bloodline. I thank you for speaking life into me as a child, and through my adult years, you inspired me as a great niece, as a sister, a daughter...as a woman. Auntie, you were the last one standing and the matriarch of our family, a true blessing, and you will be missed. Auntie, you lived an amazing 95 years of life. Keep dancing, my love...

Love Forever, your Great Niece

*Ashley Joy Humphries "Cheryl's Daughter"*



Aunty BPJ, for having you in our lives, we've all been blessed. But now the time has arrived, for you to rest. Until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand. To everything there's a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven. You will be missed but you will live on in the memories we shared with you.

Remembering you,

*Monifa, Franklin, Khalidia, Kniqiah, Khalif,  
Bendaé, and Benicio*

(Niece, Nephew, Great Nieces/Nephew, Great Great niece/nephew)



Cousin Bea,

You were more than a Cousin, you were like an Aunt to us, especially since Mommy passed. We will truly miss you, and your love and guidance over the years. We will continue to keep our family together just as you did. We miss you but will forever love you. Rest well Cousin Bea. You have gained your reward.

The children & grands of your late First Cousin,  
Glencia E. Petersen: *Floricia, Alcenta and Othelia  
De Windt, Rev. Angie De Windt-Smith, Khalid  
and Leon.*



In Loving Memory of My Dear Great Aunt Bernice,

As the eldest member and matriarch of our Petersen family, Auntie Bernice was truly a remarkable soul. Her loving, sweet, and no-nonsense personality endeared her to all who knew her. She had a heart of gold and a brilliant smile that could light up any room. Auntie Bernice had a special talent for baking and cooking, and she generously shared her delicious creations with anyone who stopped by to visit.

But Auntie Bernice was more than just a talented cook; she was the glue that held our family together. Regardless of our differences, she always found a way to bring us closer and remind us of the importance of love and unity. She was a pioneer and a queen in my eyes, a phenomenal woman whose presence enriched



**Administrative Offices**  
2901 Chapel Avenue West  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002-1632  
tel: 1-856.406.4060  
[www.iywc.org](http://www.iywc.org)

*"Creating People Who Cannot Be Destroyed"*

March 29, 2024

Dear Pastors Gerald and Sharon McDonald, Myron, Gerald II, David and Christopher,

We the pastors and members of Impact Live Church, were deeply saddened to hear about the passing of your lovely mother, Bernice Peterson Jackson. Please accept our heartfelt condolences and know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time.

As you grieve the loss of your dear mother, may you find comfort in the love and memories you shared with her. Remember memories are like Hallmark moments, they last a life time. We know that Mother Jackson was a woman of faith who touched many lives, including ours, with her kindness and grace. Her legacy of faith and love will continue to live on through the lives she has impacted.

During times of sorrow, we find peace in the words of Scripture. The Bible reminds us in Psalm 34:18 that "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." We pray that you feel God's presence and peace surrounding you as you navigate this season of mourning.

In times of grief, we also find hope in the promise of eternal life that Jesus offers us. As it says in John 14:1-3, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?" May this assurance bring you comfort and hope as you remember your mother's life and her journey to her heavenly home.

Please know that you are not alone in your sorrow. The Impact Live Church family stands with you, ready to offer support, prayers, and love as you mourn the loss of your beloved mother. We are here for you in any way you need, whether it be a listening ear, a helping hand, or a shoulder to lean on.

May the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:7). May you find strength in the Lord and in the love of those around you as you walk through this season of loss.

With love and prayers,

*Pastors Ray and Tracey Barnard*

Pastors Ray and Tracey Barnard and the Impact Live Church Family

# Letters to the Jackson Family



To The Jackson Family,

It is said we will not be remembered by the number in front of the hash on our cemetery headstones nor by the number after the hash, but by the number of great or not so great things that the hash represents.

Mother Jackson's hash is filled with many wonderful things that blessed not only her immediate family, but all the other families like us who from the moment we met her we felt the warmth! We were received and loved as she received so many people that met her.

Mother Jackson became a woman of great stature and yet easily approachable in her community and in the Kingdom of God. Her faith grew strong and challenged others to look to God above all else, especially her family! Our friends, and Mother Jackson's daughter and son in law, Sharon and Gerald, have certainly taken her lead and are faithful followers of God!

We say Mother, enjoy the indescribable bliss of heaven and being in the presence of Jesus, Our heavenly Father and one day we'll all see you again.

In Fond Remembrance~ Apostles Billy & Cynthia Thompson

**Jesus People Proclaim International Church**  
1839 West Hillsboro Boulevard  
Deerfield Beach, Florida 33442  
(954) 531-6269(o)





our lives in countless ways.

I am honored to have been by her side during her transitional hours before she peacefully left us to be with our Lord and Savior. Surrounded by all who loved her, Auntie Bernice was showered with love, hugs, kisses, prayers, and reassurance that it was okay to let go. She was not only cherished by her immediate blood family but also by all those she came in contact with and made family.

Auntie Bernice, you will be deeply missed by your great niece Kimmie, great-great niece and nephews Kimesha, K'Quadeem, and K'Qualeek, as well as your great-great-great nieces and nephew Ki'Briia, Ki'Mouri, and Ki'Monet who had the pleasure of meeting you and celebrating your 95th birthday with you. Boy, they loved them some Auntie Bernice and enjoyed taking pictures with you. It warmed their little heart to know they had a Great, Great, Great Aunt. Your unconditional love touched us all, and we take comfort in knowing that you are now resting peacefully in the arms of our heavenly Father. Fly high my sweet Diamond in the sky!!!

With love always,

*Kimmie (Kimberly) and Family* (Kimesha, K'Quadeem, K'Qualeek, Ki'Briia, Ki'Mouri, and Ki'Monet)



Since I was young my Auntie Bernice was there for me, always gave me praise and unconditional love and support. Her sweet soul and presence will always be remembered. May GOD bless her heart forever thank you being the staple of the family.

*Kasim A. Gumbs*



Auntie Bernice, it is hard to say goodbye to the Matriarch of the Petersen Family. But, God has called one of his daughters home. She has wings now and is guarding the family with that graceful smile. I will always remember my memories with Auntie Bernice and the memories I have will have such a big impact on life. Like vacations to Florida and St. Thomas, and family dinners with cousins Sharon, Myron & the rest of the family. Always lending heartfelt words of wisdom and to top it off that smile, that brings so much warmth. What I have learned every time we lose someone that we love, is that time is so precious in this life, we never lose them

entirely. Her body is gone, but her spirit lives on in all of us. Auntie has left behind such a legacy and we owe it to ourselves not to let those who pave the way down. Auntie Bernice, I know that you are now at peace, rest now. God is holding you beneath his wings holding you close telling you that we will be okay. You have raised us up strong and true. We will forever miss you, we will celebrate your life and continue making you proud. I never say goodbye, but see you soon. Continue to guide and watch and walk beside us.

*Kayla A. Gumbs*



I want to come so badly to attend the home going of my aunt Bernice, but I'm studying for my nursing entrance exam. Auntie Bernice is one of the inspiring factors in me trying to get my nursing degree. She will forever be in my heart. The many memories that we shared when we visited her at the health department, at one time it was in sub base, I believe. I was young, but I still remember. She lives in my heart and will forever be with me until we meet again.

Sleep well, my loving and beautiful aunt. Loving you forever

*Bernadine Jones-Evelyn*



Dear Aunty,

They say a queen leads and takes care of her people  
That she will never tilt her crown  
She lifts her head high and never looks down  
Queens have good and bad days  
Queen sometimes wanna take off the crown, too  
Some queens even pass it  
At least until they're ready for it back, too  
The sky broke out in tears when your spirit moved on  
The warmth of your smile caused by your bright sun  
But what about what you wanted  
What about the dreams you had  
I pray to God you lived all of them  
And if not, let them continue to live  
Because all of us honor you, especially your kids  
We are crying because our dear Queen is gone  
But she is here in everyone's soul  
So the next time you look up  
You can remember Bernice Jackson

Our

3006 Orange Grove  
P.O. Box 910  
Christiansted, VI 00821  
O 340.773.2015  
F 340.719.9590

9000 Lockhart Gardens  
St. Thomas, VI 00802  
O 340.774.2015  
F 340.774.9590

**Condolences to the Family of the Late Bernice Jackson**

It is with heavy hearts that we bid farewell to a cherished patient of our Plessen Ophthalmology family, Mrs. Bernice Jackson.

Throughout her time with us, Ms. Jackson exemplified grace, strength, and a steadfast determination to overcome any obstacle that came her way. She approached each visit with a contagious optimism, offering a smile that brightened the room and a spirit that lifted the hearts of those around her.

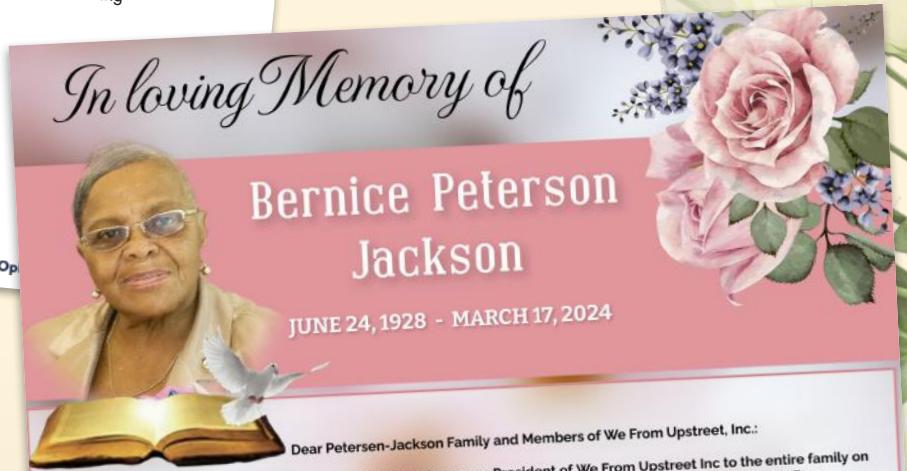
In the realm of ophthalmology, Ms. Jackson was not just a patient, but a beacon of inspiration. Her unwavering commitment to her health and well-being served as a testament to her indomitable spirit and determination to live life to the fullest.

As we mourn the loss of Bernice Jackson let us also celebrate the beautiful life she lived—a life filled with love, laughter, and cherished memories. Though she may no longer be with us in person, her legacy of resilience and kindness will forever live on in the hearts of those she touched.

Rest peacefully, Ms. Jackson. Your presence brought light and warmth to our clinic, and your memory will continue to inspire us all to live each day with grace, courage, and unwavering compassion.

From the Management and Staff of Plessen Ophthalmology St. Thomas

**Letters  
to the Jackson Family**



Dear Petersen-Jackson Family and Members of We From Upstreet, Inc.:

It is with a heavy heart that I extend my deepest condolences as President of We From Upstreet Inc to the entire family on the passing of Mrs. Bernice Peterson Jackson, better known as "Mother Jackson", the beloved matriarch of We From Upstreet Inc. Mrs. Petersen-Jackson's presence and contributions to the community were immense, and her loss will be deeply felt by all who had the privilege of knowing her. Mother Jackson was not only a pillar of strength and wisdom within the We From Upstreet Inc. family but also a source of inspiration and guidance for countless individuals throughout the community. Her dedication to serving others, her unwavering commitment to uplifting those in need, and her boundless compassion touched the lives of many and left an indelible mark on our hearts.

As we mourn Mrs. Petersen-Jackson's passing, let us also celebrate the extraordinary life she lived and the profound impact she had on the world around her. Her legacy of kindness, generosity, and selflessness will continue to inspire us all for years to come. Mother Jackson's civic involvement and engagement were nothing short of remarkable. She was an tireless advocate for social justice, equality, and empowerment, and her leadership and guidance were instrumental in numerous community initiatives and projects aimed at world peace and improving the quality of life. In addition to her civic endeavors, she enjoyed a stellar nursing career in the Virgin Islands and abroad, where her passion for healing and caring for others shone immensely. Her dedication to the nursing profession was evident in her immaculate commitment to providing compassionate and quality care to her patients, earning her the respect and admiration of colleagues and patients alike. Her love for church was a testament to her deep faith and spiritual strength which guided her actions in every aspect of her life.

During this difficult time, may you find solace in the cherished memories you shared with Mother Jackson and the knowledge that her spirit will live on in the hearts of those she touched. May you also find strength in the love and support of your family, friends, and the entire community as you navigate through this period of grief and loss. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers, and we are here for you whenever you need a listening ear or a shoulder to lean on. May the memories of Mother Jackson bring you comfort, and may her legacy continue to shine brightly.

With heartfelt sympathy,

Kyza A. Callwood, PhD  
President





Queen  
Aunt  
Sister  
Aunty  
Mom  
Cousin  
Grandmother  
Godmother  
And so much more

Thank You Aunty for being an example of God's love

*Nikayla M.*



How can we say thanks for your endearing and enduring love, your engaging smile, your kindness, your generous spirit, your tender-heartedness and expressions of caring and your open arms ready to embrace us with a warm and cozy hug. There are not enough words to adequately express our sincere feelings for Aunt Bernice.

Growing up in Hospital Ground or 'Round da field' gave us a wonderful sense of community, in an atmosphere that was culturally rich. It embodied a true meaning of family and love. The Jackson family were an intricate part of that rich environment. For years our grandparents David and Viola Monsanto and Ohanio and Esseline Jackson (grandparents of Myron and Sharon) lived next door as close neighbors and dear friends. I have fond memories of my brother Glenn and I going with our grandmother to Jackson's Grocery Store on Goat Street. While the adults transacted business, Mr. Jackson would treat us kids with a piece of candy.

