

# *Celebrating the Life and Legacy of Rosia Deana Banks*



*Sunrise: November 23, 1932 – Sunset March 16, 2025*

*Friday March 28, 2025*

*Viewing – 11:00 a.m.*

*Celebration of Life Service – Noon*

*Thomas Funeral Home & Crematorium*

*4520 Salem Ave, Dayton, OH 45416*

*Brother Darryl Muhammad, Officiant*

*Brother Reverend Theodore McFarland, Eulogizer*

# Obituary

*Rosia Deana Banks*

*November 23, 1932 - March 16, 2025*

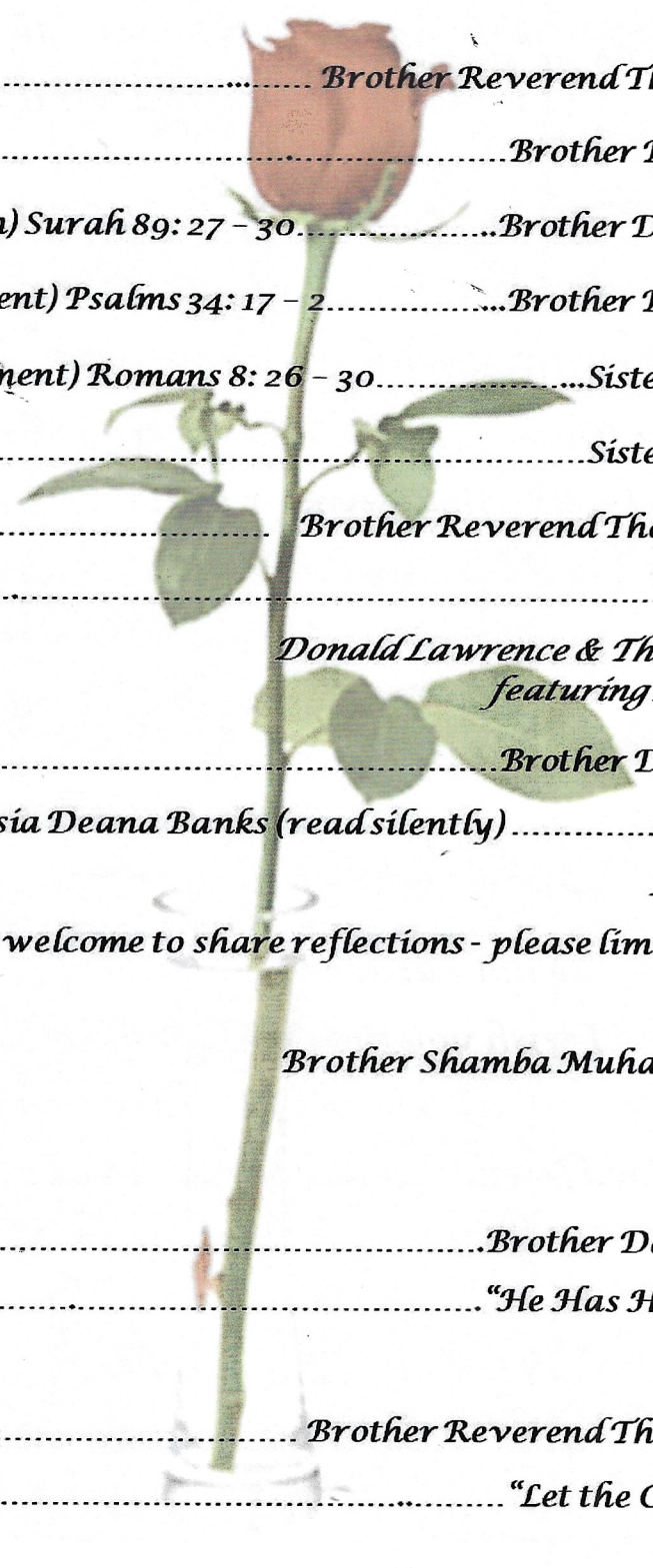
*Rosia Deana Banks transitioned peacefully in Dayton Ohio, surrounded by her family, on Sunday March 16, at the age of 92. Deana affectionately known as Aunt Deana by many, was born in Union Town, Alabama on November 23, 1932, to the late Rev John Lester & Allie Stephens. Deana was the 9<sup>th</sup> of 12 children - all now deceased. She completed her education at Perry County High School in Union Town, Alabama. She relocated to Dayton, Ohio and married Willie Banks. To this union, five children were born; Willie Jr, Constance, Charles, Melvin & Yvonne. She retired from Associated Springs after working tirelessly for 34 years. Deana was also an entrepreneur. She loved collecting antiques, and she turned this hobby into a business. She would find and collect rare antiques and sell them. She was a faithful member of Mount Olive Baptist Church for many years and then later a member of Faith Vision Church.*

