



Christine Lewis

May 1, 1940 - November 8, 2023

Entered into eternal rest on November 8, 2023, “Christine” born in 1940 in McCurtain County Oklahoma, was the youngest daughter of the late Lon Lewis and Pinkie Rundles Lewis. Christine was affectionately known as “Lil Sister” to her parents and siblings, “Granny or Granny Ma” to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and “Chris” or “Aunt Chris” to other family.

She attended Slater Elementary School and Booker T. Washington High School Idabel, Ok. During her high school years, she met and married Otto Johnson. Prior to their relationship ending, they were blessed with four children. Christine spent many of her adult years in Chicago, IL, where she worked downtown and lived on Chicago’s “west side”.

When her children were younger, during summer nights she loved watching the old Buckingham Fountain light shows in Grant Park and attending anything cultural in downtown Chicago with them.

Christine highly valued timeliness and excellence. She loved cooking and was a “Chef” at several restaurants in the downtown area: Rocco Novello’s 22 East Restaurant, Humble’s North, and The Berghoff’s Restaurant. She earned the position and title of Berghoff’s first female Chef working under legendary Executive Chef, Mohammed Hussein. Christine was also Head Chef and part

owner of Nina's Soul Food Restaurant located on Chicago's west side. She readily proclaimed that her main ingredient in any recipe was "love" and every dish was an expression of her love.

Her culinary skills gained the attention of one special customer at Nina's Soul Food Restaurant; Clinton Lewis Jr. Christine and Clinton were married the following year and made their home in Oak Park, IL. During their retirement years, they moved to Clinton's childhood hometown of Collinsville, MS. There she continued cooking at food counters and catering in the local area. She fully enjoyed "southern living" for over twenty years surrounded by Clinton's family, and their Friendship Baptist Church family and friends. Christine lived in Collinsville until shortly after Clinton's passing.

After leaving Mississippi in 2015, she lived in Northern Virginia for several years with her daughter and granddaughter and was a member of the First Mount Zion Baptist Church, in Dumfries VA. In October 2018, she returned to Chicago where she lived out her remaining years near her other children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, her Mount Ridge M.B. Church family, and other family and friends.

Christine accepted Jesus Christ at a young age and served at the Macedonia Baptist Church in Idabel, OK. She was a woman of fervent prayer, strong faith and shared her belief with "ev-er-ry-one" she encountered. Although never licensed or ordained she acknowledged her call to preach the Gospel. Much of her life was devoted to church and community involvement. Equipped with the gifts of evangelism and encouragement, she was fully committed to serving and ministering to others. She believed that one's greatest acknowledgement of God's unique fingerprint, was to "have the courage to be yourself !"

In addition to her love for cooking, Christine loved singing, listening to all types

of music genres, studying the Bible, teaching, mentoring younger women, sharing her faith with others, writing skits, reciting poetry, gardening, fishing, and playing and winning at dominoes. She had an appreciation for and a strong desire to play the “lead” guitar. She loved fashion, the color blue, cold weather, and forever gazing up at the moon and stars at night and just before dawn. More than anything, she loved spending quiet time with God.

Christine was preceded in death by her parents Pinkie and Lon Lewis, her husband, Clinton Lewis, Jr, granddaughter Beverly A. Riley, great-granddaughter Everleigh Rae Jones, her brothers, Lonnie B. Lewis, Johnny L. Lewis “Pete”, Clyde D. Lewis Sr. “Bubba”, Sisters Doris Lewis Bumpres, Jennie V. Lewis Brown “Skeete”, Son-in-law Raymond D. Parker “Ray”, Sisters-in-law Christine Scott Lewis, Rosie D. Lewis “Rose”, Pamela Lewis “Pam”, Brothers-in-law Henry Bumpres, and James Brown, and her dear friends, Maxine Riley and Mary Crafton.

Christine leaves to cherish her loving memories, children, First Lady Minister Deborah Johnson Simpson (Pastor Reverend Snirly), Oak Park, IL; Reverend Helen Johnson Parker, Stafford, VA; Evette Johnson Riley (Andre), Evanston, IL; Christopher Otto Johnson “Chris”, Homewood, IL; her loving grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, a host of stepchildren, step grands and great grands, two devoted couples she affectionately claimed as her adopted children: Johanna and Juan Juansley and Angela and Chris Q McDonald of Collinsville, MS, close friends Mabel Holloway and Hazel Wilson, and her beloved church families, a host of other friends, and mentees that she loved.

Christine’s love and passion for God, family, life, people, and cooking is cherished and will forever be deeply missed!