A few years later the Monsanto family built a house and moved across the street. This happened to be next door to Uncle Hugo and Aunt Bernice, . The fence between the two homes was no barrier to the familial relationship between our mother Clarice Monsanto Roper, Aunt Dorris Monsanto Benjamin and the Jackson family. As children my siblings and I enjoyed many playful and happy times with Myron and Sharon. Aunt Bernice was a crucial member of the village that raised us. Life as we knew it then was memorable and instrumental in developing us into the adults we are today.

While many of us live off island, a trip home was never complete without spending quality time with Aunt Bernice and family. She was always warm, welcoming and excited to see us. She was genuinely interested in how we're doing, what's happening in

our lives and anxious to hear about and see pictures of our children and grandchildren. A visit to the Jackson home on Christmas day was exciting, heart-warming and memorable. The home was filled with good cheer and holiday spirit as friends and family gathered. Aunt Bernice would be radiant and joyful within the atmosphere of holiday music, stimulating conversations, laughter, delicious food and traditional desserts such as tart and sweet bread.

One of my recent visits with Aunt Bernice was during mango season. As I was preparing to leave her home after a delightful visit, she pointed to a wooden mahogany tray on the kitchen counter filled with tree-ripened mangoes and told me to take some. I selected two and thanked her for them. She immediately protested and said, Oh no! Take more than that." To which I responded, "we have more mangoes at home." Aunt Bernice smiled and gleefully said, "But they are not mangoes from my tree." I left with a bag full of mangoes, which I thoroughly enjoyed.

I will miss her occasional phone calls to check on me and see how I was doing. I will miss our delightful visits, engaging conversations and seeing her radiant smile. The Monsanto and Roper families celebrate the life Aunt Bernice, a remarkable lady, whose presence and love was a blessing to us.

'Til we meet again!

*Hazel, Glenn, Joycelyn, Anselmo Roper and  
Beverly Roper-Archer*



It wasn't until I graduated from high school that I met my father's family. Uncle Otis and Aunt Modena MacFarlane provided the connection to our Virgin Island family.

That is how I came to meet Cousin Bernice. When I made my first trip to the Virgin Islands, she welcomed me with open arms. Her loving spirit, grace and humor made me feel right at home. The love she emitted and the family atmosphere I will never forget. And it wasn't a one time thing. I felt it on every trip I took there.

But it wasn't only me. As I became a married man and father and my family grew, she and her family embraced them as well. I remember my daughter, Ann-Marie, as a young child of 4, being the flower girl at Sharon's wedding, the last visit my wife and youngest son, Paul, took to the Virgin Islands with Uncle Otis (his last trip before he passed). Sharon living with us

# Letters to the Jackson Family

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF THE VIRGIN ISLAND  
MARCH 31, 2024



## To The Family of Bernice Peterson Jackson

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." John 14:27

On behalf of the Democratic Party of the Virgin Islands and my family, I wish to express our deepest sympathy to Bernice Peterson Jackson.

Ms. Peterson Jackson left an impression on all of us that will last a lifetime. The love that she shared with others will be missed. But keep in mind, that love will continue to shine bright in the mantle that Myron, Sharon, and the other family members.

We are reminded of the attention and respect that she received as she engaged in kind conversations with those who embraced her presence. It's during these moments of reflection that we realize how much she truly meant to us, and how much she has contributed to our community. As Ms. Peterson Jackson transitions, the community will celebrate her as God Almighty welcomes her.

Rest in peace Cousin.

Stedmann Hodge, Jr.

*Stedmann Hodge, Jr.*  
State Chair, DPVI



PO Box 5983 | Christiansted, VI 00823  
1-866-389-5633 | TTY: 1-877-434-7598  
aarp.org/vi | viaarp@aarp.org | twitter: @AARPVI  
facebook.com/aarpvi

April 1, 2024

AARP expresses its deepest condolences to the family and friends of Bernice Jackson.

Bernice was a dedicated AARP Volunteer, advocate, and stalwart representative in the Virgin Islands community for many years. As a member of the St. Thomas AARP Chapter 3138, Bernice was instrumental in supporting the mission and vision of AARP and the local Chapter. Her dedication continued as a volunteer leader and President of the St. Thomas AARP Chapter 3138.

Her dedication to her community and volunteerism with grace was felt by family, friends, and volunteers alike. She was a wonderful role model for others, and she will be missed.

Bernice, we wish you comfort and peace.

Sincerely,

*Troy A. de Chabert-Schuster*  
Troy A. de Chabert-Schuster  
AARP Virgin Islands State Director



in Philadelphia for awhile while in school. So many memories tied to Cousin Bernice.

She raised kind and loving children which speaks to her capacity for love. That she shared that love with me and my family, and made me feel part of her, I will never forget and always appreciated. That she and her children helped me to discover and learn about my Island heritage I will also always appreciate.

*But most of all I/we will miss her.*

*Victor B. MacFarlane*



To Myron and Sharon, and all of my St. Thomas family... I had the opportunity to be with Bernice for a short time when I came to St. Thomas with my father, Otis MacFarlane, who is Bernice's cousin. It was my first time meeting her, and she was so pleasant and welcoming, with that beautiful smile and beautiful spirit. I saw the all encompassing love that you had for her, and the even greater love and pride she had for her children and grandchildren. She was a gracious matriarch, and she will be sorely missed.

I send my condolences and prayers to my St. Thomas family at this difficult time. Remember all of the special times you spent with your Mother and Grandmother. She will live on forever in your hearts.

*With love,*

*Denise Cleomene MacFarlane Flanagan*



Where do I begin to talk about Cousin Bernice? I knew of Bernice long before I met her. My grandmother was her aunt, and she spoke of her often. When I decided to move from New York to St. Thomas, she told me to make sure that I went and introduced myself to Cousin Bernice. She told me many stories of how Bernice would come to visit her in New York and what a lovely person she was. So that became one of my first tasks: to go meet this lady whom I had heard so much about. She was all that my grandmother had told me and much more. She welcomed me with open arms and much love, and she made sure that I was part of the blessed circle.

We would have our chats every other month, and I would always start the conversation by saying, 'This is your prodigal son.' Even though I hadn't seen her physically in many years since I moved away, we always

got together on the phone when we could.

So today, we put you at rest, Cousin Bernice. Today, and for a good while, I would imagine, there will be tears shed. But I learned so long ago that even those are her blessings given to us. You see, you only cry for the people who have touched your heart in a special way. You weep for the people you love. You don't cry for the casual acquaintance. So I hold onto my tears, and I know they are for me because you are missed, and not for Bernice because she's at peace. She's lived a good life. She's raised a great family, and now she's in the arms of the Lord. To Bernice, I say, enjoy the reward for having lived a blessed life, and thank you for having been in my life.

*Rest in peace, my sweet Cousin.*

*Ted Rohan*



## To the Jackson/McDonald Family

My heart is overwhelmed over the passing of your mom, Bernice. She was one of my dearest friends. Our friendship goes back many, many years. Though we lost verbal communication over the years, our friendship remained dear and true. I know the family remembers the Christmas cards that I sent her every year. It was a pleasant surprise to reconnect in recent years, when Sharon was talking to my daughter - Alaine - over the phone, and Bernice came on the phone to talk with me. I will miss her dearly and so will you. Thank God for giving her three scores and ten, plus another score and some days. Her beautiful spirit will live on in all of you. May God grant you strength as you traverse the coming days without Bernice.

*"Honor her for all that her hands have done,  
and let her works bring her praise at the city gate."*

*Proverbs 31:31*

*Dorothy A. Lockhart*



## To Myron, Sharon and the entire family

I know that the passing of Mother Jackson is very difficult. It is even more so, because you all had an extra special bond with your mother. I admired the fact that she enjoyed every moment of her life—enjoying all the events and trips that you made as a family. I was in awe of her youthful spirit. Mother Jackson was the epitome of the song lyrics - "Age is nothing but a number". She had the heart and spirit of youthfulness. Memories don't leave like people do. So, cherish and keep those memories

# Letters to the Jackson Family

## A Tribute in Honor and Remembrance of Mrs. Bernice Petersen-Jackson

A beautiful heart has stopped beating. On behalf of the Voices of Love Family, we extend our deepest sympathy and heartfelt condolences to the family of our beloved hostess, Mrs. Bernice Petersen-Jackson, on her passing.

"Mother Jackson" as she was affectionately known to us, was a very special lady. For over forty years, we'd go to her home every Christmas morning to serenade her, her family and guests as we culminated our night of serenading and spreading holidays cheers. To say she looked forward to our presence, was an understatement, for she couldn't wait to sing along with us and the Party Hardy Caroler, as we rendered her favorite traditional and original holiday music in true Virgin Islands style. As she placed the sumptuous meal on the table, she would jokingly threaten us with lack of food if we didn't sing ALL her selections, knowing that we would willingly do whatever she requested because we loved to please her. Even though someone would bless the meal, the blessing would not be complete without our special grace in song, 'Be Present at our table Lord' which she'd enjoyed with her eyes closed.

For Christmas 2020 when the pandemic hit, we didn't think we'd be able to serenade her as we traditionally did, but she would not have it. We were able to gather outside her home and fellowship with her and the family from the street. In her true motherly and elegant fashion, she made sure to fix us a take-out meal so that we could enjoy her hospitality, as we always did prior to the epidemic. Memorably, Mother Jackson's birthday celebrations were not complete if we weren't there to serenade and celebrate with her.

Our Father God has called Mother Jackson home, and though we will miss her special way of welcoming us with words of love, special hugs, memorable smile, and mouthwatering dishes, we know that our "Hostess Extraordinaire" has joined God's Heavenly band of angels having welcomed her to glory in a style befitting the Queen that she was. We will truly miss her presence, hospitality, and beautiful smile. Sleep well dear lady. You've earned your rest.



Love always, Voices of Love



## St. Andrew's Church Women (SACW)

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
St. Thomas, VI 00802

## To The Family of Bernice Peterson Jackson

The St. Andrew's Church Women (SACW) extend heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of our dear Sister Bernice Peterson Jackson, a woman of God and your beloved Matriarch.

Her faithful service to St. Andrew's over the years is a testament to the love she had for her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As a member of the women's ministry at St. Andrew's she exemplified our mission statement by giving willingly of her time, talent, and resources to all with whom she came in contact. She not only ministered to the spiritual needs of our congregation, but also to their health needs through her work with and as a founding member of the St. Andrew's Health Ministry.

Our Sister Bernice's warm smile and welcoming demeanor endeared her to all who had the pleasure of being in her presence. God's light truly shone through her as she spread the Good News to all around her.

May God grant you His peace and comfort during this very difficult time and may her soul rest in eternal peace.

*Cynthia Perry-Richards*  
Cynthia Perry-Richards  
President



dear. In the days to come they will help to carry you through. In closing I want to remind you that WEEPING MAY ENDURE FOR AN NIGHT, BUT JOY COMES IN THE MORNING, Psalm 30:5. You remain in my thoughts and prayers.

*Alaine Lockhart-Mollah*



Affectionately called Mother Jackson was a strong visionary who was dedicated and committed to her Lord, her family and community. She sincerely enjoyed a life that was dedicated to making life better for others. She loved her community and served as a public health nurse. She touched the lives of newborns and their mothers. Ms. Jackson connected with the mothers and at times, made lifelong friendships. Additionally, Ms. Jackson's home was the place to be after the Challenge of the Choirs in the Emancipation Garden every Christmas morning. She always will be remembered for graciously opening her home to the community at that time.

She loved and supported her family.

Using their business acumen, she and her beloved husband, the late Hugo Jackson, successfully managed and operated a number of businesses in our community; they are especially remembered for the Jackson Service Station. Ms. Jackson supported her husband as a member of the Tau Club. She represented her husband recently in a ceremony that honored him and other Tau members.

Mother Jackson enjoyed going on cruises with her family and friends; as a matter of fact if the Lord hadn't called her home, she had already expressed her desire to celebrate her 95th birthday on a Caribbean Cruise. Her loving and attentive children definitely would've made it happen.

Her relationship with her children was second to none. Especially, when Senator Jackson and Pastors Sharon and Gerald would take her out they would engage in conversations that would oftentimes result in such laughter. Mother Jackson was not one to stay home even in her 90's.

Ms Jackson, a devout lover of her Lord, attended the Anglican Church service at 6am and joined our service at Impacting Your World Christian Ministries at 9am. She always made an intentional effort to attend any additional programs and services. She enjoyed being around the family of God.

Mother Jackson will be remembered for her loving kindness and her positive outlook on life.

The world truly is a better place because she walked the earth. Ms. Jackson has fought the good fight, finished her course and kept the faith; she has gone now to receive her crown of righteousness. 2Tim 4:7

*Gone but will never be forgotten.*

*Glenn, Lennice and the Elskoe Family*



May the family of Bernice Jackson take comfort in the knowing that, although she has disappeared from human sight, having exchanged form for formlessness, she will always be but a mere thought away. Disappeared but undiminished.

As has been written by another: And just at the moment when someone says, "There, she is gone," there are other eyes watching her coming, and other voices ready to take up the glad shout, "Here she comes!" And that is dying...

*Karol Elskoe*



**To the Family of Bernice Peterson Jackson:**

In loving memory of Mrs. Jackson, whose presence brought warmth and kindness to all fortunate enough to know her. As we mourn her passing, we are reminded that grief does not exist unless love existed. Mrs. Jackson's legacy of love, compassion, and dignity will forever resonate in the hearts of those she touched as a mother, grandmother, nurse, and friend. May her gentle spirit continue to guide and inspire us, serving as a testament to the profound impact of a life lived with love.

