



## Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones

September 25, 1954 - February 8, 2021

Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones was born on September 25, 1954 in Detroit, MI, as the first child of Irvin Tompkins Jr. and Annie Barmore. Deborah was baptized at an early age, and recently re-dedicated her life and professed Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior at Mt. Zion All Nations Bible Church in Dewitt, Michigan.

Her family affectionately called her “Deb” or “Auntie Debbie.” She was a true force, a woman of action and one who believed in speaking exactly what was on her mind. Deborah didn’t know a stranger, a trait that she innately inherited from her mother Ann, who was her very best friend. Over the years, she invited countless friends and family in need to move in with her for indefinite periods of time. Deborah’s Freeland Street home was the place to be and be seen, where fun times and memorable moments were plentiful. This giving spirit was integral to Deborah’s identity, as a person who loved unconditionally and gave freely.

Deb had an extremely close relationship with her brother, Edward and spent her teenage years taking care of him while their mother worked. She took him everywhere, even to hang out with her at high school football games—they were inseparable. Following her graduation from Mumford High School, Deborah went to work for Sanders Bakery, where she met and fell in love with Andre Carlos Hamilton. To this relationship was born Deborah’s only child,

Tanisha Ann, or Tee, as she so affectionately called her – the apple of her eye.

After many years, Deborah found love for a second time and married her best friend, Tommie “Cisco” Jones. Together, they planned and took annual family road trips, hosted many card parties with their best friends Mae and James Smith, and continued to entertain with family and friends during every holiday. Cisco helped raise Tanisha as his very own. His presence in their lives allowed Deb to become a stay-at-home mom, spending more quality time with Tanisha during her childhood years.

Deborah later matriculated on to Marygrove College in Detroit to pursue a certification in the healthcare arena. Her passion for helping others translated into a burgeoning career in the home healthcare profession. She thrived and enjoyed providing competent care for some of the S.E. Michigan’s most vulnerable citizens – the sick, infirmed, and aged.

In early 2013, Deborah relocated to Okemos, MI, to be closer to her daughter, son-in-law, and her grandchildren. She loved to cook her special brand of “soulful food.” Additionally, she enjoyed sharing the kitchen with her son-in-law, Tyrone to prepare the family’s annual Thanksgiving Dinner—her dressing and mac and cheese was a force to be reckoned with. Another one of her favorite pastimes was traveling. She traveled with her daughter to Mexico and Jamaica on numerous occasions, but her favorite was her annual trip to Daytona Beach, FL to visit her late bestie Donna Geter and Godson David. Deborah also loved playing bingo and slots (Blazing 7’s which was her mom’s favorite) during her occasional trips to the casino.

Mostly, Deborah enjoyed creating memories with her daughter, Tanisha and grandchildren, Lauryn, Bryce, and Ayden, whom she loved dearly. She looked forward to her many mother-daughter moments with Tanisha, weekly Meijer

and Walmart shopping trips with Lauryn, weekend sleepovers with Ayden or the opportunity to catch one of Bryce's choir concerts. She remained vibrant and active even while silently and valiantly fighting various debilitating physical ailments.

Deborah made her peaceful transition on February 8, 2021, with her beloved daughter Tanisha and son-in-law, Tyrone at her side. She leaves to cherish her life, legacy and memory, her daughter, Tanisha Ann Sanders (Tyrone); brother, Edward King (Tish); granddaughter, Lauryn Linnell Sanders; grandsons, Bryce Logan Dean Sanders and Ayden Elijah Sanders; godsons James Smith II and David Thorpe; many special cousins; Tee's close sister-friends who were her "adopted" daughters; and a host of loyal and loving family and friends.

Preceding Deborah in death were her mother, Ann (Barmore) King; father, Irvin Tompkins Jr.; special dad, Edward King Sr. and her chosen sisters and best friends; Mae Smith and Donna Geter.

In lieu of flowers, a charitable fund has been established in honor of our mother, Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones. If you desire to make a tax-deductible gift, go to <https://cfsem.org/give/> and complete the following steps: 1) input donation amount; 2) check "Tribute Gift"; 3) select "In Memory of" from drop down menu; 4) type "Deborah Tompkins-Jones" into the space provided; 5) fill in personal and credit card info; 6) press "Donate" button.

Thanks for your kind consideration & invaluable support.

Tanisha & Tyrone

# Previous Events

## Strolling Visitation

FEB 18. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services

24585 Evergreen Rd

Southfield, MI 48075

(248) 702-5367

[info@kempfh.com](mailto:info@kempfh.com)

<https://www.kempfuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Webcast  
Passcode: 931008 in memory of Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones*



**Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - February 19, 2021 at 11:52 AM



“ *Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones*

September 27, 2022 at 08:40 PM



“ *Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones*

September 27, 2022 at 06:52 PM



“ *Jacqueline Lawrence lit a candle in memory  
of Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones*



**Jacqueline Lawrence** - February 20, 2021 at 06:23 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones.



February 17, 2021 at 09:17 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones.