Cemetery Details

Oak Ridge Cemetery

4111 Roosevelt Road
Hillside, IL 60162

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 18. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Mt Ridge Missionary Baptist Church
2658 West Jackson Blvd
Chicago, IL 60612

Funeral Service

NOV 18. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Mt Ridge Missionary Baptist Church
2658 West Jackson Blvd
Chicago, IL 60612

Burial/Interment

NOV 18. 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM (CT)

Oak Ridge Cemetery
4111 Roosevelt Road
Hillside, IL 60162

Tribute Wall



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Christine Lewis.*



November 17, 2023 at 08:11 AM



“ *I thank God for the opportunity of knowing and becoming a friend to Sis Christine. She was truly was a messenger from God, filled with his Holy Spirit and Love. She will be missed, but her legacy of good deeds will live on. May God be with all of you family members as you go through this difficult time. Praying for you.*



Hazel Ruth Wilson - November 16, 2023 at 10:31 PM



“ *Barr Management Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christine Lewis.*

Barr Management Family - November 16, 2023 at 01:11 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Christine Lewis.*



November 16, 2023 at 01:11 PM

TM

“ To my sisters and brother, it was a privilege knowing and spending time with her and my siblings. She welcomed me as one of her own. She was always such a sweet, loving, Godly Woman that knew what to say and when to say it. Her hospitality was very warm and loving. I will never forget the reunions we all shared in Meridian. Oh my her cooking and baking and the way she would have the yard set up, you thought you were sitting in the finest restaurant. I remember her setting up special hunt for my husband, because she and Mr. Lewis knew he loved hunting. I thank God I visited you the last time I was in Chicago 2019, it was very memorable! Rest on Dear Sweet Lady, You Will Always Have A Place In My Heart Along With The Flavor Of Your Peach Coblér. My Daughter and Grandchildren, Especially Samaj The Joy She Had Helping You Prepare Your Famous Peach Coblér Will Never Be Forgotten. Love You All My Family More Than You Know! Praying Always!!

Tammy Patricia Johnson Shaw Marvel - November 15, 2023 at 03:52 PM



“ Sista Christine was such a blessing to our Wilsondale Community and FBC Family. Her presence has been missed since the day she left. She had 2 very deep passions, one was winning souls for Christ. She loved the Lord, and Loved to Witness about his goodness. And secondly was cooking. When you ate some of her cooking you knew it was done with love. We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord. Take Your Rest.....Sista Chris

Leann Dra - November 15, 2023 at 03:25 PM

PM

“ I would like to send my love and condolences to the family of Mrs. Lewis. I know that she will be missed tremendously. She was a beautiful Godly woman. Thank you for sharing her with me. My prayers and thoughts are with you during this time. Love you all. 🙏



Pamela Mitchell

Pamela Mitchell - November 15, 2023 at 08:54 AM

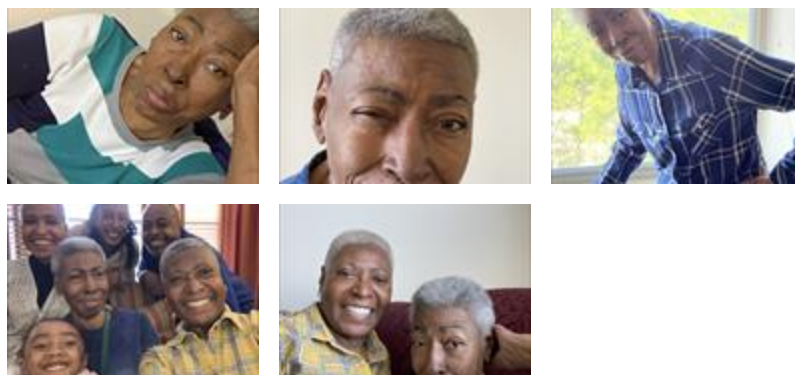
JT

“ I can remember Sis. Lewis calling me to her home after mom passed. She knew I loved salmon croquettes. She made some salmon croquettes, rice, eggs, and homemade biscuits. She and my mom, Mary crafton, we're very tight. That was so special to me for her to think enough of me to prepare such a delicious meal just for me. It felt like we were having breakfast with Mom being there. She was truly a jewel!

Janice Turnage - November 15, 2023 at 08:14 AM

DS

“ Mom, you are loved forever and your legacy will never die. Rest well



Deborah Simpson - November 15, 2023 at 08:08 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Christine Lewis.*



November 13, 2023 at 09:57 PM



“ *Wyvonne Hatchett lit a candle in memory of Christine Lewis*



Wyvonne Hatchett - November 13, 2023 at 11:26 AM



“ *Camellia, Aisha, Aiana Scott purchased the Divine Light for the family of Christine Lewis.*



Camellia, Aisha, Aiana Scott - November 13, 2023 at 09:51 AM



“ *Camellia, Aisha, Aiana Scott planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Christine Lewis.*

Camellia, Aisha, Aiana Scott - November 13, 2023 at 09:51 AM



“ *Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Christine Lewis.*



November 12, 2023 at 04:48 PM



“ *Levada Shoals lit a candle in memory of Christine Lewis*



Levada Shoals - November 11, 2023 at 06:38 PM



Johnny & Rosie Williams With Love

Rosie Williams - November 11, 2023 at 10:10 PM



“ *To Minister Simpson and family you have our condolence know that we care and Love you Campbell and Ruth Stevenson*

Campbell Stevenson - November 11, 2023 at 03:35 PM



“ *I'll always cherish the last time we cooked in your kitchen Mrs. Christine on Thanksgiving Day. That day I was taught how to make your famous Peach Cobbler and I will never forget that. We love you always.*

Tameka Wilson - November 11, 2023 at 02:37 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Christine Lewis.* ”



November 11, 2023 at 10:20 AM