Mother Jackson has departed from this earthly plane, but not from the hearts of those who were fortunate to be a part of her life.

We are sharing in your sadness. Let her legacy and all that she stood for be your guiding light.

*With deepest sympathy,*

*The Elskoe Family*



Farewell to our beloved cousin Bernice! Memories

of joy, love, and shared moments flood my mind. Our mom and she were kindred spirits, united in love and life. Together, our families created a tapestry of happiness.

Her radiant smile and compassionate heart made every occasion special. Now, as she joins our mom in heaven, I find solace in knowing they're together again, watching over us, and continuing their beautiful friendship. Rest in peace, dear friend. Your love and memory will forever be treasured.

Love the *Fabio/Petersen Family*



**Dear Oh Sweet Cousin Bernice,**

You will always be remembered for your class, words of wisdom and your selfless generosity. Throughout your lifetime you displayed strength, support and love to our entire family. I can vividly recall when traveling to St. Thomas, you opened your doors as a gesture of your kindness.

Today, we give countless praises while reflecting on your extraordinary life. The values you instilled are profound messages that will guide our daily lives. Please let Mom and Dad know that we miss them. Until we meet again Cousin Bernice!!!! May your soul Rest In Eternal Peace!!!

Love,

*Fabio, Lockhart & Petersen Families*



**Myron, Sharon and the Entire Family**

It is with a great sense of love, admiration and sympathy, that we pen the following of a beloved mother, grandmother that we affectionately called, "Mother."

Her walk was one of distinction, discretion and different – unique and committed to her family in every generation. She was simply one of a kind, always making others laugh and smile with her yesterday stories. Her soul was so gentle, her heart was so sweet, her spirit so wise, as she gave unconditional love and support.

Today we celebrate the life she lived. We thank God for giving her to us for 95 years. She was strong and her strength gave us hope to carry on in life. She was a virtuous woman, full of life.

May you continue to rest in eternal peace "Mother,"

knowing that Myron, Sharon and the entire family will be at peace and comforted that you are in the hands of the loving arms of our Lord & Savior.

God's richest blessings.

Love,

*Charles & Audrey Farrell and the entire Miller Family* (St. Croix)



**Mother Jackson,**

It gives great comfort to hear of the many lives you have touched, including mine. As I listened to Cousin Sharon on the prayer line (Impacting your World Global Ministries), Cousin Sharon gave you the right title (A Global Mother). A Mother to everyone, both near and far. A Mother with words of wisdom, encouragement, and advice. A Mother who embraces family and friends at home, at work, and even attending events. Mother Jackson is concerned if you are having a good time. I'm grateful for the many opportunities and memories I've shared with Mother Jackson, Cousin Myron, Cousin Sharon, Pastor McDonald, Gerald, David, and Christopher. Most recently, I had the opportunity to spend time with Mother Jackson. She had recently come home from the hospital, and guests were in the house. While we were all concerned with ensuring she was comfortable, she was busy ensuring we were all comfortable. This was in Mother Jackson's DNA. She was a strong, lovely woman of God.

*Cousin Ann & Family*

The Rogers family was saddened to hear of the passing of our beloved and longtime friend Ms. Bernice.

Myron, Sharon and family, we grieve with all of you. Especially, as we reminisce of all the happy moments our families spent together, visiting each other's home in St. Croix and St. Thomas, will never be forgotten.

We leave your family with this:

Your mother is not gone, for in your heart she lingers on. Her smile, her laugh, her wit, her motherly love and special way, will comfort you all from day to day.



Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

# Reflections

Savor the special moments you all shared more than anything, And in time, you all will find peace and joy in remembering.

\*May the Lord comfort each of you

*The Rogers family*



**Dear Family of Bernice Peterson-Jackson,**

The Watlington family extends its deepest sympathy on the loss of our beloved relative Bernice Peterson-Jackson. Bernice touched the lives of many people. She was a constant participant whenever possible in the lives of the Watlings. She was not just a member of this large family constellation but also a person who cared deeply for others. In her role as a nurse Bernice cared for many people and their families who were her patients during her long nursing career.

Though Bernice may no longer be among us in person, her spirit, and the memories of all that she did will endure. Be comforted in knowing that she now will be forever nestled in the arms of the Infinite.

*With love and respect,*

*The Watlings*



“Mother Jackson”, as I grew to call her, was God’s gift to many, and a significant part of my life. Growing up in “Upstreet”, I was very aware of Mother Jackson’s first-class entrepreneurial activities and the impact that she and her husband, Mr. Jackson, made, especially on the Upstreet community. Mother Jackson has always been looked at as a pillar of strength, tempered with lots of love and kindness.

Over the years my relationship with the Jackson family continued to grow into what we came to regard as “family”. Mrs. Jackson became “Mother Jackson”, and her family became my cousins. What a beautiful relationship we enjoyed!! I will always cherish the memories of that relationship and the precious and meaningful times we spent together - and certainly look forward to continuing her spirit of love and family that she instilled in all of us around her.

“Mother Jackson” was an extraordinary and special person in so many ways! I thank God for her, and I’m comforted in knowing that she has gone to a peaceful

place to rest until that beautiful day when we hope to be reunited again.

*May she rest in peace!*

*Eleanor R. Blyden, PhD.*



**Bernice Peterson-Jackson  
An Incredible Mother**

On behalf of Edward Wilmot Blyden’s Descendant Family Members in the United States, Sierra Leone and Liberia, England and at home and abroad, I present our condolences as we share in common mourning of mama Bernice Peterson-Jackson’s passing. Her warm and caring ways, stories she would tell about family, social life on St.Thomas Island or herself. We cherish her loving spirit now, and thank God for such moments. May the Divine creator of all life who throughout hers, was ever present, guide her home! He has honored her with long life, “Set Her On High” because she has always “Known His Name” we bless and thank the divine creator for having blessed us with kind, loving Mother Bernice! May he give her everlasting peace! God Comfort Us All!

*Isa Blyden on Behalf of Edward Wilmot  
Blyden’s Descendant Family*



**A Life Well-Lived**

Cousin Bernice lived a life filled with compassion, generosity, and devotion to her family and community. Whether through her warm smile, comforting words, or selfless acts of kindness, she brought light and joy to every life she touched. May her legacy of love and kindness serve as a guiding light through the dark days ahead, reminding us that she will always be with us in spirit.

*From Sonia and Elizabeth Morales*



**Dear Cousins Myron and Sharon**

I am sharing this note of condolences and tribute in memory of your loving mom, Bernice Peterson Jackson, on behalf of my family. Cousin Bernice was a beautiful woman with an equally beautiful personality that blessed each person she came in contact with. I will always remember with fondness our family cruise and

our visit to Saint Martin to visit with our Ferdinand and Roumo families. I pray for God's blessings and comfort to you and your families during this time of bereavement. May Cousin Bernice's legacy be remembered always.

With love and sympathy,

*Corisse M. H. Krugger*



It is of great sadness to hear of the passing of your matriarch, and our cousin Mrs. Bernice Jackson. She will always be remembered for her warm smile, giving heart, and gentle spirit. Even though the limb has been broken, the tree still stands.

From the Virgin Islands to the continental United States, we pray that God continues to bless the family and comfort you during this difficult time.

*The Clendinen/England family*



It is indeed an honor to write this short tribute to Mrs. Jackson my cousin who I only had the pleasure of meeting once but instantly felt connected to; I told my cousin Myron that when I met her I felt my grandmother's presence instantly. She looked like her, smiled like her hands felt like my Nana's. It was as if God in his mercy had given me the opportunity to reconnect with her again. We all share a rich heritage, all bonded by a dynamic woman Jane Balborda-Gumbs once enslaved but forever free. I imagine now that Mrs. Jackson has been embraced by her and all who have gone before. Proverbs 31:10 asks us: who can find a virtuous woman for her price is far above rubies. I acknowledge that we had such a woman in Mrs. Bernice Jackson-Peterson for 95 years. May God be pleased with her and welcome her home.

*Hadiya Ari Sutton*



To my cousins and the extended family of Cousin Bernice Peterson Jackson! My family and I extend our deep, heartfelt condolences.

From the day I met cousin Bernice, I felt a genuine welcome and acceptance into the family! She was a caring, kind, and loving person. Her command of the fruits of the Holy Spirit, along with the way she dispensed those fruits, were amazing. Her strength in humility demanded and garnered respect.

We give thanks to Almighty God for gracing us with

her presence. Mother Jackson, as she was affectionately known, left a legacy that we should strive to emulate.

As we celebrate her life and homegoing, let us be confident that Mother Jackson is absent from the body and present with the Lord.

All praise to God Almighty!

*Valerie and Joseph Francis, Jr. & family*



Mother Jackson was such a strong woman of faith, who lovingly watched over family, friends, and community. Her megawatt smile and calming nature will be truly missed, however, we are comforted in knowing that she is with the Lord and we shall see her again in glory!

*Love, the Normans*

*Rickie, Lisa, and Zaiden*



Barbara, Brandon and I extend our condolences to Myron, Sharon and the Peterson-Jackson family. Mama Jackson is an inspiration and an excellent example of motherhood to people of the Virgin Islands. She was a kind and gracious soul who lit up any room she entered. May the God of The Universe be pleased with her works as she is welcomed by the ancestors.

*I Love You All To Life,*

*Cousin Ulric*



**Nennie Jackson,**

Your passing has made me very sad. I love you so much. I am going to miss you a lot. I always enjoyed our phone calls. Please tell my Godfather hello for me.

*Love*

*Monalyn*





## To Sharon, Myron, the Peterson-Jackson and the McDonald Family,

Nennie Bernice was love personified. She gave love freely and was in turn surrounded by it. From the last time we spent together, to our recent phone calls just to check in, Nennie was always full of joy, encouragement, strength and warmth. She was truly a blessing and her spirit will remain with me forever. May she rest in peace. Until we meet again...

Love,

*Your God Sister Diane Romulus*



**B** is for the BEAUTIFUL SOUL that you displayed with nothing less than the unconditional love that was instilled in you while you were in your mother's womb that will continue now to live on in all of us leaving behind your legacy of love always & forever for eternity for all of us that were blessed to be already in your presence and now past your tomb. Blessed from Our Father in Heaven looking down on all of us from up above. Who has now called you home to personally embrace & shower you with all of his unconditional eternal love.

**E** is for having words of wisdom and constant unwavering ENCOURAGEMENT no matter what's going on you always have had and were always able to provide a silver lining around every dark cloud & always taught me to keep my head up and stay proud and needless to say.... I remember your thing to say to me on any given day was that a lady should be seen NOT heard and most definitely NOT loud.

**R** is for the honor what an honor it is for me today to be able to reminisce and REMEMBER you for all the good days and the bad that you were there for me that you and your strength pulled me through. And you would always make me & my GOD SISTER SHARON say our prayers before and after we got fed and went to bed Constantly reminding us that without GOD there is nothing we can't do and with God all things are possible.

**N** is for your NURTURING spirit just like a plant that needs sunlight love and water to grow. You were my sunlight at the beginning of every day, especially after I lost the woman that I call mother Miss Isabelle Rabsatt. Aunt Belle is what I called her. She trusted you with me at the tender age of three months on the day that she

received me and named you and my God father Hugo Jackson, who I call daddy. My God parents Now all 3 of y'all can sit up in heaven and talk about how much y'all love me. Until even after she passed away at the age of 12 your undying love for me shifted even more intensely, when I was thirsty. You always gave me my favorite Kool-Aid when we were outside getting the sun or at the beach you would always find me the shade. You were a natural born NURSE not just professionally. Thank you so much for loving on me.

**I** is for your natural gift of INSTINCT you would always know in any given situation when somebody or something just ain't right whether it be day or night.

**C** is for All the COMPASSION that you have shown for not just for me, but for everybody that you were always there for trying to be there for whoever with no respect of persons wherever the location, scenario episode or situation at the drop of a hat. You would get up and always go wherever you were needed or requested for whatever the reason that they needed and to always be there wherever they needed you to be at.

**E** is for the Deep impact that your natural genuine EMPATHETIC ability to listen to me has had on me now in my adult life. You were always able to absorb my feelings. And have always had my back. in response to whatever I was going through on any given day. For you to always having just the right words to say and console me. Then sometimes you wouldn't use any words at all. You would just look straight through me & wrap your loving arms around me and then,,,

YOU WOULD JUST HOLD ME forever in my heart you will always be. I promise you that I WILL FOREVER REMEMBER & HONOR YOU

QUEEN BAND YOUR LOVE LEGACY

U'NEEKLY YOURS

U'Neek

*Your God Baby*

*Laverne Motting*



## To Myron and Sharon

On behalf of my siblings and myself. I would like to express our deepest condolences to you on the passing of your mother. Our family connection goes way back to the island of St. Maarten. It is a connection that remains unbroken and is the tie that binds us. Mrs. Jackson was not only our cousin, but she was a lifelong friend and fellow nurse with our mother the late June Adams. As a founding member of the Virgin Islands Licensed

Practical Nurses Association, she helped to establish the first collective bargaining unit to represent LPN's. She was dedicated to her ministry, the caring of the sick and administering to those in need. Mrs. Jackson was a woman full of grace and dignity. A loving mother, a doting grandmother, aunt, cousin and friend she believed in and loved her God. May she soar with the ancestors and may the almighty welcome her into the new Jerusalem.