*Deana had a fun-loving personality and a giving spirit. She was a humanitarian and was always willing to lend a helping hand to her family and community whenever she could. She took care of everyone. She enjoyed life and loved her entire family, but she was particularly fond of her grandchildren. She loved playing bingo; she enjoyed dancing, and she was a big fan of James Brown. She was very fashionable and loved wearing her high heels when she could.*

*Deana was preceded in death by her parents, Rev John Lester & Allie Stephens; her husband, Willie Banks; her companion, Jessie Hopson; her siblings, Lear Kay Christian (Glen), Ella Lapsley (Jim), Ollie Chambers (Arthur), Amelia Wesley (Huey), Mattie Atkins (Ike), Matilda Williams (Charles), Matthew Stephens (Helena), Alfred Stephens (Annie Lou), Samuel Stephens (Lizzie), John Lester Stephens Jr and Ida Hornbuckle; and two of her children; Willie Banks Jr, and Charles Banks (Sheila). She leaves to cherish her fond memories: her three children; Constance Banks, Melvin Banks and Yvonne Muhammad, her grandchildren; Darryl Muhammad, Shamba Muhammad, Ericka Moore (Akale), Byron Banks (Lisa), Andrea Banks, Charles Banks Jr, Iesha Nolan, Monique Martin (Alex), Myron Banks, Maleeka Banks, Melvin Banks Jr, and Marlaine Jones; a host of great grandchildren, two great great grandchildren and other relatives.*

## Celebration of Life

### Order of Service



Visitation.....	11:00 a.m. - Noon
Processional.....	<i>You Alone Are God"</i> <i>Marvin Sapp</i>
Call to Worship.....	Brother Reverend Theodore McFarland
Muslim Prayer.....	Brother Darryl Muhammad
Scripture (Holy Quran) Surah 89: 27 - 30.....	Brother Darryl Muhammad
Scripture (Old Testament) Psalms 34: 17 - 2.....	Brother Darryl Muhammad
Scripture (New Testament) Romans 8: 26 - 30.....	Sister Monique Martin
Christian Prayer.....	Sister Dawn Holloway
Invocation.....	Brother Reverend Theodore McFarland
Musical Selection.....	"Deliver Me" <i>Donald Lawrence &amp; The Tri-Cities Singers</i> <i>featuring Le'Andria Johnson</i>
Acknowledgements.....	Brother Darryl Muhammad
Celebration of Life: Rosia Deana Banks (read silently).....	"Better Days" <i>Le'Andria Johnson</i>
Reflections: (anyone is welcome to share reflections - please limit to 2 minutes)	
Family:	Brother Shamba Muhammad - Grandson
Words of Comfort.....	Brother Darryl Muhammad
Musical Selection.....	"He Has His Hands On You" <i>Marvin Sapp</i>
Eulogy.....	Brother Reverend Theodore McFarland
Recessional.....	"Let the Church Say Amen" <i>Andrae Crouch</i>

## *I'm Free*

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,  
I'm following the path God laid for me,  
I took his hand when I heard Him call,  
I turned my back and left it all.*

