



Ms Florence C James

June 18, 1941 - March 27, 2021

Florence (Flo, Cissy) Cecelia James, was born June 18, 1941 in Detroit, MI. She grew up on Hunt street in a neighborhood then known as Black Bottom where she attended Our Lady of Sorrows grade school and St Catherine High School. As a young girl she loved to dance ballet and attend local neighborhood parties at the Teen Club and Graystone, but would be quick to remind that she would always attend mass on Sunday, even after a late night of partying. When she was 16 she drove by Walter (Buddy) James standing on a street corner and predicted that he would one day be her husband. In April of 1960, San Diego CA, they were united in holy matrimony. She resided in CA five years and birthed four of her six children. In 1965, she and her family returned home to Detroit where she had two more children and began a 20 year career at Hutzel Hospital.

Florence loved people. She was naturally spontaneous, charismatic and compassionate. She loved to laugh, with you and at you. Anyone who knew her also knew that her greatest mission in life, what brought her most joy, was family. She loved her family unconditionally, and it's a testament to how much she loved that so many so loved her.

Florence was preceded in death by her husband: Walter James; mother: Florence Davis; father: Merrill Hunter and brothers: Merrill Hunter and Charles Hunter. She is survived by her children: Alice (Andre), Alena, Adrian (Kent),

Anthony, Allen (Damaris) and Arion (Carla); sister: Ella;
grandchildren: Jade, Mina, Sommer, Brian, Nick, Naomi ,Joshua, Rachael,
Domonique, Arienne, India, Amilyah, Braylin, Ariel, Aidan, Sire, Zaria, Alyssa,
Patrick and Solomon, as well as 18 beautiful great grand children. She also
leaves behind beloved sisters in law, nieces, nephews, cousins, and many
friends.

Scripture John 3:16

Cemetery Details

Elmwood Cemetery

1200 Elmwood Street
Detroit, MI 48207

Previous Events

Strolling Visitation

APR 11. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services
24585 Evergreen Rd
Southfield, MI 48075
(248) 702-5367
info@kempfh.com
<https://www.kempfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

APR 12. 12:00 PM (ET)

Nativity of Our Lord Church
5900 McClellan
Detroit, MI 48213

Tribute Wall



“ *Ms Florence C James*

September 27, 2022 at 08:40 PM



“ *Ms Florence C James*

September 27, 2022 at 06:52 PM



“ *Seeing her dance alone in the living room sunlight. Her face was of joy and love.*


Adrian - April 13, 2021 at 11:09 AM



“ *Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ms Florence C James.*



April 12, 2021 at 07:33 AM

 Tracy
Norris

“ Mrs. James, I met you when I was 16 years old in 1983. You welcomed me with open arms and a smile that always lit up your beautiful face. In 1988, when my daughter, your granddaughter, Arienne, was born, you welcomed her with open arms and that same beautiful smile. I remember when Tottie, PD, Adrienne and you came to my baby shower, and gave me so many wonderful gifts. We had a lot of fun that day and many holidays, especially Christmas Eve. I spent many years at your kitchen table, eating anything and everything you cooked and laughing with you. Even though I moved away 20 years ago and didn't stay in touch often, I thought of you often, and kept tabs on you through your daughter and my sister-friend, Tottie. I still can't believe that you've left this life for the next but I know that although our lives are dimmer without you, Heaven is a little brighter with your beautiful smile and laughter in it. I love you and I will miss you until we meet again.
Tracy

Tracy Norris - April 12, 2021 at 03:49 AM

AJ

Hey Tracy it's Chris! 😊 Thanks for sharing. Mom loved you as well ❤️
We all do

Allen James - April 12, 2021 at 11:14 AM

KB

“ God's Speed Nana...

My professional life and career began as a high school track coach in my hometown of Detroit Michigan. The team's first state championship was celebrated on a Sunday afternoon at 5767 Yorkshire in the backyard of the James' family and hosted beautifully by Florence James (Nana). For several days Florence prepared for my track team and parents to arrive. My memories of her being so joyful in her preparation and amazingly for people she had never met before. She was going to welcome them into her home and make our championship celebration complete. After all of the trophy presentations and congratulations were done. Nana escorted me into her living room and presented me with a beautiful white cake with an image of a track runner and the words " Congratulations Kent and God's Speed" Today and always "God Speed to you Nana" My eternal gratitude and love, Kent

Kent Baker - April 11, 2021 at 06:24 PM

AJ

Yes Coach, she welcomed all with an open heart. You were her son too ya know. Thanks for sharing Kent...love you bro

Allen James - April 12, 2021 at 11:09 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Ms Florence C James.