*Elmo, Duane, Janelle, Julien and Daryle Adams*



Dear Ronnie and Sharon,

How does one put in to words over 60 years of friendship, family, love and memories? Being together in good times and bad times. Sharing joys and sorrows. Helping, supporting, encouraging and just being there for each other. These memories flood our thoughts as we think of the relationship we've had with "Bea", "Miss Bea" or "Bernice the Nurse" as the children called her. Whenever someone felt ill, the refrain was to call "Bernice the Nurse"! Memories of Sunday dinners at each others' homes or just leisurely visits. The phone calls between "Bea" and "Lee", just to stay in touch and find out how everyone is doing; calls that always ended by letting each other know how much each was loved and cared for. The visits were less frequent over the years, but, there was always the opportunity to get together to share the milestones in our lives. All of these memories and more will continue to fill our hearts as we remember our dearest "Bea".

Ronnie, Sharon and family, we grieve with you and share your loss. Nothing can fill the void in your lives on losing the precious, pleasant, caring, loving person that was your mother. We are people of faith and know that we will be with her again one day. Until then, be assured that we are always here for you and our family and love continues.

With our deepest sympathy and love always,

*Claude and Leona Simmonds*



Dear Ronnie and Sharon,

We share in your grief and sorrow on the passing of your dear mother. From our youngest days, "Miss Bea" or "Bernice the Nurse" was part of our lives. Our families have shared many memories: good times, not so good times, joys, sorrows. We've been present at important milestones in each others lives. The passing of time has never diminished our love as family, and the special joy

we always felt when we were with our "Bernice the Nurse". We will miss her. Know that we are here for you always.

Love,

*Lydia, Rosie & Krim, and Nathan & Carol*



To: Myron, Sharon and Family;

Bernice and I have been friends, since our employment at MCH & CC. We have been on many cruises together. We also attended numerous luncheons, award ceremonies and parties. We enjoyed each other's daily phone calls, sometimes twice a day. MOTHER never forgot to ask about the grands or great grands.

My family and I extend our hands and hearts in prayer of healing to you as you go through this time of bereavement. May MOTHER Jackson rest in eternal peace.

From:

*Cleone, Clarence & Lisa Beverhout, Celita, Gregory, Grisette, Geary, Jayden and Jamir Smith*



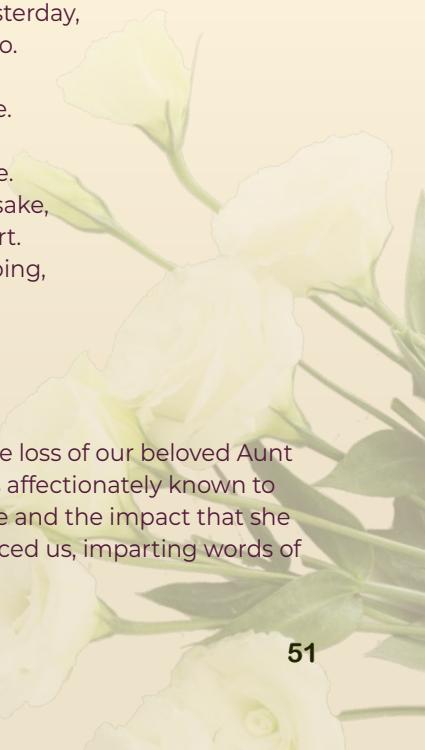
To the Family of Mrs. Bernice Peterson Jackson

In Loving Memory of Mrs. Bernice Peterson Jackson

I Thought of You Today

I thought of you with love today,  
But that is nothing new.  
I thought about you yesterday,  
And days before that too.  
I think of you in silence,  
I often speak your name.  
All I have are memories  
And a picture in a frame.  
Your memory is a keepsake,  
With which I'll never part.  
God has you in His keeping,  
I have you in my heart.

-Author Unknown



Dearest Family,

We are saddened for the loss of our beloved Aunt B, Ma, and Ms. B, as she was affectionately known to us, but also celebrate her life and the impact that she had on all of us. She embraced us, imparting words of



wisdom and ensuring that we upheld family traditions, as she was 'in charge' and we lovingly listened and obeyed. She was and continues to be deeply loved and respected as our adopted mother/grandmother, Godmother to Jalani, and friend. "WWMB", "What Would Ms. B do or say?" was a guiding thought. We will miss her phone calls, words of love and her beautiful spirit.

*"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful servants." Psalms 116:15*

*The Phillips Family - Bernard, April, Jalani, Jaden, Jalani Jr., Angela and Eurania Phillips*



Dear Mother Jackson,

I am so thankful that you were such an integral part of my life. You were and always will be a magnificent example to me of a strong and powerful woman who loved her God, family, friends, and community. I am proud of our common link as Registered Nurses.

Growing up so close to Myron and Sharon, I speak for Carolyn and myself when I say that we felt the love and affection that made us know that we are part of your family.

When I called you from the States you were so interested in finding out every detail of how we were doing. As you lay in your hospital bed this past February, it was refreshing to see you giggle as I shared pictures & stories of my grandson Langston. Rest in Peace Dear Mother Jackson and THANK you for your incredible impact on our lives.

*Elris and Family*



I never got to meet my maternal grandmother (Inez Pinney O'Garro) but from a very early age, I understood that in many ways, Mrs. Jackson was meant to fill that role. Throughout my childhood and our many trips to St. Thomas, I reveled in spending time near her. Sometimes she had strong words of advice, sometimes I'd hear stories, glimpses of my mom's childhood; other times we were both content to simply sit near each other. When I'd return to Philadelphia, I made sure all of my friends knew about the "amazing" house, not only full of treasures but most importantly, positively bursting with all of the mangoes one could dream of, just steps from its front door. Back then, I was the lucky one for

having such a glorious place to visit. Now, my luck is sustained having been blessed to have called her family these many years. My family and I send our love from Philadelphia. I'm sorry my daughters never had the chance to meet Mrs. Jackson, as she surely would have quickly welcomed them into her arms and heart just as she did for me those many years ago. May God bless your family and may you always feel her love, especially at the moments when you need it most.

Love,

*Lauren O'Garro-Moore, Colin Brown (Sloane and Meritt Brown too!)*



Aloha My Sister-Friend. Missing you and remembering our time together. The jokes told, the pranks, giggles, squabbles, laughter and shared love of God, family and each other. May your memory continue to be a blessing.

*Jackie Jeffers*



My deepest condolences to the entire family. Ms. Bernice was an amazing woman who will be greatly missed. I am so grateful for all of the memories that my children and I were blessed to make with her. From watching my daughter in the kitchen with her, to watching my son learn to dance with all of the elders in the room because he was almost always the youngest male at family gatherings. She even inspired me to speak up. I am not a fan of public speaking, but she would encourage me in her special way (lykyk) to open my mouth and speak my heart. She believed that we needed to let people know how special they are to us. I will miss the many conversations that my children and I shared with her, much of their understanding of Island culture came from her. She was beautiful and wise beyond measure. The Island will not be the same without her, but is eternally blessed because she was. Blessings to all.

*Dawn M. Jeffries (Caleb and Jae) Extended Family Member*



We are deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Mother Bernice. Hugo and Bernice Jackson welcomed our family when we relocated from Puerto Rico to St Thomas in 1965. They helped us to navigate the

obstacles and challenges of a young family who also was making a home in a new country. After Hugo's untimely death Mother Bernice continued her guidance and encouragement. She particularly made sure that our children's vaccinations were current. During the years of our friendship there was mutual love and understanding of each other. We were fortunate and blessed to have her in our lives and we really appreciate that we were able to tell her thanks and also let her know how much she is loved by us the day before she passed.

Mother Bernice we praise and bless you as you Rest In Peace and enjoy the fullness God's presence.

Family, we will continue to keep you in our thoughts and prayers and ask God to give you the strength to get through this time of grief.

Love,

*George, Joy, Kurt & Echelle Harris*



#### A Tribute to Brother Myron and Sister Sharon:

We gather today to celebrate the life of an extraordinary lady, Bernice Peterson "Mother" Jackson. I cannot remember a time in my life that she was not a part of my development. She sometime reminded me how mischievous and inquisitive I was as a child, laughing at some of my stories. Following the death of my parents, aunts and other family members, Mother truly took on the role of a "mother" to me, even though I was well into adulthood. I will never forget just after the passing of my beloved Aunt, Althea in 2021, Mother called me to see how I was doing. Early on in the conversation, she said to me: "I will be checking on you regularly now, so don't ever feel like you're alone." Mother kept her promise to the very end. She checked on me at least three times a week. When I checked on her, I could feel her warm greeting of her always consistent "Aloha". She would follow by "What's the news today", or "How's your children", (meaning my dogs.) We spoke oftentimes of old time stories of my Adams and Finch families, her work as a nurse, or even reminisced on her travels abroad and on cruises. Our conversations would often lead to you, Myron and Sharon. Her worries for you Sharon was minimal, because she felt you had Gerald and the boys. As for you Myron, she worried if you were eating, getting enough rest, flying here and there, etc. One thing I know for certain, she was extremely proud of both of you and all of your accomplishments. She even worried about me and what I was eating and taking if I was not feeling well. She would offer to send David or Chris with a care package. What a caring and selfless "Mother" you shared. She included me in family gatherings, and other special and momentous occasions, of which I was always proud to attend and will be forever grateful to be made a part

of.

I am also very happy for the opportunity to talk with her to thank her for the wisdom she imparted, and the unwavering love she gave, just a few days before her transition. She said to me: "I can never repay the love and attention your family gave to me and mine." Thank you, Myron and Sharon for sharing Mother Jackson with me. She was my rock for many years. Her memory will forever be a guiding light in my life, reminding me of the beauty and strength of a life well-lived. May the soul of our beloved "Mother" rest in eternal paradise. She is being greeted at the pearly gates of Heaven, with her biggest and brightest "Aloha" smile. Goodbyes are not forever. Goodbyes are not the end. They simply mean I'll miss her, until we meet again."

Your loving daughter amongst daughters,

*Yvette M. Finch*

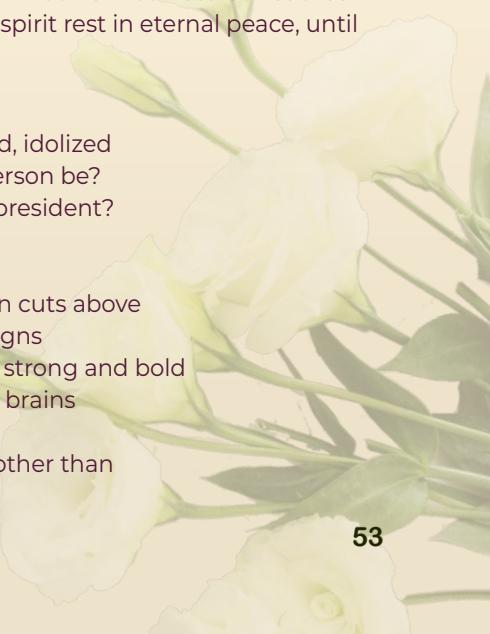


Words cannot express the great sense of loss we feel with the passing of our beloved Bernice Peterson "Mother" Jackson. Mother Jackson was an integral part of our Adams/Finch village. She shared wonderful childhood memories growing up with the Adams family, including experiencing the birth and death of family members, some four generations later. She spoke of the unfortunate fire which took place at the home of our grandparents that took the life of one of our aunts, who was at the time a very young child. Mother Jackson along with her mother, was visiting that day, survived the ordeal. It was an experience she shared with us, particularly how it impacted her life. Mother Jackson was always there to see us through our joys and celebrations, as well as through darkest moments. She lived a life worthy of emulation; an embodiment of selflessness, always willing to help family, friends and people around her in need. To the Jackson, McDonald, Peterson and extended families, we leave you with this poem that personifies what Bernice Peterson Jackson meant to us. May her spirit rest in eternal peace, until we meet again.

Beloved, cherished, idolized  
Who could this person be?  
A pop star or the president?  
A hot celebrity?

Not even close, ten cuts above  
A modest hero reigns  
A selfless woman, strong and bold  
A beauty with the brains

This person is no other than





Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

# Reflections

The royal matriarch  
The solid rock beneath our feet  
Our night light in the dark

A shoulder for our heavy hearts  
An ear to catch our plight  
The silver lining through it all  
Our wings when we take flight

Rest in eternal power and peace  
Our beloved Mother Bernice and friend  
If words relayed our gratitude  
Our tribute would never end...

*Earl "Larry" & Maggie, Vernon, Clifton, Lindsay  
and Yvette Finch, and the Adams family*



In loving memory of a cherished life well-lived; I take this opportunity to give my sincere condolences to the family for God's comfort and strength has they go through this difficult time of bereavement.

I am a dear friend of Bernice Jackson, fondly known as Mother Jackson. We met her many years ago through a mutual friend. Years later, she visited my husband and I in Philadelphia, we accompanied her to many of her medical appointments. She and my husband clicked so well that they had nicknames for each other, she called him "chick, chick" and he called her "chickie chick" Mrs. Jackson was always full of love, laughter and a caring spirit. The memories we have shared will always be with us. "forever in our hearts, always in our minds"

Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strength you, I will Help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand"

Love and Blessings

*Dorette Carter*



Mrs. B as I always called her was most definitely a woman of grace, statue and dignity. Pleasant was she and loving. We would chat on the phone as she would call to check on me or to find out if I baked any tarts. We would chat for times and in the midst a joke or two. Her laughter was something to look forward to as it was a part of her pleasant and warm personality. She was no nonsense, and stood for what was right. She took pride

in her cooking as she have told me about her dishes she prepared on special occasions. What will always impress on my mind and heart is the night before she passed when I went by her side and held her hand as Sharon said to her "Mother that's Gail". She opened her eyes and looked at me and what a smile came on her face and she held my hand and squeezed it. I felt so special. I know that I will never forget Mrs. B. Truly a matriarch and definitely a blessing was she, Mrs. Bernice Peterson Jackson.