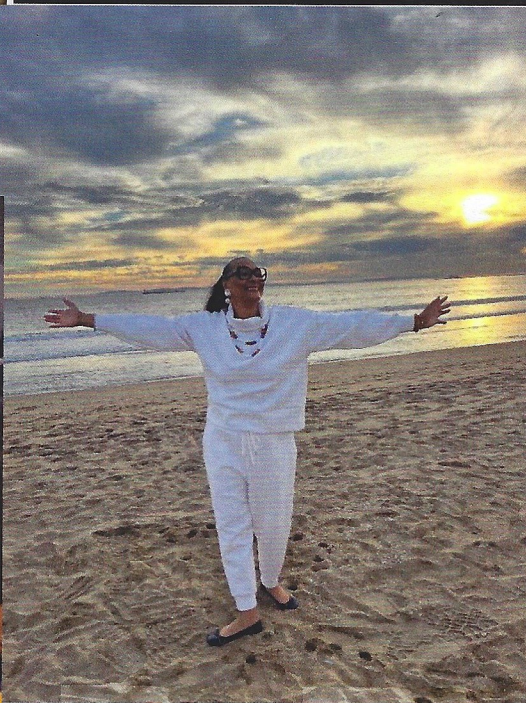
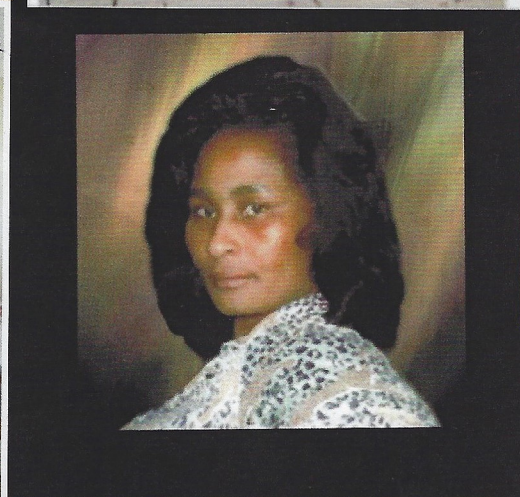
*I could not stay another day,  
To laugh, to love, to work or play,  
Tasks left undone must stay that way,  
I found that place at the close of the day.*

