



Dr. Janice Coleman

March 23, 1950 - January 22, 2025

On March 23, 1950 in New York City, a phenomenal woman was born to Irene Smiley Lark and Frederick Lark. Even as a child, it was evident that Janice was a little girl with big dreams that would make them proud one day. She grew up on Couch Street in Queens with her three sisters and two brothers, along with extended family throughout the city. Since Irene was quite active at St. Gabriel's Catholic Church near their home, Janice attended school there and would walk to and from school (in the snow, uphill both ways of course). After excelling in her studies at a private high school in Manhattan, she bid farewell to New York, boarded a bus to Howard University in Washington, DC, and never looked back. At Howard she studied zoology and met some students in the Angel Flight club that became her lifelong friends. After graduation, she returned to New York for medical school at Stony Brook University in Long Island, and spent her last summer before graduation at a rural medical clinic in Marianna, Arkansas. It was there that she ran into a young graduate

student from Louisiana

named Clarence who was very smart, very country, and very determined to win her heart. It

worked, and they were married 10 months later in New York, surrounded by their closest friends and family.

After completing her medical residency in Alabama, Janice gave birth to their first daughter

Tracey Michelle, and moved to Columbia, South Carolina where she began paving the way for a

life of inspiration, support, and generosity within the community there. She launched her career

as an attending physician of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of South Carolina

School of Medicine. Three years later, they welcomed their second daughter, Kelley DeAnne.

And after getting both kids out of diapers and off to school while working full-time (whew!) Janice

began the work of fulfilling her dreams of owning a private medical practice.

As the only African-American female OB-GYN in Columbia at the time, Janice quickly became a

highly sought-after physician, known across the region for her care, compassion and

commitment to excellence in her practice. Simply put, Dr. Coleman was one of the best. Ranked

as one of Castle Connolly's Top Doctors in South Carolina, she was known for her willingness to

take on difficult cases, and for the loving support of her patients beyond the walls of her

practice. While in private practice, she continued her association with USC as clinical faculty and held medical leadership positions, including chief of the

OB-GYN

service at Richland Memorial hospital. She was a diplomat of the American Board of

Obstetrics and Gynecology and a member of the S.C. Obstetrical and Gynecological

Society. Janice loved practicing medicine, and her patients loved her for it, with many remaining

with her until she retired from medicine in 2017.

Outside of work Janice was a devoted mother, supporting her daughters in activities from

weekly music lessons and church choir performances to Girl Scout meetings, marching band

performances, Jack & Jill events, cheerleading competitions, track and cross country meets,

and a myriad of other academic and social activities. She was known for her infamous

hand-decorated cartoon-themed birthday cakes for the girls when they were young (Cabbage

Patch and The Smurfs were their favorites). And as they grew older, she somehow managed to

fulfill every last-minute request from school project supplies to being volunteered by her

daughters to hand-sew their color guard costumes (she was that good!)

Through it all she

remained a devoted member of St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church, serving as a member of

the sacristy ministry and a member of the Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary. She was an

active member of the Columbia Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, and

cherished the time
serving the community with her Links sisters.
In her free time, Janice enjoyed reading, sewing, soap-making, gardening,
and following the
travel adventures of her children and grandchildren on social media. She was
a source of light,
love and inspiration to all who knew her. And always encouraged people to
reach for the stars,
continue their education, and believe the mantra her mother instilled in her
that “nothing is too
good for you.” She and Clarence celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary
on June 1, 2024,
and he was by her side until her sunset on January 22, 2025.
Dr. Janice Lark Coleman is survived by her husband Clarence Coleman Jr,
PhD, her children
Mrs. Tracey Mutombo (David) and Mrs. Kelley Nduom (Edjah); her siblings
Mrs. Cynthia Roper,
Mr. Jeffrey Haroz, Mr. John Moore, and Ms. Charlene Plummer; her grand-
children Joseph and
Emily Nduom, and Zuri Mutombo; her nephews Mr. Jayson Roper, Mr. Justin
Lark, Mr. Jordan
Haroz, Mr. Jared Haroz, Mr. Justin Haroz, and a host of cousins and friends.
Flowers may be sent to Palmer’s Memorial Chapel in Columbia, SC, and
donations in her
memory may be made to CurePSP or Food for the Poor online.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 31. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Palmer Memorial Chapel - Columbia
1200 Fontaine Place
Columbia, SC 29223
(803) 786-6300
palmermemorialchapel@gmail.com
<https://www.palmermemorialchapel.com>

Funeral Mass

FEB 1. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church
2229 Hampton Street
Columbia, SC 29204

Tribute Wall

TJ

“ *My 1st and only OB doctor. I love Dr. Coleman with the love of Christ. I will always remember her kindness and professional treatment toward me. She was truly a pioneer. I find it interesting that she left this world to be with the Lord on the anniversary of my first son's birth. Take your "good rest" Dr. Janice. You were already missed by so many if us.*

Thank you family for sharing such an amazing lady with us. Prayers and love for you all. She always talked about you all.

Tina M Jones - February 11, 2025 at 11:56 AM

TF

“ *Our deepest sympathy and condolences and prayers to the family and relatives and friends.*



Tammy Harrison Edwards and Family - February 01, 2025 at 11:14 PM

EO

“ *Condolences to the Family of a Truly Wonderful Soul.*

The Best Doctor I have ever had the privilege to know and be in her care.

I Thank GOD for Dr. Janice Coleman.