April 11, 2021 at 06:14 PM

CD

“ Chris and Damaris purchased the *Finest Farewell Spray* for the family of Ms Florence C James.



Chris and Damaris - April 11, 2021 at 01:43 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of Ms Florence C James.



April 11, 2021 at 12:06 AM

RF

“ Rodney Clark & Family.... purchased the *Pink Pot pourri Bouquet* for the family of Ms Florence C James.



Rodney Clark & Family.... - April 10, 2021 at 06:53 PM

EM

“ So many years, so many memories. Too many to pick out only one. How do you say goodbye to someone you've known and loved since first grade? Florence and I met at Our Lady of Sorrows grade school. We developed a friendship that has endured all these many years. And although, I haven't lived in Detroit for nearly 50 years, an occasional phone call from one or the other would bring back so many of the memories we shared as kids. She would share stories of what was going on in her life, and we would laugh so hard that my stomach would be so sore after we hung up the phone. One of my favorites was the time she was in the hospital in Los Angeles having one of her children during the riots in Watts, and there was so much chaos that she got stuffed into a broom closet and was missing in action for awhile. Needless to say, she will be missed by many, but I also know that she touched the lives of many. Rest in peace, my dear old friend.

Edsel Moore

Edsel Moore - April 10, 2021 at 12:14 AM

AJ

Thank you Mr Moore. I remember your name being brought up over the years. Your friendship with my mom endured and she mentioned you when I visited her a few weeks ago. Thanks for sharing 😊

Allen James - April 12, 2021 at 11:12 AM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ms Florence C James.



April 09, 2021 at 05:32 PM

AD

“ *Ephesians 2:8,9 For it is by grace you are saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is a gift of God. Not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.*

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.

It was a warm summer day and our mother was having a girls only pajama party for her daughters. We were told that we could each invite one person only. But, the news of the pajama party spread in the small close knit neighborhood and many many more heard and wanted to come. I said to her so many want to come. Our mother said, "I can't invite this one, and not that one. They can all come". Then later I said, "Mom, will we have enough food for everyone?" Our mother replied, "I'll make it enough". And everyone who wanted to come-came. And there was enough food for everyone.

Layered within this memory is still another. There was a young girl coming down the street to the party. She probably was the most ridiculed person in our neighborhood. She was wearing a torn oversized slip and was shoeless. But, I can still see her face and it shone with a brightness and joy--because she was told she could come and had been invited to the party by our mother. "Even to the least of these, you do unto Me".

At countless Christmases, Easters, Thanksgivings, Fourth of Julys, our mother would create feasts. She'd spend days of preparation in order to serve. Everyone was invited and anyone could come. It was her delight. Upon leaving, everyone was given a plate piled high with food. Dad would say the next day, "Flo, what happened to all the food?" She would say nothing. But, he knew. For days later, her legs would ache from having stood from cooking, preparing, cleaning. It was her joy to serve.

*She was a wife, mother, sister, grandmother, aunt, friend.
But most of all, Florence had a servant's heart and she served God.*

Adrian - April 09, 2021 at 03:43 PM

AJ

Beautiful Adrian 😊

Allen James - April 09, 2021 at 05:41 PM

KH



Krystal M. Hudson - April 10, 2021 at 01:19 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ms Florence C James.



April 09, 2021 at 11:00 AM

AS

“ It is a difficult thing to come up with only one memory of mom when there are too many to count. Mom was such a generous and kind hearted human being. She made sure that everyone felt welcome. So with that, one of my favorite memories of mom is when we were celebrating one of our birthdays as children. Our birthdays were simple which meant a cake and some ice cream was generally the extent of it. Still, when it came time to slice the cake and our friends from our block began lining up for a slice, mom managed to cut 35 slices! She wanted to make sure no one was left out, as was her way.....<3

Alena Scott - April 09, 2021 at 10:12 AM

AJ

She had a huge ❤️

Allen James - April 09, 2021 at 05:43 PM

MS

I have fond memories of grade school high school, but most of all drinking coffee with Cissy and the family on Hunt street, so many wonderful times together she was loved by many and loved in return. She had a great sense of humor and a great laugh. You will truly be missed. Mary Finney Sloan

Mary Sloan - April 09, 2021 at 09:52 PM

MS

Memories going back to grade school, high school, teen club, but most of all Sundays after church on Hunt street drinking coffee with the family those were great times shared together. You were full of love and loved by many, take your rest beautiful lady you will be greatly missed . ❤️Mary

Mary Sloan - April 09, 2021 at 09:58 PM



“ *I loved when my nana would come a visit me in TN for months at a time--I have so many great memories of her. One of my favorite is when she tried to help me on my diet. 😂 She served me a batch of baked chicken drenched in A1 steak sauce. She said "Sommer, this A1 steak sauce has no calories, so this whole meal is 0 calories! Eat as much as you want!" I had a really good laugh and it remains a funny story in our household.*

I'll love and miss you forever. I'll be sure to watch the reboot of our favorite show, Frasier, and think of you.