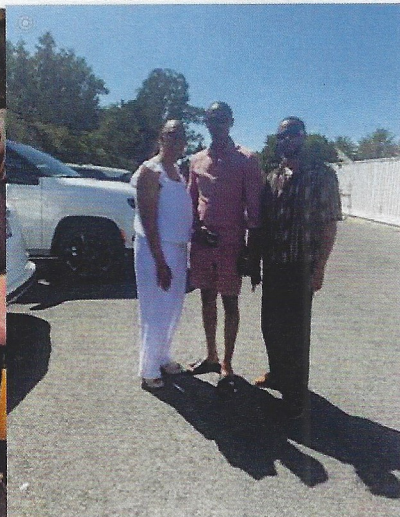
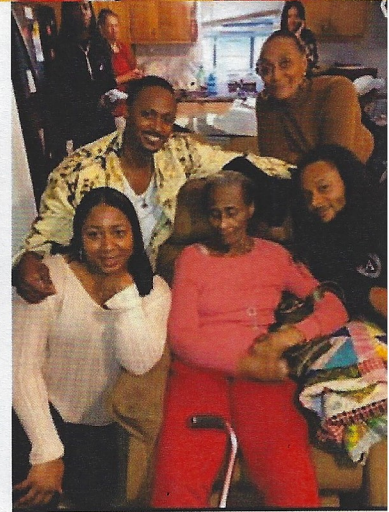
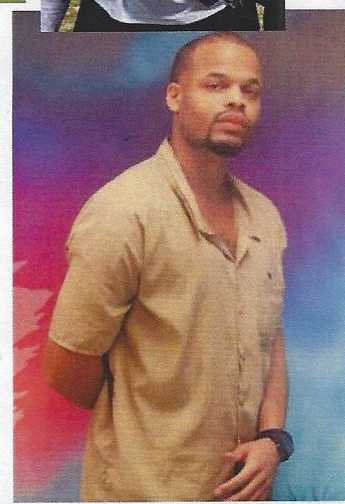
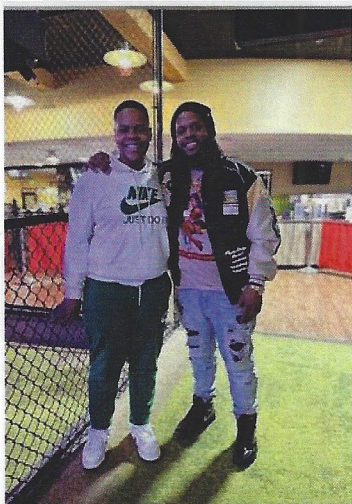
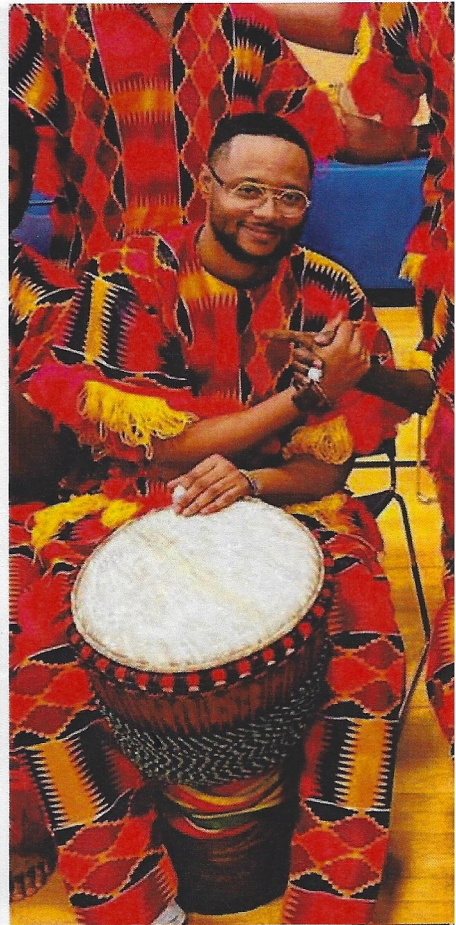
*If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it with remembered joy,  
A friendship shared, a laugh a kiss,  
Ah yes, these things I too, will miss.*

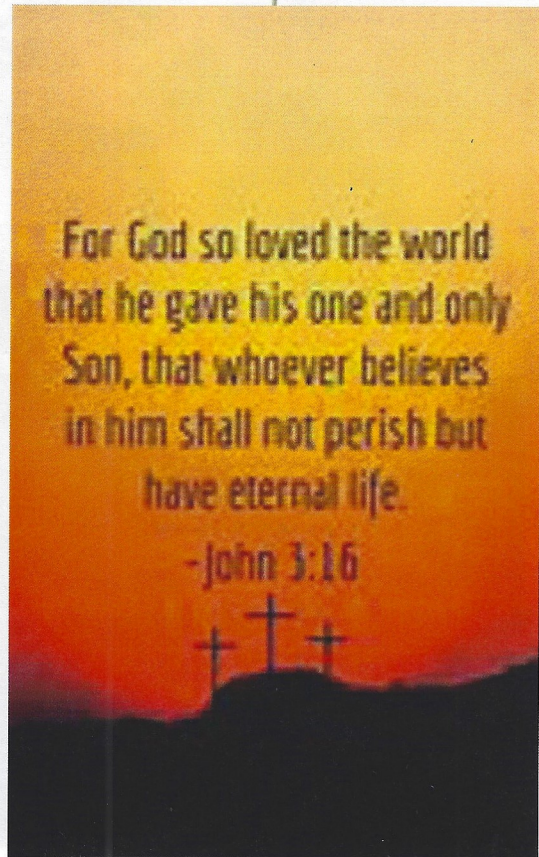
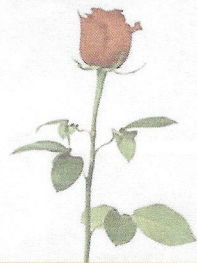
*Be not burdened with ties of sorrow,  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow,  
My life's been full, I savored much,  
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.*

*Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief,  
Lift up your heart and share with me,  
God wanted me now, He set me free.*

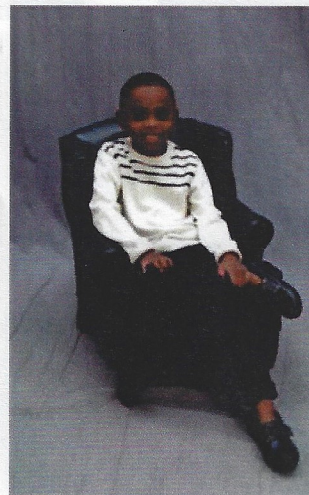
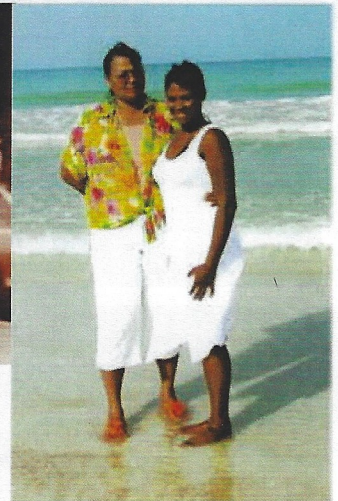
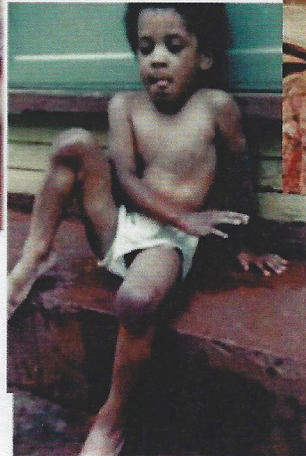
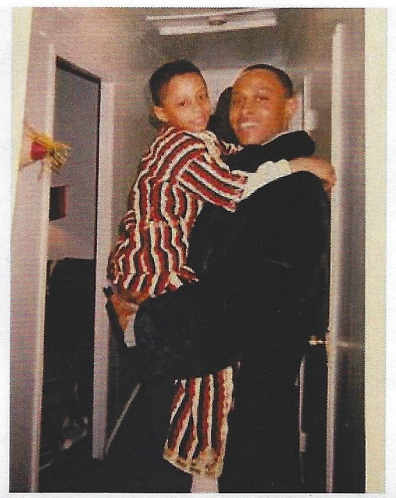
*~ Anne Lindgren Davison*

