



## Josephine Jackson Neal

June 23, 1941 - April 25, 2026

Marietta Josephine Jackson (Josephine) was born to Rev. Dr. Roswell Francis Jackson, Sr.

and Mrs. Frances Lucille (Riley) Jackson on June 23, 1941 in Atlanta, Georgia. She spent the

beginning of her youth being raised on the family farm in Madison, Georgia by her paternal

grandparents, William and Gertrude (Cheney) Jackson. Josephine eventually moved back to

Atlanta to become a part of a family that included her parents and her brothers, Roswell Francis

Jackson, Jr. and Dwight McCauley Jackson. Josephine graduated Booker T. Washington High

School in 1957.

Upon high school graduation, Josephine entered Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia. She

graduated Spelman in 1961 with a Bachelor of Arts in Education. Later she would also obtain a

Master's degree in Education from Atlanta University.

Josephine eventually moved to Columbia, South Carolina to become an elementary school

teacher in Richland School District One at Carver Elementary School and then to Belvedere

Elementary School (Virginia Pack) where she spent the bulk of her professional life. She married Rev. James P. Neal, Jr of Columbia South Carolina. They would produce two children, James P. Neal, III (1966) and Monica R. Neal (1968). During Josephine's career, she also taught at Crane Creek Elementary School. She was an avid proponent of education and supporting the development of community youth.

In Columbia, SC, Josephine was a member of Antioch Baptist Church, Gill Creek Baptist Church, Union Baptist Church, and Rehoboth Baptist Church. During her time at Union Baptist Church, she served as Sunday School Teacher, Trustee, past President of the Missionaries, member of the Matron's Ministry, and former Parliamentary of the Gethsemane Woman's Auxiliary. She was also an active member of the Highland Park neighborhood association.

Josephine was a part of civil rights activism throughout her life. She enjoyed the performing arts, tennis, reading, listening to music, cooking and providing love to her children.

Josephine Jackson Neal leaves to mourn and celebrate her life, two children: James P. Neal, III (Tysons Corner, Virginia); Monica R. Neal (Atlanta, Georgia); her brother Roswell F. Jackson, Jr. (Teaneck, New Jersey) and his family; and numerous external family members as well as a host of loving friends and associates.

In place of flowers, the family has requested that donations be made to

<https://www.spelman.edu/giving/>

Donation · Spelman College · GiveCampus

# Previous Events

## **A Celebration of Life**

MAY 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall

LT

“*Condolences to the Jackson and Neal families. Josephine worked at Carver Elementary School when I was a student, and we taught together at Crane Creek Elementary. Josephine was an outstanding teacher and a true friend. After hours, we cooked special dishes and shared many recipes. We went on several trips. We had a lot of fun. Rest in peace, Josephine, rest in peace.*

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**Loutricia Talps** - May 08 at 10:48 PM

DG

“*Monica, when your heart aches in the loss of your Mother, our heart aches along with you. Your Mom always spoke of your caring love for her every time we would visit her. She was so proud of your accomplishments in life and would always be smiling whenever she would mention your name in conversation. She loved attending Rehoboth Baptist Church up until her health would not allow her to continue. As believers in CHRIST, we must accept HIS will, but when you lose your Mom - it hurts! May you find comfort in knowing she is resting with the LORD. In all things we still give HIM the highest praise. We pray GOD will send his angels to comfort the family, and that the tears shed now will be replaced with the loving memories of your Mom, Sister Josephine Neal.*

*May GOD Bless and Comfort You,  
Deacon Johnny and Diann Glymph  
Rehoboth Baptist Church, Columbia SC*

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**Deacon Johnny and Diann Glymph** - May 05 at 09:37 AM

DH

“ Family as you gather once again to celebrate the life of a cherished loved one. Know that others share in your bereavement through out this sorrowful valley experience.

We remain, your Harris and Outten offspring of the late Deacon James Cuthie Benson and paternal Grandaunt Elizabeth Outten Benson and the children of your paternal cousin the late Herbert H. Harris and E. Wilhelmina Benson Harris, Dorethea, James, Avonne, Delbert and Donna Harris.



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**Donna Rene'e Harris** - May 05 at 04:39 AM

AC

“ Monica and James, We are sending our prayers and condolences to you both. Josephine brought so much joy to our parents Lawrence and Iline Corley before their passing and to the rest of us as well. Her infectious smile and her quick wit always brought joy to our home. She was not only a good neighbor, but a caring and compassionate one as well. We really missed her when we lost touch into our adulthood and when our parents passed away. Know that we love you and pray God's blessings to you both.

Sandra, Larry, Velma & Tony

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**Anna Corley** - May 04 at 09:36 AM

MD

“ I was so deeply saddened to hear about the passing of Ms. Neal (Mama Neal is what I called her). I was a student in her class at Virginia Pack Elementary. She was truly one of the best teachers I ever had, making us all feel loved and cared for. She always was a joy to see and expressed how proud she was of the woman I became. I have always acknowledged her as my foundation and will continue to do so. Rest in peace Mama Neal. You will forever live in my heart!



Monique Davis - May 01 at 03:56 PM

TF

“ Sending sincere condolences and prayers.



Tammy Harrison-Edwards & Family - April 30 at 07:50 PM

CR

“ James, Our hearts are with you and your family. We so enjoyed you and your mom joining our family for dinner in Corrales, New Mexico many years ago. It was a lovely evening of fun and stories. Your mom is free at last to run like the wind with all she was forever more. Many long lingering hugs to all of you!!!  
Love Cardinal Rieger and Joe Miller in New Mexico

Cardinal S. Rieger - April 30 at 09:58 AM

JN

*Thanks Cardinal.*

James Neal - May 01 at 12:38 PM

TH

“ *She was one of the most impactful teachers of my life. She was truly one of a kind. Teosha Shinn Harrison, former student from Virginia Pack.*

Teosha Shinn Harrison - April 29 at 09:38 PM

JN

*Thank you for your memory.*

James Neal - May 01 at 12:38 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Josephine Jackson Neal.*



April 29 at 03:04 PM

LP

“ *My sincere condolences to the Neal family. May God comfort you in your time of grief. 🙏*  
*Lillian Prioleau*

Lillian Prioleau - April 28 at 12:23 PM

AC

*Monica and James, we are sending our prayers and condolences to you both. Josephine brought so much joy to our parents Lawrence and Iline Corley before their passing and to the rest of us as well. Her infectious smile and her quick wit always brought joy to our home. She was not only a good neighbor, but a caring and compassionate one too. Our children referred to her as 'Nanna Jo'. We really missed her when we lost touch into our adulthood and when our parents passed away. Know that we love you and pray God's blessings to you and her extended family. Love always.  
Sandra, Larry, Velma & Tony*

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**Anna Corley** - May 15 at 04:35 PM