



## Judith Gooden Clarke

September 10, 1964 - February 13, 2021

Celebration of Life Services for Judith Gooden will be held on Saturday, February 27, 2021 at 11:00AM. These services will be recorded and streamed live. In the event the service is interrupted at any time due to technical issues, the entire service will be uploaded and available to view later in the day. Please copy and paste the link to share, or simply click on the link to view the service.

<https://vimeo.com/515731693>

**A Time To Be Born:** On September 10, 1964, in Darliston, Jamaica, heaven blessed the late Cornelius and Mabel Gooden with a beautiful daughter, Judith Marcia Gooden. She was a jovial, happy child, who was well-loved by her family and peers. Judith was a kind-natured person who always wanted to assist and help whoever was in need.

**A Time to Grow, Learn, and Love:** The child grew in stature and became a creative, loving, and caring person. From a child, Judith always had a natural talent for cooking and baking. She attended Maud McLeod Secondary School, and of course, excelled in the culinary arts. Judith was well-known for her delicious cuisine and provided catering to a host of events on the island of Jamaica. She later migrated to Canada to pursue higher learning in this field and attended George Brown College in Toronto, where she earned various certifications in the food and beverage industry.

As time progressed, she experienced the beauty of love and gave birth to her firstborn son Nykyle. In August 1998, family and close friends joined Judith in Toronto for her marriage to the late Durrant Clarke, and that union produced her second son Samuel. She was a devoted wife and mother who exuded love, peace, joy, grace, and beauty. Judith progressed in life and accomplished most of her personal goals; however, she prided herself on the ultimate goal of providing a healthy, stable home environment for her children. Most importantly, she ensured that her children had the best education and opportunities possible.

**A Time to Serve:** If there is food in heaven, Judith is cooking for the angels. Judith, 56, might not have won the Food Network Challenge, but she seemed almost certain to become a celebrity chef. After her exceptional culinary experience in Toronto Canada, Judith migrated to Miami, Florida where she continued to share her gifts and talents. She was involved in many commendable committees to include the Miami-Dade Black Advisory Board and partnered with former Miami-Dade Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan, and former Mayor of Miami Gardens, Oliver Gilbert to host the Annual Black Heritage Festival. Her cuisine exposure led to catering at many prestigious culinary festivals and events to include the iconic AfrICANDO Trade Conference, Wynwood Food and Art show, South Beach Seafood Festival, Jazz in the Garden, and a host of food truck events.

Her dedication to public service was the fiber of her professional and personal life. Judith loved the Lord and was an active and faithful member of Open Bible Community church in Miami Gardens, Florida. During her time of fellowship as a member, she demonstrated an unfeigned passion for God and a spirit of excellence in her everyday devotion and servitude to the church. Judith was a giver of love and volunteered and fed many hungry and homeless individuals along the way. Her church family can also attest to her beautiful Annual Valentine's Dinners that brought unity and love to the community.

**A Time To Retire:** Due to her ailing health in 2016, Judith had to take early

retirement from her passion for cooking and serving others. However, she spent her time enjoying her family, tending to her garden, and listening to gospel music. Even though she had health challenges, Judith was a passionate and determined chef and still managed to prepare delicious meals for her sisters and family members while staying in Georgia. As time marched on Judith's health deteriorated, but she was in the loving care of her dear sisters Angelina and Evadne. Judith inspired many with her passion, strength, and determination. Though, even on her bed of affliction, it should be noted that she expressed her will to live and maintained a positive attitude. She spent that time praising God while accepting His will for her life.

A Time to Die: Sadly, on Saturday, February 13, 2021, Judith peacefully went to eternal sleep. She is survived by her children Nykyle and Samuel; her siblings: Evadne, Kevin, Uton, Angelina, and Danville, a host of nieces, nephews, grand-nephews, a grand-niece, many relatives, and a host of friends and well-wishers.

Today we do not mourn as those who live without the hope of the resurrection to life everlasting. We mourn because we will miss our dear sister, faithful mother, caring aunt, loving cousin, loyal friend, and extraordinaire chef. We give thanks to God for the gift of precious memories so that we can remember Lady Judith and the many ways she touched our lives.

May her soul rest in peace and light perpetually shine upon her. Sweet be your sleep and blessed be your waking dear sister.

# Previous Events

## Viewing

FEB 27. 10:00 AM (ET)

W.D. Lemon & Sons Funeral Home - McDonough Chapel  
300 Griffin Street  
McDonough, GA 30253  
(770) 957-4337  
info@wdlemonfuneralhome.com

## Service (By Invitation Only)

FEB 27. 11:00 AM (ET)

W.D. Lemon & Sons Funeral Home - McDonough Chapel  
300 Griffin Street  
McDonough, GA 30253  
(770) 957-4337  
info@wdlemonfuneralhome.com

## Interment

FEB 27 (ET)

McDonough City Cemetery  
Macon Street  
McDonough, GA 30253

# Tribute Wall



“ *W.D. Lemon & Sons Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Judith Gooden Clarke*



W.D. Lemon & Sons Funeral Home - February 25, 2021 at 02:02 PM

MS

“ *Good afternoon. Today August 20, 2022 I and 6 other friends, found out that Judith had passed away. We live in Toronto and had no idea she was even ill! Our deepest condolences and sympathies go out to Nykyle and Sam and to her family and friends. We are all saddened and in shock and ask your forgiveness for not contacting anyone earlier but we had only her numbers and suddenly we couldn't reach her. Please know she was always in our hearts and minds and prayed she was alright. We now know she is alright in her Father's Arms and no longer fights her pain. May she Rest in Peace and sleep with the Angels. Love always from Maxine and her Chelsea Toronto Friends (Pat, Tinnie, Me An, Christina, Yukari, Angelica, Grace and numerous others. ❤️🙏😭 My email address is maxxisew@gmail.com if any family wish to contact us. Thank you*



Maxine Sewitt - August 20, 2022 at 01:58 PM

BB

“ Sis Clarke was a beautiful soul. She was a go getter always striving to better her craft. It was always a pleasure to have a conversation with her. She made me the most beautiful cake for my baby shower 7 years ago. It is still so hard to believe she is gone. I have been praying and will always pray for Sammy and his brother. May her soul rest in peace.

Sis. Bennett



---

**Belinda Bennett** - February 27, 2021 at 10:19 AM



“ 2 files added to the album Program



---

**W.D. Lemon & Sons Funeral Home** - February 27, 2021 at 08:34 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Judith Gooden Clarke.



---

February 25, 2021 at 10:01 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Judith Gooden Clarke.*



---

February 24, 2021 at 09:01 PM



“ *My deepest condolences to Angelina and her family, on the passing of her sister Judith. I know the last few years were very rough, but i hope that God will give you the strength and courage to carry on. R.I.P Judith, you will be missed and you will be forever in our hearts. I shall treasure the memories we had together, see you on the other side.*



*Donnavan Clarke.*

---

**Donnavan Clarke** - February 24, 2021 at 08:11 PM