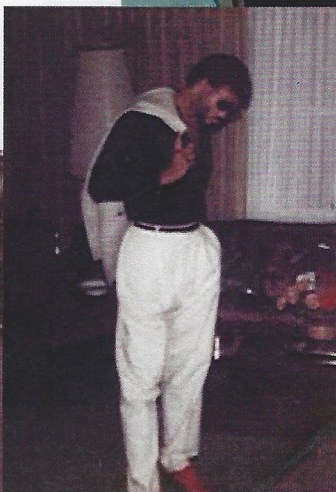
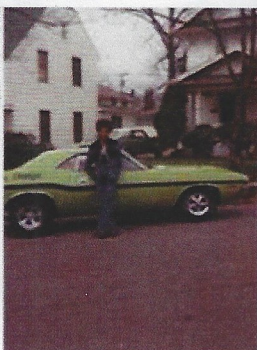
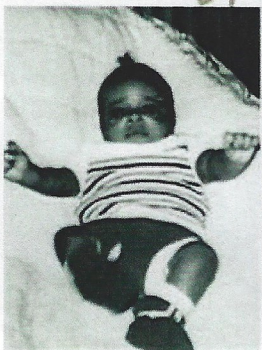
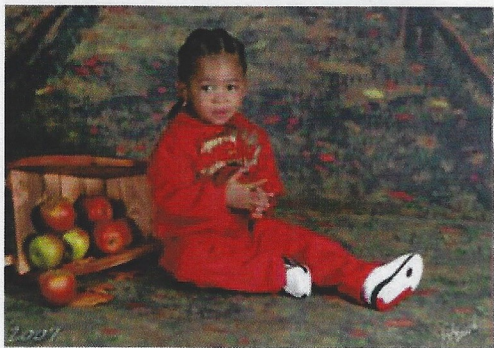
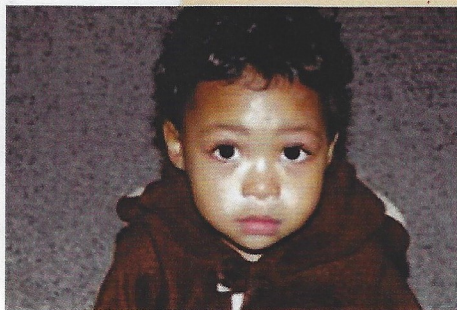
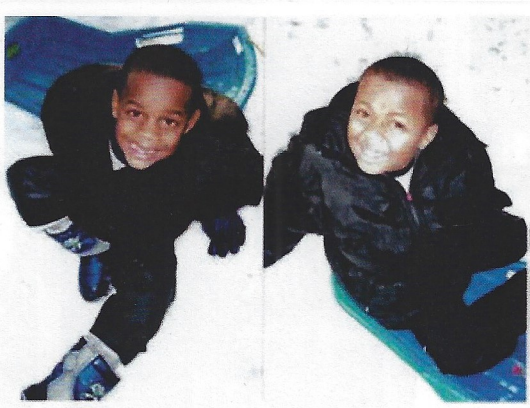


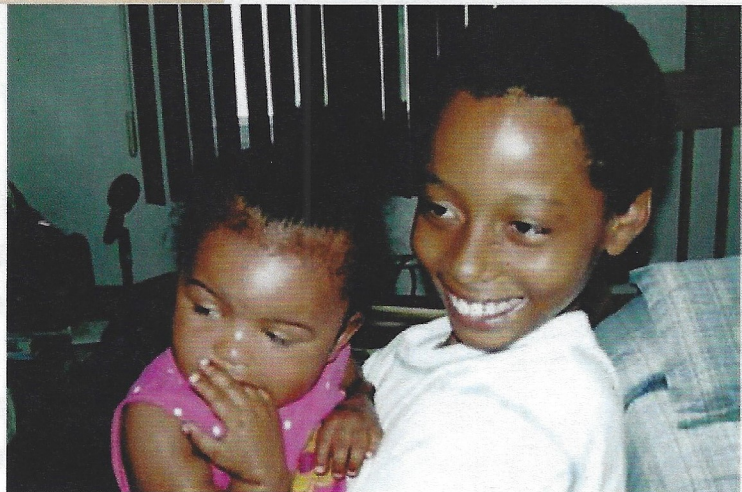
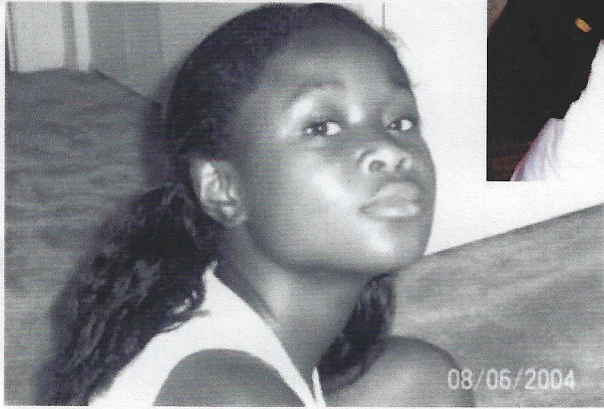


