



Bertha Mae Joyner

October 3, 1924 - October 11, 2015

Bertha Mae Joyner was the daughter of the late Carl Mackey, Sr., and Annie McDaniel Mackey Ashburn. A lifelong member of New Hope, Mrs. Joyner was active in the choir, the Busy Bees, and the Mary E Miller Missionary.

Professionally, Mrs. Joyner began her career as a beautician and was a licensed cosmetologist who held membership in the Portsmouth Beautician's Association 'having been trained under the dutiful eyes of her aunt, the late Daisy Otelia Mackey Griffin. Following a career as a beautician, Mrs. Joyner turned her skills and gifting toward childcare. She founded and owned the Mickey Mouse Daycare Center and provided services both before and after school care for hundreds of children in Portsmouth and surrounding areas. In addition, Mrs. Joyner opened her home as a foster parent and availed herself to sheltering displaced and wayward children. Her home became a refuge for those who needed to stabilize themselves if they'd fallen upon hard times. Even toward the elderly, Mrs. Joyner's house availed itself as a dwelling place for many.

To her family, Mrs. Joyner was simply known as "Bigmama"-the matriarch with a bold sense of humor and resonating alto voice who always had food on hand. To the neighborhood, she was the candy lady, daycare provider who could always be spotted at local football games with a car packed with children. Bertha loved to travel. Whether it was with the Busy Bees, or in her own car (listening to Michael Jackson), she was always seen on the go. Mrs. Joyner's robust and active life has been an inspiration to many.

Mrs. Joyner was predeceased by her husband, Leroy Joyner, and children: Willie Lee Brown, and Jacqueline Olivia Brown. Left to cherish her memory are her children: Delois Allen, Brenda Howard of Chesapeake, VA; Anthony Joyner of Portsmouth, VA; Alfred Joyner of Norfolk, VA; and Annie Joyner of Portsmouth, VA; siblings Carl Mackey, Jr. of Philadelphia, PA, and Mary Childs of Norfolk, VA; 9 great grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren and 4 great-great grandchildren; and a host of relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Greenlawn Memorial Gardens

3920 Airline Blvd
Chesapeake, VA

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **16**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

J.T. Fisher Funeral Services
1248 N. George Washington Hwy.
Chesapeake, VA 23323
(757) 487-3700
info@jtfisherfuneralservices.com
<https://www.jtfisherfuneralservices.com>

Service

OCT **17**. 11:00 AM (ET)

New Hope Baptist Church (St. Julian Creek)
1317 Gust Lane
Chesapeake, VA

Tribute Wall



“ J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Bertha Mae Joyner



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - October 16, 2015 at 03:32 PM

LR

Thank you, Big Mama, for being my mother's friend and loving my niece unconditionally! Rest in peace!

Linda (Cox) Ryals-Massey - October 17, 2015 at 01:10 PM

AJ

Thank you Linda :)

Annie Joyner - November 09, 2015 at 02:28 AM

JG

“ Jacquelyn Brown (beloved Great Grand) lit a candle in memory of Bertha Mae Joyner



Jacquelyn Brown (beloved great grand) - November 21, 2015 at 11:51 AM

ME

“ I will for ever love you big MA I still can't believe you are gone...i miss you old lady lol you will be cussing me out right now You're forever my lady SMH I miss you so much I swear I do 🥺🥺

mersadis - November 12, 2015 at 08:33 PM

AJ

Thank you Mersadis :)

Annie Joyner - November 14, 2015 at 05:13 AM



“ Idel Shields lit a candle in memory of Bertha Mae Joyner



Idel Shields - November 12, 2015 at 06:42 PM

AJ

Thank you so very much Idel! :)

Annie Joyner - November 14, 2015 at 05:15 AM

KW

“ Kyiana Wilson lit a candle in memory of Bertha Mae Joyner



Kyiana Wilson - November 12, 2015 at 06:21 PM

AJ

Kyiana, thank you so very much :)