Lovingly

*Gail Williams*



**To the family of our beloved Bernice P. Jackson**

It is with a very heavy I write this tribute. I will always remember visiting Ms Jackson and our interesting and encouraging motherly telephone conversations. She was a very kind, loving, caring and compassionate mother and friend. She will always be remembered by the many lives she touched during her nursing career, through her community and her church.

May her soul Rest in Eternal Peace.

*Julia C Callwood & Family*



**Mother Jackson,**

Beyond the grief of missing you!

Does my heart good to remember all the Love and Kindness that you always shared with me. Does the heart good to recount the bountiful occasions which you checked on my well-being. Thank you for love and kindness and making my heart good.

With love and appreciation, your adopted son from Virginia!

*Bernard Fauntleroy*



**Mother Jackson: A Strong & Faithful Woman**

**W-** "Mother Jackson" had the strength of a warrior and eternal faith of an angel.

**O-** An optimist no matter the situation, she always had confidence about the future.

**M-** She was a motivator and matriarch not only of her

family but also in other community organizations.

**A** -Nurse Jackson was an altruistic caregiver, healer, and protector to all in need.

**N**- Never asked for anything in return, she just constantly nurtured others.

I miss your presence. I will always remember and cherish our last telephone conversation filled with encouraging words and laughter the day before your transition.

Rest in eternal peace "Mother Jackson".

*Forever in my heart,*

*Mabel F. Maduro*



The warmth of your smile. Your interest in others... Mrs. Jackson, as Sharon said was truly a classy lady that we can all learn a lot of how to live from. Life's challenges she faced with grace...

For me, It meant the world to me when she made it to one of 2 celebrations I had last year that I wanted her to attend. I told her and Myron, when I saw her and spoke with her, I always felt the presence of my parents. I felt "at home" in her presence.

The dignity she showed us in how she went through her final weeks, her final days, her final hours, was a lesson in not just how to live life but how to transition from this life with elegance and class...

Mother Jackson smiled after Shirley combed her hair after we freshened her up and Myron had brought her earrings for us to put on her. It's as if she straightened her shoulders give a little sigh and a hint of a smile. As if to say "Yes I'm Dressed, and I'm Ready!"

Mother Jackson lives on in both of you, Myron and Sharon, in the way you treat others, in your service to our community she loved. I loved the compassion and love Chris and David exhibited at her bedside. Pastor Gerald you truly was the glue for Sharon, the boys and Myron. Mother Jackson knew she was loved. You will always have her with you especially when you hear yourselves saying something that came straight from her or doing things her way. You will smile when Gerald, David and Christopher all start saying things their grandmother would of said...her spirit lives on.

Thank you for the honor of allowing me to be of assistance.

*Rosie Denney Francis*

Much love to you all from my family,

*Dr. Anthony and Dr. Nicole Francis, Sean Francis and Allan Francis*



Our deepest sympathies to Myron, Sharon and the extended members of the Peterson and Jackson families from the Harrigan and Calistro families on the passing of their beloved mother, grandmother, aunt, cousin, and cherished friend of many others. The relationship between the Petersen and Calistro families run deep as both were neighbors in Up Street St. Thomas. Mrs. Jackson was a close friend of my late Aunt, Altagracia (Aunt Gracie) Calistro Padilla, from their childhood days. They enjoyed each other's company for many years.

Mrs. Jackson's friendship with the Harrigan family was a cherished one as she and my wife, the late, Dr. Sandra O. Harrigan, were always in communication with each other. Our friendship was enhanced through our relationship with her daughter Pastor Sharon McDonald. We were always invited to her home for special events and truly enjoyed her cooking, baking and special treats as she was one who loved to share. She will be missed dearly as we learned that she was asking about our family down to her last days. Her thoughtfulness will forever be with us as she was a very caring and blessed person. May she rest in peace.

We Love you,

*Ron E. Harrigan for the Harrigan and Calistro Families*



Reflecting on Mom Jackson takes me way back to almost the beginning of my life, all the way to four hours prior to her peaceful transition.

This span of over six decades was filled with much food, joy, laughter, mothering, mentoring and love! As young children, my siblings and I were always at the Jackson's home and the service station. In kind, Myron and (especially) Sharon were at our home. We celebrated every Thanksgiving Day together and the favorite dishes served were lovingly prepared by Mom Jackson and my mother, Catherine (Mommy Amy) Richards.

After the passing of Mr. Jackson, I greatly admired Mom as she became the fierce, independent warrior woman who took care of her family without complaining.

I credit and thanked her for instilling the love of nursing in me.

Mom Jackson was the one who pressed (ironed) my wedding dress for me as a young bride. My favorite recent memory is of her dancing on the porch with her walker. I had received a complaint that she wasn't



Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

# Reflections



walking enough, so I offered to walk with her. Well, we had our own mini jouvert.

I was blessed and honored to be a part of her care giving team

Thank you Myron and Sharon for sharing Mom with me and giving me the opportunity to be a blessing to her.

*I love you,*

*Shirley Richards*



I want to extend my heartfelt condolences to Myron, Sharon and the Peterson-Jackson families. I am so grateful to have known Mrs. Bernice Jackson and to have spent time with her over the years. She was a generous, funny, serious and loving human being. I'm sure she remains all of those things in the spiritual realm. Mrs. Jackson, may you rest in eternal peace as an ancestor and watch over your progeny and all of us who cared so deeply for you.

*Love,*

*Precious Lovell*



## We were very saddened on hearing of the passing of your Mother Mrs. Bernice P. Jackson.

She was indeed a mother, a grandmother, an aunt, a cousin, a friend, and she was really a Matriarch to all persons everywhere.

We came in touch with this family in the early 1970's when we moved to St. Thomas. Through our relatives Carolyn O'Garro Moore and Elris O'Garro Davis we became attached with Myron & Sharon because they were all students at All Saints Cathedral School. We then became a part of their family and this bond remains the same even today.

Mrs. Jackson was a very kind, generous and caring person with such a beautiful and radiant smile that warmed our hearts. She earned the respect of persons at work and at church. She has lived a long and fruitful life and she will be surely missed.

Rest in Peace Mother Jackson!

*Dr. George & Rosanna Newton & family.*

## Condolences to the Jackson Family,

Ms. Jackson's name has been a name spoken in our house as far as I could remember. When I tell anyone about her it starts with my parents' friend, Ms. Jackson. She was such a loving caring person. She will be missed by all.

Years ago my dad was sick and not doing well in St. Thomas hospital, so my mom made a call to Ms. Jackson and within minutes a doctor came to the hospital and took over his care, saving his life.

We are all deeply sad that Ms. Jackson has passed and send our deepest condolences.

We look to the fulfillment of Isaiah 6:19 and John 5:28 & 29 - "Do not be amazed at this, for the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out...."

Sincerely,

*Keprine Richards  
Kurt Richards and Family  
Karen Richards Piper and Family*



## Myron, Sharon, and Family

My sincerest condolences to you on the earthly transition of your Mom, Bernice Peterson Jackson. I met her at the Maternal and Child Health and Crippled Children Service (MCH-CC) in 1981. From that time, we bonded and our relationship extended to that of family. My late husband affectionately called her BJ. She always inquired about Kalyn: "How is my girl?" I thank God for giving her a rich quality of life! She had a servant heart. Love...the invisible string will allow us to feel her presence each day. Her legacy will continue to inspire those whose lives she touched. May your most special memories of your Mom give you comfort and peace.

*Love, Lynette and Kalyn Moolenaar George and Blyden Families*

## Tribute to Mrs. Bernice Jackson,

Mrs. Jackson reminded me of good old-fashioned West Indian affection and hospitality. I felt she loved me for no merit of my own except that our families met in church in Pennsylvania and have been linked ever since. My mother, Mrs. Beatrice Owen, tutored her grandson, Gerald McDonald Jr. and a bond with the

family strengthened. Then coincidentally her daughter Sharon and her family moved back to St. Thomas and later I moved back to St. Croix.

Mrs. Jackson would say my name with such love it sounded like it was dripping with honey. She would say, "Is that Gem?" I can hear her now and it was her special gift to impart love just by how she said your name. She was blessed with a great personality. She reminds me to give wholeheartedly of myself with all God has given and to never hold back. Sometimes love is just in how you say a name!

Love you, Mrs. Bernice.

*Gemaine (Gem) Owen*



Our love and prayers are with you on the passing of your beloved Mother and Matriarch Bernice Peterson Jackson. Take comfort in the Great Apostle Paul's words, "We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord." 2 Corinthians 5:8

As we celebrate your Mother's life, let us give thanks to God for her gifts of love and commitment to her Children, Grandsons, Family, Nursing Profession, St. Andrew's Church Family and our Community. "The joy of the Lord is your strength." Nehemiah 8:10

May the precious memories shared with your Mother bring you comfort, may you be strengthened by God's grace and always be blessed. "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." Matthew 5:4

*Hubert and Cresida Rainier and Lorrie Peterson*



**To Sen. Myron Jackson, Rev. Dr. Sharon Jackson McDonald and Family of Mrs. Bernice Peterson Jackson,**

I offer you my deepest condolences on the passing of your beloved Mother and Grandmother.

As I reminisce on her life, I think of how caring and dedicated she was to helping others through her nursing career at the Department of Health.

We gathered last year for her 95th Birthday party. What a joy it was to spend a weekend celebrating her life. She was so joyful to have all her family and friends with her for this wonderful weekend celebration.

What a great life she lived with a loving and caring family. She traveled the world visiting many countries and loved to share the stories of her trips. She will be greatly missed.

May her wonderful life give us lasting memories.

## *Carmen R. Sibilly and Family*



Today, we come together to remember and celebrate the life of Bernice Peterson Jackson, a remarkable person whose presence was a blessing to us all. In these few words, I hope to capture the spirit of a life that was not only lived but was lived with purpose, love, and an incredible strength of spirit.

One of my fondest memories of Mother, was when I offered to buy her ice cream from Petrus Plaza. After arriving at her home, she expressed thanks for the dessert and delight in my visit with her. As a wise son, Myron cautioned Sharon to serve her just a small portion of the ice cream after dinner, due to her dietary restrictions. Myron was very reasonable with her, and Sharon complied with his request. Later that evening Mother and I laughed purposely about the small portion of the ice cream she was served. When I asked if she enjoyed the ice cream, she said, "yes, my dear I'm satisfied, but what they served me was just a drop in the bucket. We'll see when my next serving will be." Afterwards, she burst into a loud laugh. Her laughter was so joyous that her whole body would shake, and her eyes would light up. It was contagious; you couldn't stay sad around her. We will remember the laughter, love, and joy she brought into our lives. Her kindness and warmth touched so many hearts. She was greatly loved and will be deeply missed.

To the Peterson-Jackson and McDonald Family, we're sharing in your sadness as you remember Mother. Thank you for the many invitations sent to me for special family gatherings. It was always a pleasure to be in Mother's presence. The precious memories will forever be cherished. May the presence of the Holy Spirit bring calm and comfort to you all. I'm praying for you during this difficult time. May God rest her beautiful soul in His peace, until we meet again.

*Rev. Dr. Judith Testamark-Hodge, Shanna Hodge Byles, Ahmed, and Javier Hodge*



**To Senator Myron Jackson, Rev Dr. Sharon Jackson Mc Donald and husband Gerald, grandchildren and extended family:**

It is often said that one of the most painful of human emotions is the grief caused by the loss of a dear loved one. I can only imagine, the grief you must experience. However, I do know that your deep faith serves as a mighty balm, confident that she is at peace



Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

# Reflections



with her Lord.

Reflecting on the life of service, empathy, faith and love that she created throughout her 90 years, bounded by her impressive resilience even in the face of tragedy, should bring you comfort in knowing that she is being rewarded for having lived such an exemplary life.

I will always remember the grand celebration of her life you organized for her 90th birthday last year. Speaker after speaker from St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. John, the continental US and other Caribbean islands spoke of "the Incredible Mrs. Jackson, Aunty Bernice, Grandmother, or Dear Long-Term Friend" 's love and devotion to her family, her generous outreach to those in need, her service to the sick, her longtime friendships, and her being the purveyor of kindly advice and non-judgmental counsel to so many. Everyone had a story to relate of how her life impacted theirs in deeply meaningful ways. I remember how radiant she was that day, surrounded by the many she loved and was loved by in return.

Yet, as she often said, she believed that her greatest accomplishment, the one that brought her the most joy, was in raising her children and rejoicing in their lives. May you continue to draw strength and comfort from the memory of her boundless love and faith.

With love,

*Gwen-Marie Molenaar*



On behalf of the All Saints Cathedral Class of 1979, we express our deepest condolences to our classmate, Sharon Jackson McDonald, on the passing of her beloved mother, Mrs. Bernice Peterson Jackson. Our prayers are with the entire Jackson, Peterson and McDonald family.

As a small, tight knit class, we had many matriarchs in our corner, looking out for and supporting us. Mrs. Jackson was one of those mothers and we will be forever grateful for her love and guidance.

May Mrs. Jackson be divinely welcomed at heaven's gates and her soul rest in eternal.