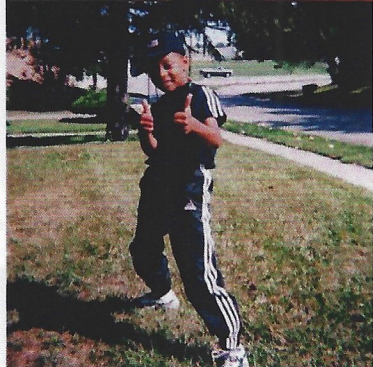
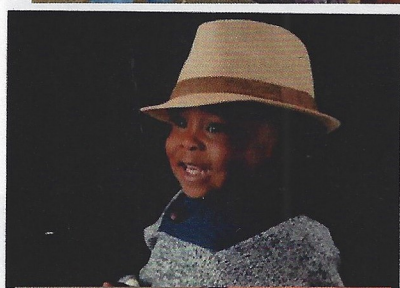
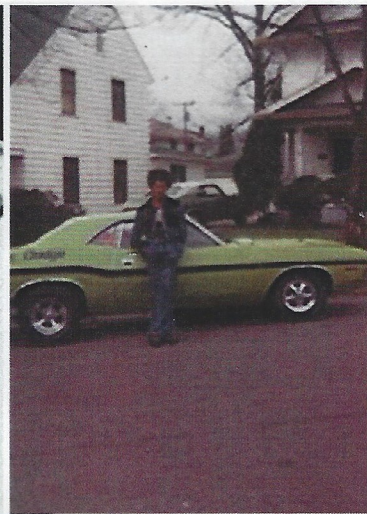
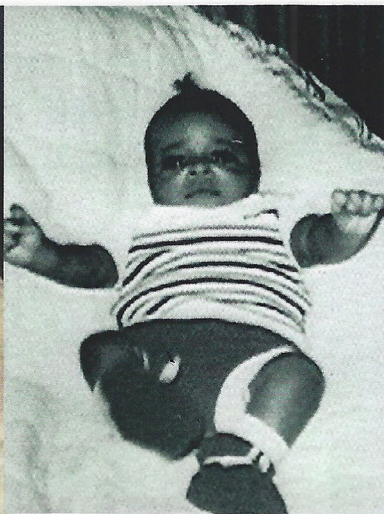
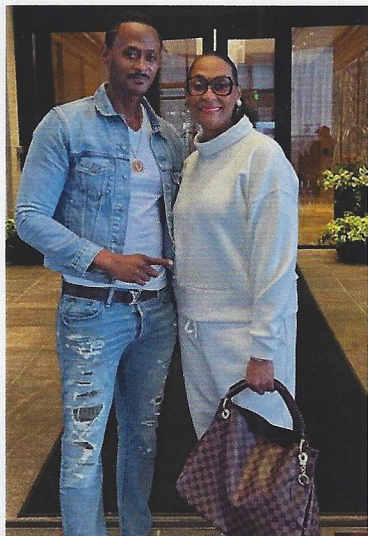