February 16, 2021 at 09:52 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones.



February 16, 2021 at 05:35 PM



“ Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones.



February 16, 2021 at 01:06 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones.*



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February 15, 2021 at 04:20 PM



“ *She meant more to me than she knew. I'm so grateful for knowing her and being loved by her. ❤️*



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**Amanda** - February 15, 2021 at 03:23 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones.*



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February 14, 2021 at 10:24 AM



“ *Zaneta & Adrienne purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones.*



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**Zaneta & Adrienne** - February 12, 2021 at 05:59 PM

YF

“ *Your Waste Management Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones.*



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**Your Waste Management Family** - February 12, 2021 at 04:09 PM

PM

“ *On behalf of the National Waste and Recycling Association, your friends and colleagues send condolences to you and your family, Tanisha. Take comfort in knowing that a mother's love can always be found in your heart. Wishing you peace as you navigate this world without her.*  
*Peggy Macenas, NWRA*

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**Peggy Macenas** - February 12, 2021 at 03:44 PM



“ *3 files added to the album Obituary*



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**Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - February 12, 2021 at 10:07 AM

LS

“ *Love Tooch, Eric, Kira & Skye purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones.*



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**Love Tooch, Eric, Kira & Skye** - February 12, 2021 at 02:26 AM

AH

“ *Deborah was a loving and caring mother to our daughter Tanisha, I will miss Her.*  
*Andre' C Hamilton*

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**Andre' C Hamilton** - February 11, 2021 at 10:32 PM

DE

“ *Tyrone and Tanisha. My sincerest condolences to you and your family. I did not have the honor and pleasure of meeting Mom, however, we stand behind you my brother and sister as fellow guardsmen, we are praying for you both. God's blessings. Paul and Jennifer Edwards*

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**Dr Paul A Edwards** - February 11, 2021 at 07:39 PM

AH

“ *Andre' Carlos Hamilton purchased the Sentiment s of Serenity Spray for the family of Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones.*



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**Andre' Carlos Hamilton** - February 11, 2021 at 06:29 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones.*



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February 11, 2021 at 06:24 PM

DS

“ I am so sorry for your loss my dear cousin will be missed. I send my love and support, truly wish I could be there and do more.

*Love Damon*

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**Damon Strong** - February 11, 2021 at 04:52 PM

NB

“ My deepest condolences on the loss of your mother. She had such a beautiful spirit and I know how much she meant to you. I hope you find comfort in the fond memories of your time together. I'm thankful for the moments she and my mother got to share and only wish we could have done even more together. Continue to shine and make her proud. With love, Nakia

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**Nakia Barr** - February 11, 2021 at 03:48 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones.



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February 11, 2021 at 03:11 PM

KK

“ Kathleen Klein purchased the Gable Gift Box for the family of Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones.



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**Kathleen Klein** - February 11, 2021 at 01:26 PM

KK

“ Although I did not know Deborah, she must have been an amazing and beautiful role-model/woman to have raised such a lovely daughter. My heart is with you all as you walk through your life without her now. She likely taught you everything you need to know to honor her. Love to all of you who will miss her presence as she continues to watch over all of you from above.



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**Kathleen Klein** - February 11, 2021 at 12:54 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones.



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February 11, 2021 at 12:09 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones.



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February 11, 2021 at 10:44 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones.



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February 11, 2021 at 10:35 AM

RB

“ *Tanisha and family: So sorry for your loss. Although I did not know your Mom, based on the tributes here, she was clearly a wonderful person.*

*Rick Burns*

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**Rick Burns** - February 11, 2021 at 10:14 AM

SM

“ *Debra was a Loving and Caring Woman. I will always remember her great humor and how her eyes got that special twinkle after she knew she had just "straightened" me out . . . done always with Love.*

*I'll always appreciate her emergency babysitting my son (who was lactose intolerant at the time). . which I knew would not easy. Debra loved and cared for him as if he were her very own son. Debra and I always relived and laughed over this memory whenever we were together.*

*Debra will be missed because she filled so many hearts with Love. May Debra's Memory Be A Blessing to ALL who knew and loved her. She is now resting in God and among the Angels.*

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**Sylvia Telyne Meniffee** - February 10, 2021 at 08:25 PM



“ *Felicia Turrentine Wasson purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Deborah Ann Tompkins-Jones.*



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**Felicia Turrentine Wasson** - February 10, 2021 at 08:21 PM



“ *Sending our love, support and prayers to Tee, Tyrone, Lauryn, Bryce and Ayden. Thank you for sharing Mom with us. She was a joy to be around and we have many wonderful memories to sustain us. Her memory will live in all of you forever. With all of our love, Felicia, Dre, Isaiah & Evan*



**Felicia Turrentine Wasson** - February 10, 2021 at 08:14 PM



“ *0 file added to the tribute wall*

**Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - February 10, 2021 at 05:45 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Charitable Donation*



**Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - February 10, 2021 at 05:45 PM