Elisa Oree - February 01, 2025 at 12:08 PM

PT

“ *Peggy Toliver-dingle lit a candle in memory of Dr. Janice Coleman*



Peggy Toliver-dingle - February 01, 2025 at 10:22 AM

LD

“ *Sending our deepest condolences to the family of Dr. Janice Coleman, a remarkable, loving and caring woman.*



Laurene Davis - February 01, 2025 at 06:53 AM

JB

“ *I still remember how determined Janice was about learning the game of golf. She was a sweet person. We loved her. The Ridgewood Ladies Golf Club planted a tree in her memory. It will serve others well.*
Julia M. Boyd

Julia M. Boyd - January 31, 2025 at 07:04 PM

JM

“ *Julia M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Janice Coleman.*

Julia M. - January 31, 2025 at 05:19 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Dr. Janice Coleman.*



January 31, 2025 at 01:01 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Janice Coleman.

January 31, 2025 at 01:01 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Janice Coleman.*



January 31, 2025 at 11:06 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Janice Coleman.

January 31, 2025 at 11:06 AM



“ *Veronica Jones and family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Dr. Janice Coleman.*



Veronica Jones and family - January 31, 2025 at 09:02 AM

JC

“ *Jakayla McCollough & Tina Carter purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dr. Janice Coleman.*



Jakayla McCollough & Tina Carter - January 31, 2025 at 07:22 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Janice Coleman.

January 31, 2025 at 05:58 AM



“ *Sweet Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Janice Coleman.*



January 31, 2025 at 05:58 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Janice Coleman.

January 30, 2025 at 11:33 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. Janice Coleman.*



January 30, 2025 at 11:33 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Dr. Janice Coleman.*



January 30, 2025 at 03:45 PM



“ *Love, Martin, Kim, Noah, Ramsi purchased the Heavenly Grace Spray for the family of Dr. Janice Coleman.*



Love, Martin, Kim, Noah, Ramsi - January 30, 2025 at 09:15 AM



“ *My Deepest Sympathy & Condolences Are With Family Of Dr. Janice Coleman She Was Me & Mama's Gynecologist At Women's Physicians & Associate's. She Was A Beautiful Person & A Wonderful Gynecologist Dr Coleman Will Be Truly Missed*
Stephanie L. Hammonds

Ms. Stephanie L. Hammonds - January 29, 2025 at 04:39 PM

MM

“ Mamie Mosby-McGill lit a candle in memory of Dr. Janice Coleman



Mamie Mosby-McGill - January 29, 2025 at 02:49 PM

KR

“ Karen Roache lit a candle in memory of Dr. Janice Coleman



Karen Roache - January 29, 2025 at 12:15 PM

KR

“ Janice was one of the most Beautiful and Amazing women I have ever known. She was a Rock in our family. She is sorely missed. Love you Forever 🥰
Karen

Karen Roache - January 29, 2025 at 12:15 PM

CA

“ Clarence Williams And Mary Avery purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Dr. Janice Coleman.



Clarence Williams And Mary Avery - January 29, 2025 at 12:12 PM

MF

“ *She was simply the best. My life is better because our paths crossed. Thanks for your compassionate care Dr. Coleman*

Michelle Fletcher - January 29, 2025 at 11:51 AM

TC

“ *The Howard Univ. Alumni Club of Columbia planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Janice Coleman.*

The Howard Univ. Alumni Club of Columbia - January 28, 2025 at 02:55 PM

TC

“ *The Howard Univ. Alumni Club of Columbia purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dr. Janice Coleman.*



The Howard Univ. Alumni Club of Columbia - January 28, 2025 at 02:55 PM

CF

“ *Cassandra/Renee' The Price Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Dr. Janice Coleman.*



Cassandra/Renee' The Price Family - January 28, 2025 at 01:45 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Janice Coleman.*



January 28, 2025 at 01:05 PM



“ *Winthrop University College of Business purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Dr. Janice Coleman.*



Winthrop University College of Business - January 28, 2025 at 11:31 AM



“ *Sending our deepest sympathy and condolences and prayers to the family and relatives and friends.*



Gloria Harrison Brown and Tammy Harrison - January 28, 2025 at 04:39 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Janice Coleman.*



January 27, 2025 at 07:16 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Janice Coleman.

January 27, 2025 at 07:16 PM



“ Dear Clarence, we are so saddened to hear about the loss of Janice. She lived such a wonderful life taking care of others. We remember vividly how she beamed with energy. Our hearts break for you and we hope memories of Janice will bring you peace during this difficult time.

Rusty and Julie Ward

Rusty Ward - January 27, 2025 at 06:30 PM



“ Paulette Fox Myrick lit a candle in memory of Dr. Janice Coleman



Paulette Fox Myrick - January 27, 2025 at 05:19 PM



“ Prayers & condolences to all family members of our beloved Dr. Janice Coleman. I'm saying a special prayer for her daughters who she gave her best to. May the Lord grant his peace to all of you in the days ahead.

Rosa B. Willingham LPN (and former patient)

Rosa B. Willingham - January 27, 2025 at 11:39 AM

TF

“ Thomas Felder lit a candle in memory of Dr. Janice Coleman



Thomas Felder - January 27, 2025 at 10:11 AM

DH

“ We offer our sincerest condolences to all those whose lives have been impacted by Dr. Coleman's transitioning. May cherished memories prevail all during your bereavement. Dorethea and Donna Harris of Lugoff, SC



Donna R. Harris - January 27, 2025 at 06:06 AM