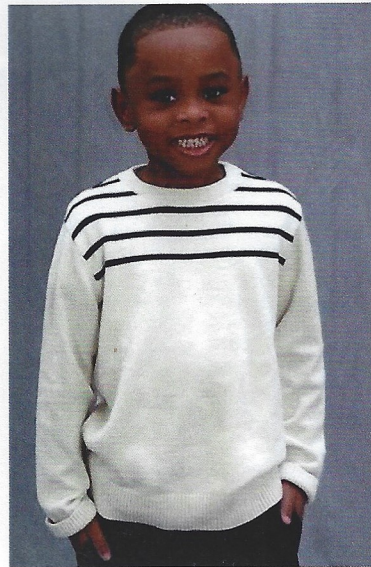




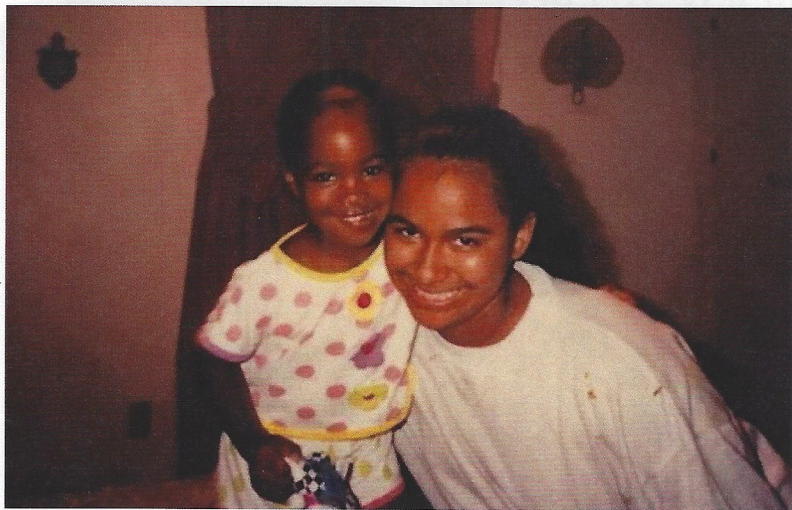
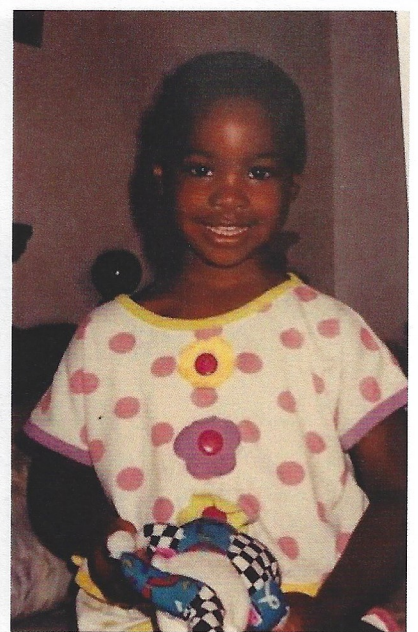
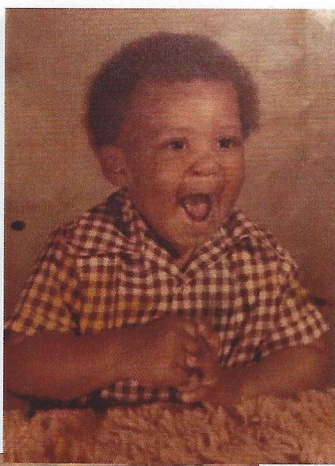


“  
**In the Name of Alah, The  
Beneficent, The Merciful.**

**O soul that art at rest,  
Return to thy Lord, well  
Pleased, well-pleasing, So  
Enter among My servants,  
And enter My Garden! Holy  
Quran 89:27-30**



“



### *Pallbearers*

<i>Byron Banks</i>	<i>Jacari Banks</i>
<i>Melvin Banks</i>	<i>Melvin Banks Jr.</i>
<i>Akale Moore</i>	<i>Darryl Muhammad</i>
<i>Shamba Muhammad</i>	<i>Lawrence Sanders</i>

### *Honorary Pallbearers*

<i>Charles Banks Jr.</i>	<i>Myron Banks</i>
<i>Amir Muhammad</i>	<i>Leslie Noel Jr.</i>

### *Thank You!*

*The Rosia Deana Banks family expresses our heartfelt gratitude to family, friends and caregivers for their kind expressions of concern, encouragement, sympathy and support, during our bereavement. Your prayers, calls, texts, visits, and other expressions of love will be forever remembered.*

### *Interment*

*Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum  
118 Woodland Ave, Dayton, OH 45409*

### *Services in Care of:*

*Thomas Funeral Home & Crematory  
4520 Salem Ave, Dayton, OH 45416*