Sommer James-Gist - April 09, 2021 at 09:29 AM

DE

“ Florence aka (Jimmie) Leaves Treasured Memories that will last a lifetime.

She had a way of making my brothers and I, feel like we were part of the family. She always knew when Alice and I, were headed towards the kitchen to steal a couple of freshly baked chocolate chip cookies. She allowed us to be kids and for that I am eternally grateful. When I think of my fondest childhood memories, I think of Jimmie & Buddy.

One day we will meet again, but until that time enjoy HEAVEN!!!

Dea Whitfield-Woods



Dea - April 09, 2021 at 12:54 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ms Florence C James.



April 08, 2021 at 05:53 PM

MJ

“ I love you with my whole heart, my Nana. Thank you thank you for being the matriarch of this family. Thank you for giving me my strong beautiful mother and my amazing aunts and uncles and cousins whom I love so dearly. Your love, wisdom and sense of humor are within us all and I'm so proud to carry on your legacy. Until we meet again - Mina, grand-daughter (photo of us when I was born, fellow Geminis)



Mina James-Gist - April 08, 2021 at 02:19 PM

AJ

Beautiful pic Mina Doo. Love you ❤️

Allen James - April 09, 2021 at 08:49 AM

AJ

“ My sister and best friend I love you cissy ,Ella

Allen James - April 08, 2021 at 02:06 PM

AJ

“ Mama,
Thank you for a lifetime of memories. You were the button that held the family together. Throughout your entire life, you displayed your love and affection to each of us and made us all feel equally loved by you. I love you Ma.
Chris

Allen James - April 08, 2021 at 01:51 PM

KH



Krystal M. Hudson - April 10, 2021 at 01:12 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Ms Florence C James.



April 07, 2021 at 06:30 PM



“ *Sweet Sincerity* was purchased for the family of Ms Florence C James.



April 06, 2021 at 08:31 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Ms Florence C James.



April 05, 2021 at 12:48 PM

KH

“ Many childhood memories of
"FlorenceJames". 😊



*Her and my mom were 1st name/last name
as one word! #FlorenceJames #BobbieDavis*

I remember...

*Spending nights at her home with her and Buddy and their
grandkids...*

I remember...

*Going to work with my mom and being in breakroom with her, my
mom and Sarah Phillips listening to #FlorenceJames distinct laugh.
She loved to laugh!*

I remember...

*She came to see me after I had my twins & was home recovering
after emergency surgery. She sat with us a long time! ALL of the
advice...I felt like I could raise a tribe after talking to her!*

I remember...

*Her and my mom's friendship. 50 years of realness. She said, "real
friends can pick up right where they left off and not miss a beat" I
never forgot that...*

*I remember MANY things most of all her laughter and love. Thank
you for being the greatest friend to my mom. Just from your
friendship with her, I was blessed too!*

Rest on now...

We love you!

Mrs. Krystal (Davis) Hudson

And

Family

Krystal M. Hudson - April 05, 2021 at 11:51 AM

AJ

Thank you for sharing Krystal:). BobbieDavis/FlorenceJames forever
❤️

Allen James - April 08, 2021 at 02:14 PM

KH

*#always
#forever! ❤️*

Krystal M. Hudson - April 10, 2021 at 01:09 AM

GD

“ I have soooo many good memories of my dear Flo, that I can't begin to list them all. Overall, Flo was the funniest, craziest, most joyful person I ever knew. She always had me doubled up in laughter. She always had so many stories to tell and was such a good listener with great advise when I needed it. She was one of a kind and I will miss her deeply and she'll never be forgotten. Fly on Flo. Gloria DuLaney and family.

Gloria DuLaney - April 05, 2021 at 11:27 AM

AJ

Glo and Flo! My mother really loved hanging with you Gloria:). Thank you for sharing ❤️

Allen James - April 08, 2021 at 02:17 PM