With Love and Memories,  
ASCS Class of '79

Ruth, Carolyn, Luana, Nilda, Flavel, Kelvin, Murielle, Jeffri, Kenneth, Michael, Tom, Craig, Michelle, Dale, Bill, Ramona (deceased), Ruby (deceased) and Gregory (deceased)

*Tribute from the Class of CC 1983*

## To our Classmate Sharon,

We offer our sincerest condolences. May the God of peace comfort you and your family. May you find joy in your memories and strength in your pain. We know that you are heartbroken and we can't imagine how much the loss of your mother has impacted you, but we are assured of the blessed hope in Christ Jesus. When you are feeling overwhelmed, know that we are praying for your strength. God is the mender of broken hearts and His love is enduring. We send our love thoughts and prayers. In the coming, days, weeks and months, our hope is that you feel not only the love of Christ but the love that we send from afar.

*With great love and affection,*

*Clark College Class of 1983*



"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you."

*Philippians 4:8 - 9 KJV*

We would like honor Mother Bernice Jackson for the love and wisdom she has shown throughout her lifetime. We see those Christlike characteristics in her Prophetess Sharon and her son-in-love Apostle Gerald. The Global Impact Prayer Line is celebrating the life and legacy of Mother Jackson. We are continually standing in the gap for your family in Jesus Christ name.

*Yours in Christ,  
Global Impact Prayer Line*



## A tribute to Mrs. Bernice Peterson Jackson:

It is with a deep sense of loss that we, the members of the Party Hardie Carolers mourn the passing of our beloved, Mrs. Bernice Peterson Jackson, affectionately known to us as "Mother Jackson".

Over 30 years, Mother Jackson welcomed us into her home in Lytton's Fancy, (along with the Voices of

Love Choir), as we serenaded her, along with family and friends with traditional Christmas songs. "Here Comes the Party Hardies" and "Glad Tidings of Great Joy We Bring" were the tunes sung as we entered her beautifully Christmas decorated home. Joined by Kwabena and the Voices of Love, we sang "Bless this House" and other Christmas hymns and sankie songs, before partaking in the most delicious traditional homemade spread. It was evident how deeply Mother Jackson loved the Christmas season and what sharing meant to her during this season of giving among family and friends. She was one of the last Virgin Islanders (that we can recall), to continue our Christmas tradition of household fellowship and serenading. Her welcoming spirit, the aroma of Christmas food delights and the camaraderie amongst families and friends will always be cherished and remembered.

To the Jackson, McDonald, Peterson and extended families, we say thank you, for the many years of supporting Mother Jackson in keeping our tradition alive, not just during the Christmas season, but throughout the year. May the soul of our beloved Mother Jackson, rest in eternal peace.

"... She's Marching on, marching on, sound the battle cry, sound the battle cry..."

### *Vernon Finch and members of The Party Hardie Carolers*

Revelation 21:4 "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes and then death shall be no more, neither shall sorrow, nor crying, nor pain be anymore, for the former things have passed away."



### **Myron, Sharon, Grandchildren and all who mourn:**

Our individual journey in life often takes us on divergent paths preventing us from more frequent contact with loved ones. But I know Mother Jackson was very much loved and was appreciated for all the beautiful ideas and talents. She was good when it came to making that home Red Peas soup and other dishes. She was a quiet and a strong person in all her thoughts and wellbeing in things that she usually liked.

I know that her passing leaves a void in me and many lives, Mother Bernice Jackson has earned her eternal rest with her wonderful savior.

Rest in peace Mother Jackson

*Margaret "Dell" Gumbs*



### **Dear Myron, Sharon and Family**

Just look beyond today for blessings.  
Look past the skies of somber grey,  
And look beyond the trials and heartaches,  
When God will turn your night to day.

Just trust Him in the shadow.  
He wants the very best for each and every one of you.  
He'll walk beside you in the valley.  
His grace and love will see you through.

Just look beyond today for blessings.  
In God's time He'll reveal to you,  
The many joys that are awaiting,  
The joys He's chosen just for you.

Don't give up, keep on believing –  
There's happiness ahead for you.  
Soon God will turn your trials to triumph,  
And skies again will shine bright and blue.

So just think of Mrs. Jackson as living in those of us whose  
Lives she has touched... for nothing loved is ever lost  
And we know that Mrs. Jackson was loved so much.

*Love Camela Francis & Cyana Francis-Berkitt*



### **To the Jackson Family**

It was a pleasure to be your mother's friend. She was a good friend to my Aunt Dorothy they grew up together. When she met me we clicked right away. We kept in touch all these years. I will miss our long conversations we had. May her soul Rest in Eternal peace. You have our deepest sympathy.

*From Idrena Brown Adams and family*



### **Tribute to Mrs. Bernice Petersen Jackson**

From: The children of one of her dearest friends;  
Marion Jennings, (deceased)

To the family of Mrs. Bernice Peterson Jackson, our family is tremendously saddened to hear the passing of your beloved mom. Mrs. Jackson known us from knee high. Our mom and her were dearest besties. We remembered her making our mom's wedding cake. Mrs. Jackson was indeed a beautiful soul. She encourages others to be the best they could be. She was, the best. The memory of your mom will give you comfort and her



legacy lives through you all.

*Mariel Ritchie, Muriel Diaz, Monica Robinson and Justin and Sustin Robinson and family.*



**To the Peterson-Jackson and McDonald Family,**

Our prayers and support are with you as you celebrate the victorious and impactful life of Mother Jackson. The light that she radiated was one of love, patience, and kindness. She radiated the power of her Lord, Jesus Christ, because she was not ashamed of the Gospel. Our lives were impacted by her presence and godly wisdom. She leaves a powerful legacy to her children, grandchildren, extended family, friends, and the Body of Christ. We understand and feel your loss, however take comfort in the Lord and celebrate her victorious life!

*Much love -- Apostle Alger B. and Velven D. Warren*



Kind, Classy, Informed, Intelligent, Loyal and Loving are all words that come to our minds when we think of the late and great, Mrs. Bernice Peterson-Jackson.

Our parents, the Late Wilfred and Nancy Turnbull were long time friends of the Late Hugo and Bernice Jackson. Minus Mrs. Bernice, the three sang in a group called "The Golden Jubilees." Their uniform was a gold top and a black bottom. Their favorite song to sing was – wait for it.... "When They Ring Those GOLDEN Bells For You And Me".

It goes without saying that she will be sorely missed by her family and friends because of all the wonderful attributes of her lifestyle - like her delicious pastries, her calming presence and her beautiful smile which lighted up the city! Although those attributes have come to an end on this side of life, we are consoled and comforted in the fact that she had a personal, transformational soul change when she gave her heart to Jesus Christ.

We want to express our deepest heart-felt condolences to Senator Myron Jackson, Reverends Gerald and Sharon McDonald and her three heartbeats: her grandsons.

Lovingly submitted,

*Mark & Mona Pratt, Rev. Brian & Karen Turnbull, Noreen Turnbull, Julian & Minister Elerine Penn, Apostle Oral & Pastor Everine Hazell.*

*Wilmo Turnbull, David & Minister Judy Turnbull and Apostles Isaac & Evelyn Benson.*



**Dear Pastor Sharon and Family,**

It is with a heavy heart that I extend my deepest condolences to you and your family on the passing of your beloved mother. I was profoundly saddened to hear of her departure, and I want to express my heartfelt sympathy as you navigate this difficult time. Losing a mother is an irreplaceable loss, one that leaves an indelible mark on our hearts and lives. Please know that you are not alone in your grief; my thoughts and prayers are with you, offering solace and strength during this period of mourning.

Your mother was extraordinary, leaving a legacy of love, kindness, compassion, and unwavering faith. Her presence touched the lives of many, and her memory will forever be cherished by all who had the privilege of knowing her. She embodied the virtues of selflessness and grace, leaving behind a profound impact that will continue to resonate through the lives she touched. While her physical absence may bring profound sorrow, may you find comfort in the beautiful memories you shared and the enduring legacy she leaves behind.

We believers can turn to scripture for guidance and comfort during sorrowful seasons. In the pages of the Bible, we find words of solace, hope, and reassurance that offer strength to carry us through our darkest days. Allow me to share some verses with you:

- "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." - Psalm 34:18
- "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." - Matthew 5:4
- "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." - Psalm 147:3
- "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." - Romans 8:38-39

These verses remind us that God's love remains steadfast and unwavering even in our deepest sorrow. He is a source of comfort and strength, offering solace to those who grieve and healing to the brokenhearted. May you find peace and consolation in His embrace, drawing strength from the promise of His eternal love.

Pastor Sharon, your mother's legacy of love,

sacrifice, and faith will continue to inspire and uplift those who know her. Her spirit lives on in the lives she touched, including yours, as you continue to walk in the path of righteousness and minister to those in need. May her memory be a blessing and a source of comfort to you in the days ahead.

I assure you that I am here for you during this sorrow. If there is anything I can do to offer support or assistance, please do not hesitate to let me know. A community of love and compassion surrounds you, and together, we will walk through this season of mourning.

The LORD bless thee, and keep thee: The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace (Num. 6:24-26 KJV)

With deepest sympathy and prayers,

*Dr. N. Cindy Trimm*



**To Mother Jackson,**

Thank you for being a shining light within our church community, a beacon of kindness to emulate, and a compassion spirit to those who were blessed to have gotten to know you. You had the innate ability to make each person you encountered feel valued and heard. Your motherly nature has impacted so many, including our family, and you will truly be missed. Rest well in heaven.

*Ariel Smith Esq., Kamille Willis, Vaughn Willis, and Evan Watts*



**To The Peterson-Jackson & McDonald Family,**

We come today to pay our respects and celebrate the home going of our dearly beloved Bernice Peterson-Jackson. We take this opportunity to thank the entire family for sharing "Mama J" with us. "Mama J" was truly a woman with a heart of gold, who was loved by everyone she came in contact with. She was a very free spirited, kind and loving person, who loved the Lord and focused on family. "Mama J" had such an impact in this community and as a midwife in her early years she has left a mark that cannot be erased. "Mama J's" diligence, strength, sacrifice and compassion did not allow her to give up or lose faith but it allowed her to create legacies for everyone to carry on. If it was not for the grace and goodness of God we would not have been blessed to

cherish every moment and memory shared. May her soul rest in eternal peace.

*Felecia Maduro*



**To The Family,**

May God be your strength and comfort during this difficult time as you mourn the loss of Mother Jackson. May He heal your broken hearts and guide you to find new ways which will renew your thoughts and spirit as you cope with losing her. Hold on to the memories shared with Mother Jackson. May God surround you with the Peace that passes ALL understanding knowing that Mother Jackson is now reunited in Eternity with God, experiencing no more pain. May God grant Solace to the Family and may her soul rest in Eternal Peace.

*Anthony D. Thomas, Janice Thomas and Jah-Koi*



**Dear Mother Bernice,**

We will Remember you in Love and Kindness! Thank you for your grace, poise and boldness to embrace and break barriers of your time. The way you cared for our Father Peter and us his children is profound and will forever be cherished. Your remarkable wisdom and guidance that was shared over the years stays with us and will be valued for decades as we pass that guidance down to our children. A legend and inspiration in your own right. We shall miss you dearly and will carry your memory and beautiful spirit with us, always. Thanks Be to God for the Beautiful and Full Life you have shared with us. May you rest in peace until we meet again.

Strength and honor are her clothing; she is confident about the future - Proverbs 31:25.

Love,

*Stephanie L Christian-Robles, Renelda, Anthea, Ebony we are ever so grateful to have known you.*

Condolences to the family of Bernice Peterson Jackson, affectionately called by our family "Mother Jackson." It was an honor to know this beautiful soul.

Mother Jackson was always a joy to be around. She loved life and lived it to its fullest. Mother Jackson's presence will be missed on Earth. We know she is



Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

# Reflections

rejoicing in the heavens. May her soul rest in eternal peace.

Love,

Allie, Beverly & the Petrus family



Dearest Sharon, Myron and family,

We are deeply saddened to hear about the passing of your mother. Please accept our heartfelt condolences during this difficult time. Losing a loved one is never easy, and we can only imagine the depth of your grief.

It brings us some solace to know that your mother passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by family. What a beautiful way to bid farewell to someone who was clearly cherished and loved. It speaks volumes about the love and care she was surrounded by in her final moments.

Your mother lived a long and fulfilling life, well into her 90s, leaving behind a legacy of love, wisdom, and cherished memories. May you find comfort in the beautiful moments you shared with her, and may those memories bring you solace during this time of mourning. We remain SO THANKFUL to have been able to spend an afternoon with Mother Jackson last year as we celebrated our eldest brother, Filimon S. Duran's, home going.

Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. If there is anything we can do to support you during this time, please do not hesitate to reach out. We are here for you across the miles.

Wishing you strength, peace, and comfort in the days ahead.

With deepest sympathy,

Carmen (Duran) Bogard and Glenn & Deidra Duran



We honor Mrs. Jackson for the perseverance and strength she exemplified throughout her life, and especially in adversity.

Her smile exuded resilience and steadfastness.

"Her children rise up and call her blessed", Proverbs 31:28. Her children are a testimony to her life and devotion to God and to others.

She leaves behind a great legacy, and will be missed.

*From the Douglas-Jude-Singletary Family*



Hello, I am Dr. Elsie Casimir living in Philadelphia, PA.

