



## Mrs. Nancy Mae Franklin

July 10, 1945 - April 15, 2024

Nancy Mae Franklin, affectionately known as “Honey” was born on July 10, 1945, in Washington, DC. She was the beloved daughter of Arthur Thomas, Sr. and Viola Thomas, who raised her in a Christian home. She was the youngest of four siblings: Mamie Muse, Arthur Thomas Jr., and Bobbie Walters, who all shared a deep connection and loving bond. She entered eternal rest with grace and dignity on April 15, 2024.

Educated in the District of Columbia School System, Nancy proudly completed her academic goals, marking the beginning of her journey into the workforce. One of her earliest work experiences was working in the cafeteria at the Madison Hotel in Washington, DC. As a result of her vibrant energy and outgoing personality, Hotel management promoted her to a switchboard operator position.

Armed with excellent customer service, communication, and organizational skills, in 1966

Nancy embarked on a long fulfilling career at the Veterans Administration (VA) Medical Center, Washington, DC. She earned many opportunities for advancement

from Switchboard Operator to Eligibility Clerk, to Supervisor of Admissions, then to Administrative Officer in the Offices of Medical Research, and finally in Neurology Service. As a result of her professionalism, work ethic, and experience in her field she received numerous performance bonuses and awards. Her superior in Neurology Service held her in high esteem, stating: "When he thought of the face of Neurology at the VA, he thought of Nancy." In 1972, Nancy married her lifelong friend, Gartrell Franklin; they became friends at the age of five. They had known each other for 70 years. Together Nancy and Gartrell raised two daughters: Deborah and Rasheedah. Nancy embodied the best of qualities: unconditional love, strength of spirit, and faithful commitment that could be seen in the care for her husband, children, and family. In the 1980s, Nancy found solace and purpose in her faith, becoming a member of the New Bethany Baptist Church (NBBC), where she received the sacrament of baptism. One of her greatest joys was her membership and kinship with the NBBC Usher Ministries. She was reverent in her behavior, and demonstrated a gentle and quiet spirit, pleasing to God. Nancy weaved together her professional experience, dedication to spiritual values, and zest for life, presenting a multifaceted and vibrant life well lived. She loved traveling with her

husband, creating and showcasing her beautiful handmade jewelry, shopping, watching musical shows, hand dancing, walking in the "Race for the Cure," and she was a great cook too! Nothing beat her famous delicious spaghetti! Waiting for her at the Door to Heaven is her father, mother, sister, and brother. Nancy leaves behind a treasure trove of memories for her loved ones to hold dear. Blessed to cherish her memories are her loving and devoted husband, Gartrell Franklin; children: Deborah Smith, Rasheedah Franklin, Pamela Jenkins, Sheila Smith, and Robert Grimes. One loving sister, Bobbie Walters; two sisters-in-law: Carolyn Thomas and Janet Phoenix; her granddaughter, Rakia Smith; two great-grandchildren: Terra and Ravyn Prue; and a host of loving nieces, nephews, other family members, and friends

# Cemetery Details

## Maryland National Memorial

13300 Baltimore Avenue  
Laurel, MD 20707  
(301) 210-6464

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 27. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

New Bethany Baptist Church  
1300 10th St NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
(202) 462-7282

## Funeral service

APR 27. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

New Bethany Baptist Church  
1300 10th St NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
(202) 462-7282

# Tribute Wall

MM

“ I recall about 65 years ago or better. When my brother Robert Grimes, took Nancy May as his wife. I thought she was the most beautiful woman I ever met, excluding my mom. They had two children Sheila and Robert from that Union. They were grown to be the most wonderful adults today you want to meet. So happy to say that they got to know their other siblings. Glory be to God that we all come together as family. What happened over 60 years ago we are all now great adults heartfelt God fearing loving adults. It's time to move on with the truth and understand what family truly is about. Love forgive and move on. I was also grateful at the times I went to the VA with my dad got sick. When my friend from high school got sick and when my husband got sick. We talked she was there to listen and encourage me. And I appreciate that. And she was still just as pretty as she was then when I first saw her. May my condolences go out to the family and we continue to move on. As family!!



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**Marilyn L Marshall** - April 26, 2024 at 03:25 PM

MM

*I went to the funeral and it was wonderful it was a home going enjoyable. I thank you Lord that Nancy May turned her life around and lived it out with love and respect for her, new family. Testimony old things have passed away and glory be to God for the new man has risen. In Jesus name*

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**Marilyn L Marshall** - April 28, 2024 at 01:02 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Johnson & Jenkins Funeral Home** - April 25, 2024 at 04:48 PM