Annie Joyner - November 14, 2015 at 05:15 AM

DG

“ *Denise Gardner lit a candle in memory of Bertha Mae Joyner*



Denise Gardner - November 12, 2015 at 06:21 PM

AJ

Thank you Denise :)

Annie Joyner - November 14, 2015 at 05:18 AM

KW

“ *Biggie, great grandmother and friend, everyday I will miss you. A day doesn't go by wishing I can hug and kiss you. Forever you will be in my heart ?.*
Love Kyiana



Kyiana Wilson - November 12, 2015 at 06:08 PM

AJ

Truly amazing picture Kyiana! Thank you for sharing :)

Annie Joyner - November 14, 2015 at 05:19 AM

CB

“ I will always remember my grandmother as a strong woman and I'll keep her in my heart and thoughts always.



Crystal Brown - November 12, 2015 at 03:27 PM

AJ

Thank you Crissy, Adele and Lil Jackie! :)

Annie Joyner - November 13, 2015 at 01:40 AM

CB

“ Crystal Brown sent a virtual gift in memory of Bertha Mae Joyner



Crystal Brown - November 12, 2015 at 01:21 PM

HC

“ Henry Chatman lit a candle in memory of Bertha Mae Joyner



Henry chatman - November 12, 2015 at 01:14 PM

AJ

Thank you Henry :)

Annie Joyner - November 13, 2015 at 01:43 AM

KJ

“ You will always be remembered. Love your granddaughter, Keisha

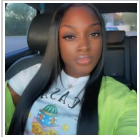


Keisha Jones - November 12, 2015 at 01:08 PM

AJ

Thank you for your remembrance Keisha :)

Annie Joyner - November 13, 2015 at 01:45 AM



“ Lex Alsina lit a candle in memory of Bertha Mae Joyner



Lex Alsina - November 12, 2015 at 01:02 PM

AJ

Thank you so very much Lexis :)

Annie Joyner - November 13, 2015 at 01:47 AM

BD

“ I Love & Miss You Big Ma 💜, You will forever be with me 🥺 Love you Biggie 💜🥺



brianna dunbar - November 12, 2015 at 12:55 PM

AJ

Thank you for your kindness Brianna :)

Annie Joyner - November 13, 2015 at 01:51 AM

DB

“ *Daniel Brown lit a candle in memory of Bertha Mae Joyner*



Daniel Brown - November 10, 2015 at 09:39 PM

DB

I will truly miss my big ma, she will forever be in my heart and her memory will live on forever <3

Daniel Brown - November 10, 2015 at 09:43 PM

AJ

Thank you Daniel :) :)

Annie Joyner - November 11, 2015 at 03:23 AM

CC

“ *Catrice Cox lit a candle in memory of Bertha Mae Joyner*



Catrice cox - November 09, 2015 at 04:49 PM

AJ

Thank you Tree Tree :)

Annie Joyner - November 11, 2015 at 03:22 AM

AJ

“ *Annie Joyner lit a candle in memory of Bertha Mae Joyner*



Annie Joyner - November 09, 2015 at 01:53 AM

AJ

We will miss you momma. Your legacy will live on. With Love Always.

Annie Joyner - November 09, 2015 at 01:57 AM

GF

“ *Truly Mrs. Bert will be miss. She was a angel here on earth. Willing to help and love children. May God be with the family and keep them close in his arm. From The Majette Family*



Gail Majette and family - October 15, 2015 at 09:12 PM

AJ

Thank you Gail and the Majette the family :)

Annie Joyner - November 09, 2015 at 02:41 AM



“ 28 files added to the album Life Tributes



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - October 15, 2015 at 03:29 PM

GF

Will be MISS. God angel return home.