I have known Mrs. Jackson through her daughter Sharon, whom I attended New Covenant Church of Philadelphia with. Sharon and I have been friends before she got married, and through our friendship, I had the privilege of meeting Mrs. Jackson, who quickly embraced me as family. This picture was taken at young Gerald's first birthday party in May 1993.

Whenever I would visit St. Thomas, she opened her home to me and treated me like royalty, and whenever she visited Philadelphia, she would make it a point to visit with me and my family.

The thing I love most about her is that she was genuine.

She was a truly remarkable woman who touched the lives of many with her strength, care, and love. She was the heart of her family, a source of wisdom and kindness. Her impact on us all was profound, leaving a legacy of love and compassion that will always be remembered.

As we say goodbye, we celebrate her well-lived life and the lasting impression she made on us. Rest in peace, dear Mother Jackson. Your memory will forever be a blessing to me and those who knew you.

Lovingly submitted,

*Elsie M. Casimir, DMD.*



Mrs. Jackson's love of life came out in the hospitality of those who had the pleasure of gracing her presence. My condolences to the family of this wonderful woman.

*Melba Farrell*



Mrs. Bernice Peterson Jackson will be fondly remembered for her rich legacy and incomparable contributions to this community. As a traveling house nurse in the 1960s, I remember her as a stalwart of care and compassion in our community. That level and

nature of care reflects the character of the woman Karen and I have come to know and love.

Through our friendships with her beloved children, Sharon and Myron, we gained even more insight into the exemplary character of a virtuous woman. As she advanced in age, we witnessed the shared love and admiration for her family, her precise memory and storytelling, and her emblematic presence of rich Virgin Islands history and community.

Through her light and love, she embodied so much of what it means to be a true Virgin Islander. We thank God in his providence for granting her long life, and know the light from her life well lived will never grow dim. It shines in the hearts and minds of all those who have had the distinct pleasure of knowing and love her.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the Jackson Family. Continue to be comforted by the grace and love of the Lord.

With compassion,

*Brian and Karen Turnbull*



Over the years I have had the privilege of hosting many milestones in the Jackson family lives. It has been my pleasure to have celebrated with the family Mrs. Jackson's 95th birthday not so long ago. As I remember her I go back to my first impression of this lovely lady. My first thought is "family matriarch ". She garnered a respect and admiration from her peers, her children, their children, and so many many acquaintances. I will steal a few lines from the King Solomon, the wisest man that ever lived. "Strength and honor are her clothing, and she rejoices in time to come. She opens her mouth with wisdom; in her tongue is the law of kindness. She looks well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up and call her blessed !! Favor is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that fears the Lord, she shall be praised. May she rest in the presence of the Lord.

*Randolph Maynard and Family*



**My Dear, Dear Friend Sharon,**

Here are my words in honor of your precious Mother: Mother Jackson,  
I pay homage, honor and tribute to you this day.

Thank you for your gracious ,and loving , heart and presence.

I am forever grateful for having had the privilege to have met you through your precious daughter, my dear friend and sister-in love, Sharon.

Thank you for welcoming me to your home.

I will always remember when we first met;

the delicious meal, the hospitality, but most your loving kindness. It was clear you "knew Him" as Lord and Savior.

You always exuded the grace and strength of Gods glory. You have left that legacy of His mark of honor, stature, and position on your posterity.

You have prepared your lineage to continue to carry out God's kingdom , on earth, as it is in heaven", and most especially with the banner of love, you seemed to wrap around us all.

We will all miss you, but perhaps in God's time we will be comforted knowing you are a part of the "great cloud of witnesses cheering us on "whom upon entering the gates of Heaven heard "Well done my good and faithful servant!"

**Dear Beautiful Mother Jackson**

in my mind and heart, you will always be the epitome of regal elegance and grace.

Love , Peace and Rest to you, and your dear family.

Lovingly Submitted,

*Kim Sledge Allen and family,  
Mark, Laura, Julie  
Stacy and Markie Ill*



Bernice Petersen Jackson's legacy is one of faith, love, and caring for others. We are grateful for the years of smiles, hugs, and laughter. May God continue to bless her soul and the family that Ms. Jackson nurtured.

*With profound sympathy,  
Annice Canton and family*



With heavy hearts and profound sadness, we honor a remarkable woman, Ms. Bernice Peterson Jackson. Affectionately known to us as Ms. Jackson, she was not only a matriarch but also a pleasure, a source of strength, and a beacon of grace and kindness. We were fortunate enough to know her.

Ms. Jackson's legacy of love and compassion will forever live on in the hearts of her family and friends. Her



memory will serve as a source of comfort and inspiration, reminding us to cherish the time we have with one another and to live each day with kindness, generosity, and grace. Recently, we had the joy of celebrating Ms. Jackson's 95th birthday, a milestone that brought together family and friends in a beautiful testament to her enduring spirit and love. The gathering reflected her life—full of laughter, love, and stories that will linger in our memories forever. Esteban was very grateful for the hospitality shown in his opportunities to spend time with Ms. Jackson while traveling home from university. Ms. Jackson's warmth and hospitality were appreciated by us all.

As we bid farewell to Ms. Jackson, we take solace in the knowledge that her love will always surround us, binding us together as a family and as a community. May her soul rest in eternal peace, and may her legacy continue to shine brightly, illuminating our lives with the enduring power of her love.

## *The Smith Family (BVI)*



I have known mother Jackson all my life as both our families lived in the Upstreet area of Saint Thomas. In addition my mother, Florice Torres and mother Jackson were nurses together in the early days of the development of our hospital and healthcare systems in the Virgin Islands.

Mother Jackson has always been an exceptional, caring, dedicated, well respected individual in our community. She was a true inspiration and loved much. We were fortunate to be impacted and influenced by the wisdom of her words and the example of her life.

Recently I had the privilege, and was humbled and blessed to be present with her and her family during her transition from this world.

During my last conversation with her, in her precious way, she kept asking about my children as our families are related in three distinct ways. She kept reminding me how much she loved each and everyone of us... That love was the answer... Love is healing, love is powerful and love is to be shared always. Love affords the capacity for things to change. The energy and vibrations that were present during this experience were powerful and so very spiritual. Mother Jackson was beloved, she was authentic, spiritual, mystical, magical... A priestess in her own right. Her daily life was a testament to her faith, her family and her Beloved community. I am so grateful to have received a final blessing from this grand soul,

as she peacefully, gracefully took her departure..... and I have promised to pass on her messages through my life examples as best as I can.

## *Dilsa Capeville*



We are grateful to God for Mrs. Bernice Jackson's beneficial presence to the Viale Family. Her caring ways, words of wisdom, and for sharing her table full of delicious cuisines. We will miss your smiles, warm hospitality, and engaging conversations. Thank you for being apart of our lives and supporting us along our life journey.

*Deepest Condolences*

## *The Viale Family*



In cherished memory of Bernice Peterson Jackson, a matriarch whose spirit and kindness will continue to illuminate the hearts of those who had the privilege of knowing her.

At the blessed age of 95, she was a beacon of wisdom and a pillar of strength, and her passing leaves a void that can never be filled. A devoted mother, her unconditional love was her gift to her children, nurturing them to become individuals of substance and character.

Born into the strong Peterson-Jackson and McDonald family, Bernice carried the weight of her heritage with grace and honor. A proud spirit of the Virgin Islands, she was a testament to the enduring essence of its people, their resilience, and their unwavering sense of community. She gave back to her community with an open heart and generous disposition, and her contributions were many and meaningful.

Bernice was a woman of great faith, her strength rooted in her steadfast belief. She weathered the storms of life with unwavering resilience, her spirit unbroken, her love undiminished.

Loved by all, her radiant smile and the warmth of her presence were a comfort to many. She touched lives in countless ways, sowing seeds of love, kindness, and compassion wherever she went. Her legacy will live on in the hearts of those she loved and those who loved her.

As we bid farewell to Bernice Peterson Jackson, let us celebrate her remarkable life, honor her memory, and strive to live by the values she held dear. She will be

greatly missed, but her spirit will continue to guide us, inspire us, and comfort us in times of sorrow.

To Bernice, our dear mother, grandmother, friend, and neighbor - your journey on earth has ended, but your light continues to shine in our hearts. You will forever be remembered, cherished, and loved. Rest in peace.

With heartfelt sympathy,

*The Wallace, Francis, & Hilaire family*



**In loving memory of Bernice Peterson-Jackson,**

As we gather here today to remember and celebrate the life of a remarkable woman, I find myself reflecting on the countless ways she touched the lives of those around her. Her strength, grace, and unwavering spirit were a beacon of light for all of us fortunate enough to have known her.

Though she may have departed from this world, her legacy lives on through the love she shared, the lives she enriched, and the memories we all hold dear. Today, we stand together, united in our grief, yet also in our gratitude for having been blessed by her presence in our lives.

To my godfather and the entire family, please accept my deepest condolences during this difficult time. May the memories of your beloved mother bring you comfort and peace.

With heartfelt sympathy,

*Soundjata Carty & Sean Wells*



I extend my heartfelt sympathy to Myron, Sharon and the Petersen, Jackson & McDonald family at this time of grief. I knew Mrs. Jackson through her children, who are alumni of All Saints Cathedral School such as myself, with Myron being a classmate of mine for many years in elementary school. Mrs. Jackson was a pleasant & strong matriarch that kept the family together after the loss of her husband many years ago. May you rest in peace, Mrs. Bernice

*Michelle Reese-Carson*



Mrs. Doris Henneman and family express our deepest condolences to you. Bernice was a woman of faith, love and sharing. She had a motherly heart of love for her children, family, neighbors, church, and

community. Our families intertwined over the years as we live in the Up-street community, our mothers held the same professional careers as nurses and our doors were always open to visitors. We, the off springs of such phenomenal women have learned to pay homage by serving our beloved community and people with the same passion as our moms.

Myron and Sharon take comfort in knowing weeping may endure for the night but joy comes in the morning. Mom is now absent from the body but present with the Lord. We share these words as a tribute to Ms. Jackson taken from Proverb 31:25-28

She was clothed with strength and dignity; she laughed at the days that came.

She spoke with wisdom, and faithful instruction was on her tongue.

She watched over the affairs of her household and did not eat the bread of idleness. Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praised her.

*Sincerely,*

*Doris, Audie, Adelia, Debra, James and the rest of the family*



**Dear Sharon, Myron & Family,**

We are deeply saddened by the loss of your mother, whose smile & kindness we will always remember.

Our parents (Eduardo & Marjorie Corneiro) and yours (Hugo & Bernice Jackson) all Upstreet People, knew each other a long time even before the formation of the Tau Club over 80 years ago!

We pray that your hearts will be filled with joyous memories of her and may you be comforted by the Holy Spirit. Be joyful as she is now present with the Lord!

*Love, Scott & Judy Barber and Eduardo "Butch" Corneiro*



**To the Family,**

I'm sorry I didn't get to meet Mother Jackson, but I feel I knew her through the loving expressions shared and life stories told by the family, friends those who knew her and those who crossed her path. I know everything is in God's time, but it still seems too soon, she will be dearly missed. May the warm memories and legacy of Mother Jackson be a source of comfort and strength in the days ahead.

*Love,*





Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

# Reflections

Janette Webster



I thought of you with love today, but that is nothing new I thought about you yesterday and the days before that too.

I think of you in silence, I've often spoke your name All I have are memories of you in my mind Which will be my keepsake, with which I'll never part God has you in his keeping and I have you in my heart.

You Will be Missed,

Diamond Carter



To the Family of Bernice Peterson-Jackson

Father God please comfort Sharon's/Myron's heart during this period of adjustment. May their sweet memories of Queen Mom remain with them always. Your mother was truly blessed to have you in her life. Your love and care propelled her all these years. Bernice did not miss a single outing or event. I remember she was honored by AARP. She truly touched a plethora of lives in this community. Easter is a perfect send off/celebration for her service. Bernice Peterson Jackson has begun her new life. She has seen Jesus. Hugo was at the pearly gate to greet her. By now she has received her crown brimming with jewels. Be blessed.

Leonilda Baptiste Jarvis



Myron and Sis Sharon,

It is with great sadness that I write to the Jackson and McDonald Family to express my sincere condolences on behalf of my family on the passing of Mother Bernice. From the first day my mother in law Ianthe Benjamin introduced me to her I felt her warmth and love. She was a genuine and compassionate woman of God that I called my friend. Her affectionate joyful spirit could be felt in her smile or hugs. She always provided an encouraging word, and every interaction with her felt like I was a part of her family. It was a blessing to be in her presence. She will be truly missed but I'm confident that she and Yante have reunited in the heavenly choir rejoicing, giving honor and praise to God, where there is no more pain or sorrow. So be comforted in your grief that Mother Bernice is at peace, resting safe in the arms

of the Lord.

"Precious [and of great consequence] in the sight of the Lord Is the death of His godly ones [so He watches over them]."

*Psalms 116: 15 AMP*

Margarita Benjamin & Family



My Dear Friend Sharon and Jackson Family,

Your Mom was truly a beautiful soul who was loved by so many and will be missed. You, however, have not lost a Mom, instead you have gained an Angel; as she will continue to be in your mind and a never ending song in your heart for comfort and happiness that you may sometimes forget the words too, but always will remember her tune. Know that "those we love don't go away, they walk beside us everyday, unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed and very dear". Farewell Mrs. Jackson, until we meet again, rest in sweet heavenly peace. Much love to the entire family.