Gail Majette and family - October 15, 2015 at 09:14 PM

AJ

Thank you to the Majette family :)

Annie Joyner - November 09, 2015 at 02:29 AM

KR

“ Keisha Rountree-Haskins lit a candle in memory of Bertha Mae Joyner



Keisha Rountree-Haskins - October 15, 2015 at 11:03 AM

KR

Big Ma will be missed

Keisha Rountree-Haskins - October 15, 2015 at 11:03 AM

AJ

Thank you Keisha :)

Annie Joyner - November 09, 2015 at 02:30 AM

OI

“ *Omega Chapter, Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc lit a candle in memory of Bertha Mae Joyner*



Omega Chapter, Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc - October 15, 2015 at 09:26 AM

OI

As one of our Family Foundations Honorees, we thank you for being the person that you were and we send your family our deepest sympathy!!

Omega Chapter, Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc - October 15, 2015 at 09:28 AM

AJ

Thank you Omega's :)

Annie Joyner - November 09, 2015 at 02:30 AM

ED

“ *Ernestine Davis lit a candle in memory of Bertha Mae Joyner*



Ernestine Davis - October 15, 2015 at 09:24 AM

ED

Bertha, you know I loved you. As your first cousin, you took care of men. I know that God has you wrapped in His arms now.

Ernestine M. Davis - October 15, 2015 at 09:29 AM

AJ

Thank you cousin Ernestine. My mom made sure we knew our cousin Ernestine and for that we are thankful :)

Annie Joyner - November 09, 2015 at 02:34 AM

LN

“ I am really gonna miss my "Big Momma". Its gonna seem so different not seeing her come in to the office and making us laugh. She is a very pleasant person to be around at all times. i love you Big Momma Rest in peace.

latoya nixon - October 15, 2015 at 08:54 AM

AJ

Thank you Latoya. Big momma will be missed :)

Annie Joyner - November 09, 2015 at 02:38 AM

TJ

“ TONY JOHNSON, ATLANTA GA LIVE ON DEEP CREEK BLVD IN BACK OF THE CHURCH



TONY JOHNSON - October 14, 2015 at 12:50 PM

TJ

“ I AM GOING TO MISS BERTHA JOYNER, SHE WOULD ALL WAY CALLED ME JOHNNIE BY MY FATHER OR BROTHER NAME BUT. MY NAME IS TONY JOHNSON. I CAN REMMEBER BERTHA SINGING IN THE CHOIR, HELPING IN THE CHURCH AND THE COMMUNITY. SHE WAS A JACK OF ALL TRADES. AND SHE DID'T MIND TELLING YOU WHAT WAS ON HER MIND. HER SMILE AND SPIRIT WILL BE MISSED BUT HER LOVE WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN



TONY JOHNSON - October 14, 2015 at 12:48 PM

AJ

Thank you dearly Tony :)

Annie Joyner - November 09, 2015 at 02:39 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Bertha Mae Joyner.



October 14, 2015 at 12:33 PM

SD

“ I have so many good memories of "Big Mama", as we affectionately called her. She was the grandmother of my cousin Catrice, and whenever she came by to visit she always made all of us kids feel like we belonged to her. Rest in Heaven Big Mama, you will be missed.



Sonya Duke-Bolden - October 14, 2015 at 10:24 AM

AJ

Thank you Sonya :)

Annie Joyner - November 09, 2015 at 02:37 AM

LR

“ *Linda Ryals-Massey lit a candle in memory of Bertha Mae Joyner*



Linda Ryals-Massey - October 13, 2015 at 07:13 PM

AJ

Thank you Linda :)

Annie Joyner - November 09, 2015 at 02:37 AM

TM

“ *Toni MAYBERRY sent a virtual gift in memory of Bertha Mae Joyner*



Toni MAYBERRY - October 13, 2015 at 08:31 AM

AJ

Toni, the family thanks you :)

Annie Joyner - November 09, 2015 at 02:40 AM

TM

“ *Toni MAYBERRY lit a candle in memory of Bertha Mae Joyner*



Toni MAYBERRY - October 12, 2015 at 05:31 PM

TM

Ms,Bertha when I think of you I just laugh you were funny and will truly be missed. I love you.To the family GOD will give you the strength and to know she was amazing. GOD bless you all.

Toni MAYBERRY - October 13, 2015 at 08:34 AM

AJ

Thank you Toni :)

Annie Joyner - November 09, 2015 at 02:36 AM