Sherna Parson

Family Friend



With sympathy and condolences to the Peterson-Jackson and McDonald Family, we remember and extol Mrs. Jackson. Her lifelong devotion to family, caring nature as a nurse, and commitment to community are all lovingly set forth in her obituary. I have been fortunate to have met Mrs. Jackson in her more recent years. Most notably, by her presence and demeanor Mrs. Jackson always set an atmosphere of good manners, warmth, and traditional values, no matter the purpose of getting together. Like others, I value and appreciate this positive influence which Mrs. Jackson blessed us with. With sympathies to the Family,

Bruce Streibich



To the Peterson-Jackson and McDonald Family,

In loving memory of a remarkable mother whose love and light will forever shine bright in your hearts.

May her legacy of kindness and strength guide and comfort the family in this time of profound loss.

*Heartfelt Love and Blessings Always,*

Cira E. Burke, Ph.D.



Mrs. Bernice P. Jackson is the epitome of authentic African Motherhood. I first met her over 40 years ago and immediately saw how loving she was. I also had the privilege of visiting her home several times since then, and she was always generous and kind. After my wife and I returned from our honeymoon, she invited us to her home for a congratulatory dinner.

However, what really impressed me was the way she took care of her own mother and the rest of the family, especially after her husband died in the 1980's.

She has truly accomplished the essence of 2 Timothy 4:7 and can proudly say, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." Now she has embarked on her next journey in the "circle of life" to experience "the Peace of God which surpasses all understanding." (Philippians 4:7)

*Gerard M. Emanuel*



**To the Family of Nurse Jackson,**

I grew up under her and other mothers of St. Andrew's Episcopal church on the "avenue". She was always willing to help and share her wealth of information. Now let's talk about the ready and broad smile that would quickly appear whenever she saw anyone she knew. It made you feel special, she will be missed but not forgotten. She will reside in the hearts of all those whose lives she has touched along the way. May God give you her family peace and comfort as she rests from her labors.

*Alicia Woodley-Jackson and Family*



I am deeply honored and privileged to have known Queen Mother Bernice Jackson and to have been in her presence. I will treasure my golden memories always.

Love,

*Cookie Brown*



**To: Myron, Sharon and the extended family.**

Over the years I have accumulated many fond

memories of your mother throughout community events, and especially activities in the Petersen Yard. She has been a source of wisdom, guidance, laughter and inspiration.

Today and always, may loving memories bring you peace, comfort and strength.

*Ritzia George*



**Tribute to the family and friends of Mrs. Bernice P Jackson.**

It is with heartfelt sympathies that the Baynes Family offers our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Mrs. Bernice P. Jackson. We assure you of our prayerful support and wish you God's peace in this time of bereavement. May God's peace comfort the family during this time of sorrow. God's grace is sufficient. May her soul rest in eternal peace.

*In Deepest Sympathy,  
The Baynes Family*



We grieve together, but not without hope.

For we know that Jesus died and rose again, and God will bring with Jesus all that fall asleep in Him... 1 Thess..

The children for Fernella I Jarvis

Your presence always brightened my day with your smile and nods to the rhythm of the music. Your unwavering support at events, especially those within the community, was truly admirable. Your radiant smile and comforting presence will be deeply missed.

*With Love,  
Dene Dessuit*



"The children loved her," as I recall. Everytime she came to the school, the children would run to her, hug her and laugh as their sing song voices rang out her name...Mrs. Jackson! Mrs. Jackson!

She was a well-loved school nurse whom cared for her children, no matter their race, financial status or who they were for!

We were friends who use to, "meet up", at her house for parties or just a piece of Vienna cake since we



Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

# Reflections



all were so busy with our jobs...truly dedicated workers along with Cleone VanBevenhout, another well-loved school nurse.

We will miss Bernice and her beautiful smile and love for life and her family.

*Angelita Jennings and family*



As a story-teller dedicated to documenting our nation's history, it's with great sadness that I now must write on the passing of Bernice Peterson Jackson whose light now shines eternal, like the other giants of our society, leaving an indelible path of inspiration for generations to follow.

Upon my late uncle Rudolph Vanterpool's arrival to St. Thomas from his native Anguilla, Mrs. Jackson and her late husband Hugo Denzil Jackson employed Uncle Rudy at their grocery store. At a time when many Eastern Caribbean nationals were struggling to capture their piece of the American Dream, the Jacksons gave my uncle the opportunity he said changed his life forever. "God bless those folks. I owe them a lot," he told me. Uncle Rudy would go on to be one of the first Deans of Africans studies at California State University-Dominguez Hills in Los Angeles.

In much the same way Mrs. Jackson opened a door for my uncle, her son Myron Jackson did the same for me by serving as a mentor and guide during my transition from reporting on larger America to now sharing our community's stories. I'll forever remember Mrs. Jackson's all-consuming smile upon meeting her. It told on an elder who found joy and life's purpose in nurturing her village. I'm forever grateful for the seeds she planted which continues to bear fruit in me and our Virgin Islands community.

*By Peter Bailey*



**To Myron:**

Please accept our deepest condolences on the loss of your mother. May her love and memories bring you solace during this challenging time. If there's anything we can do to support you, please don't hesitate to reach out.

*Patrick & Tka Siewe*

**Ms. Jackson,**

It was my pleasure meeting you on this journey of life. You were truly a blessing to me since our first meeting. You adopted me into your family from our first encounter. I took this role seriously and treated you like a mother while in my care inside and outside of the hospital.

Thank you for all your caring ways, conversations and beautiful smiles. You will truly be missed.

*Sincerely,*

*Desiree Muddox RRT*

*Respiratory Therapist*



Let perpetual light shine upon Mother Jackson

*Monica Rabsatt*



Love, Peace, Blessings, and Strength to the Peterson-Jackson and McDonald Family. May you be filled with the spirit of love comforting you in this time. May the spirit of Beloved Bernice P. Jackson continue on living through you to bless all that you touch and to give you strength and power when you remember your loved one. With sincere compassion, I offer you support and strength in this precious time.

*David Murphy*



# Please Donate in Mrs. Bernice Peterson Jackson's Honor



**University** of the **Virgin Islands**

*Historically American. Uniquely Caribbean. Globally Interactive.*

*Office of Institutional Advancement*

[www.uvi.edu](http://www.uvi.edu)

## *The Bernice Peterson Jackson Scholarship Fund*

In honor of the life and legacy of Bernice Peterson Jackson, a scholarship fund has been established at the University of the Virgin Islands to support nursing students.

To make a charitable contribution by check:

Make checks payable to:

**University of the Virgin Islands**

Memo: The Bernice Peterson Jackson Scholarship Fund

Checks can be mailed to:

University of the Virgin Islands

Office of Institutional Advancement

#2 John Brewers Bay

St. Thomas, VI 00802

To make a charitable contribution online, click the link or scan the code:

<https://www.uvi.edu/give/index.html>

1. On the page, click the "Make a Gift Today" button and a new window will open.
2. Select the donation amount.
3. Under "designation" select the Bernice Peterson Jackson Scholarship Fund.
4. Enter your contact and credit card information and click the "Make Donation" button.

If you experience any difficulty, please contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at (340) 693-1040.





Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

# Community Life







Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

# Nursing





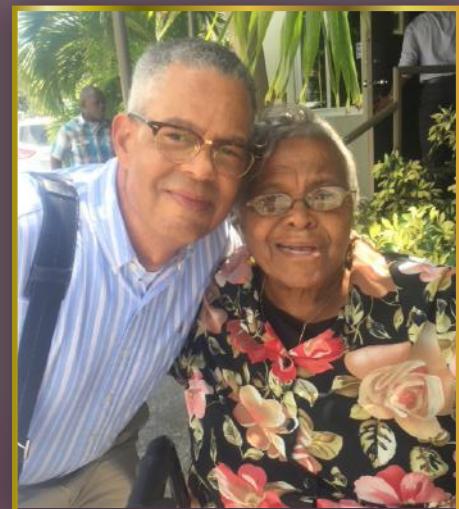
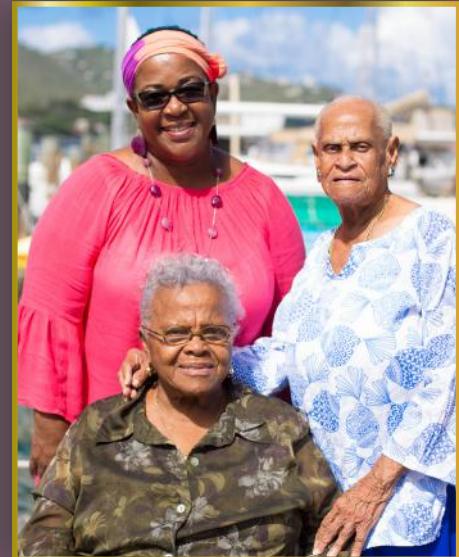
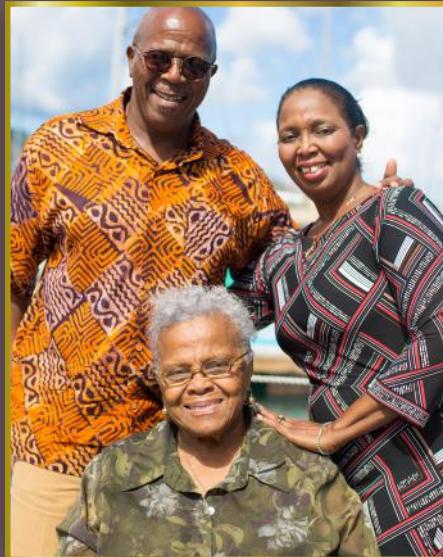
*Bernice P. Jackson*

June 28, 1928 – March 17, 2024



Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

# Family





Celebrating the Life of



Bernice P. Jackson

June 28, 1928 - March 17, 2024

75



Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

Family





Bernice P. Jackson

June 28, 1928 – March 17, 2024

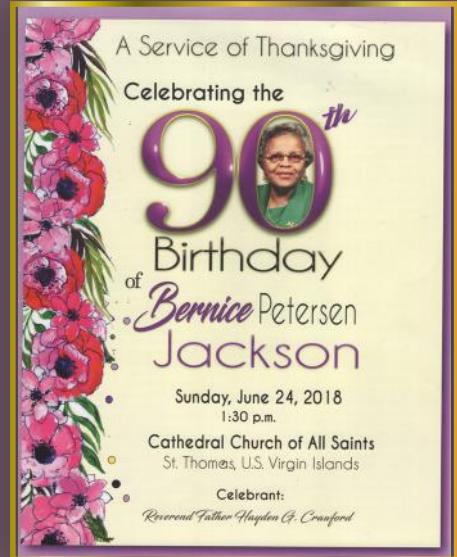
77





Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

# Family





Celebrating the Life of



Bernice P. Jackson

June 28, 1928 – March 17, 2024



Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson

# Family





Bernice P. Jackson

June 28, 1928 – March 17, 2024



Bernice  
Peterson  
Jackson



# Acknowledgements

The family would like to express our sincerest heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all of you. Thank you for your prayers, phone calls, texts, visits, acts of kindness, contributions, encouragement, and love. Words cannot express our gratitude for the outpouring of love and support, and we are forever grateful. May God continue to bless and keep you always.

Hilary Woodson-Gaskins, MD  
Leroy Sterling, MD  
Imnett Habtes, MD  
Catherine Kean, MD  
Leroy Sterling, MD  
Thelma Watson, MD  
Jessica Wilson, MD  
Plessen Ophthalmology Management and Staff  
Schneider Regional Medical Center Team  
Case Management and Social Services Staff  
Heart and Lung  
Medical/Surgical/ICU/ER Staff  
Respiratory Therapy Staff  
SRI Medical Supply  
Premiere Health Care and Staff  
Tropical Health Care  
Turnbull's Funeral Home and Crematory Services  
Stan Mason, RN, CCC  
Denise Phipps, RN  
Leslie Harris, RN, CCC  
Charlene Jones RN  
Rosie Dennery-Francis, RN  
Shirley Richards, RN  
Alson "Ezo" Lockhart, EMT  
Desiree Maddox, RRT  
Cary Jackson, RRT  
Felipe Ayala  
All Saints Cathedral Church  
Dean Sandy Wilson  
Rt Rev. Ambrose Gumbs  
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
Father Glenroy Cabey  
St. Andrews Episcopal Church Women  
Carol Callwood  
Global Impact Prayer Line  
Impacting Your World Christian Ministries  
New Covenant Church of Philadelphia  
David Coleman

Department of Property and Procurement, Print Shop  
Commissioner Derek Gabriel  
Department of Public Works, Office of the Commissioner and Cemetery Division  
Tony Rasario, Westline Production  
Department of Education  
Virgin Islands State Nurses Association  
President David Hall, PhD University of the Virgin Islands  
Pamela Moolenaar Wirsly, PhD, Interim Vice President for Institutional Advancement  
M. Beverley Lansiquot, PhD, Dean, University of the Virgin Islands School of Nursing  
Party Hardie Carolers  
Gwen Creque  
Clifton Finch  
Yvette Finch  
Louis Taylor, Jr.  
Kenneth "Abu" Springette  
Gylchris Sprauve  
Gwen Creque  
Party Hardie Carolers  
Voices of Love  
We From Up Street, Inc.  
Nibbs Catering  
Albert Lewis, Contractor  
Norton Pinney, Contractor  
Glenn and Lennice Elskoe  
Manefa O'Connor Francis  
Dorette Carter and Family  
Dr. Elsie Casimir  
Rev. Dr. Judith Testamark Hodge  
Rev. Teresita Harris  
Joyce E. Sample  
Mary Echols  
AEC Global Prayer line

Celebrating the Life of



Bernice P. Jackson

June 28, 1928 - March 17, 2024

