



## Betty Jean James

May 26, 1944 - January 3, 2026

JAMES, Ms. Betty Jean - age 81, passed away Saturday, January 3, 2026 in Orland Park, Illinois. Family hour 10:00AM Saturday, January 24, 2026, at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, 394 Howland Avenue, with funeral services commencing immediately at 11:00AM. Pastor Solomon Smith, Jr., Officiating. Interment Perry Mount Park Cemetery, 878 North Perry Street. Friends and pallbearers will assemble 10:00AM at the church Saturday. Ms. James will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 268 North Perry Street, and may be viewed between the hours of 12:00PM - 6:00PM Friday. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly asks that you consider a donation to the Betty James Culinary Arts Fund. For additional details, please contact Anthony Fletcher. The services for Ms. James can be viewed using the following link:

[https://www.facebook.com/newhopemissionarypontiacmibextid=wwXlfr&rdid=8vnXGohuPbCWvbBg&share\\_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fshare%2F1JCXXGLstB%2F%3Fmibextid%3DwwXlfr#](https://www.facebook.com/newhopemissionarypontiacmibextid=wwXlfr&rdid=8vnXGohuPbCWvbBg&share_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fshare%2F1JCXXGLstB%2F%3Fmibextid%3DwwXlfr#)

Betty James was born on May 26, 1944, to Lucille Brown and D.M. Moore in Athens, Louisiana. At the age of eight, she relocated to Pontiac, Michigan, where she would lay deep roots and build a life of service, love, and faith.

Betty joined New Hope Baptist Church in 1956, where she accepted Christ

and immediately became an active member, both as a child and throughout her adult life. As a youth, she served faithfully in the Junior Choir, Junior Ushers, and Youth Department. As an adult, she continued her commitment as an Usher and later served on the Deaconess Board, where she held the role of President for four (4) years.

She attended Whittier Elementary School and graduated from Pontiac Central High School in 1963. A proud and devoted “Chief,” Betty remained actively involved by serving on the class reunion board for many years.

In 1964, Betty married Roosevelt Fletcher Sr. From this union, three children were born: Roosevelt Fletcher Jr., Anthony Fletcher, and Traci Fletcher. Betty had an unwavering love for her children and extended that same love to all her family. She was a trusted resource and caregiver, often serving as a devoted “love-giver” to senior family members. She instilled values of responsibility, self-respect, and respect for others in her children from an early age—not through lectures, but by modeling the behavior she expected.

It was not uncommon to see Betty ministering to the sick and shut-in, often preparing their favorite meals with humility and grace. She was a fierce advocate for education and demonstrated her commitment by covering 100% of her children’s college expenses. Her generosity and dedication extended to her grandchildren, as she played a vital role in supporting their educational pursuits as well.

Betty’s favorite pastimes included collecting recipes and cookbooks, crafting, and photography—a passion reflected in her cherished collection of photo albums. She took immense pride in caring for the elderly and was often seen cooking large meals and walking down Valencia Street, sharing her award-winning dishes with beloved neighbors—just because.

After 41 years of dedicated service, Betty retired from General Motors, where she worked in numerous roles throughout her career.

Betty departed this life on January 3, 2026, surrounded by her loving family.

She leaves to cherish her precious memory her two sons, Roosevelt Fletcher Jr. (Linda) and Anthony Fletcher (Vista); and her daughter, Traci Fletcher (Abubakar). She is also survived by her sisters, Danita Moore and Linda Wyatt; six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She further leaves to cherish her memory her special son, Johnny Harris; her special daughters, Jodie Pittman and Stephanie Brown; her godchildren, Marquita Adams, Dollie Taylor, and Rashad Fleming; along with a host of loving cousins, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Lucille Cohen; father, D.M. Moore; stepfather, Booker T. Cohen; stepmother, Vehuwanda Moore; sisters, Louise Cohen and Clifford Gray; and brothers, Carl Cohen, Charles Cohen, Louis Cohen, Elton “Donnie” Moore, and Greg Moore.

Some of her most cherished sayings still bring smiles today. When asked, “What’s happening, Mom?” she would confidently reply, “Me...as she pounded her chest.” As you left her home, she’d lovingly remind you, “Now you be careful out there.” And no matter the gesture—big or small—she always made sure to say, “Thank you.”

Rest in Peace BJ

Mission accomplished

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 23. 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Pontiac  
268 North Perry Street  
Pontiac, MI 48342  
(248) 758-1913

## Family Hour

JAN 24. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church  
394 Howland Avenue  
Pontiac, MI 48341

## Funeral Service

JAN 24. 11:00 AM (ET)

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church  
394 Howland Avenue  
Pontiac, MI 48341

# Tribute Wall

MD

“ *MoniQue Daniel lit a candle in memory of Betty Jean James*



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**MoniQue Daniel** - February 23 at 10:07 AM

RH

“ *My Condolences goes out to the family! Betty was a beautiful woman, that shared her smiles and kindness to many people! Betty will be Missed. RIP God's Child.*



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**Regina Haynes** - February 21 at 10:28 AM

ST

“ *Syvoid & Earlean Transou lit a candle in memory of Betty Jean James*



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**Syvoid & Earlean Transou** - January 27 at 11:00 PM

ST

*We share I your loss. Betty was our true friend.  
We loved her. Rest in peace, Betty*

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**Syvoid and Earlean Transou** - January 27 at 11:03 PM

ST

*We share in your loss. Betty was our true friend. We loved her and family. Rest in peace, Betty*

Syvoid and Earlean Transou - January 27 at 11:12 PM

TT

“ Tina Talton-Patilla lit a candle in memory of Betty Jean James



Tina Talton-Patilla - January 24 at 10:22 AM

RS

“ Rev. Tony & Sylvia Simpson lit a candle in memory of Betty Jean James



Rev. Tony & Sylvia Simpson - January 23 at 07:36 PM

TN

“ Tina, Roxanne, Ernest, Jermaine & Nicole purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Betty Jean James.



Tina, Roxanne, Ernest, Jermaine & Nicole - January 23 at 10:34 AM

FF

“ From Isaac Campbell and Family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Betty Jean James.



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**From Isaac Campbell and Family** - January 22 at 10:49 PM

QJ

“ Q & Veronica Jones purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Betty Jean James.



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**Q & Veronica Jones** - January 21 at 07:52 PM

QJ

“ Q & Veronica Jones planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Betty Jean James.

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**Q & Veronica Jones** - January 21 at 07:52 PM

AS

“ Avery Stephens purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Betty Jean James.



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**Avery Stephens** - January 20 at 08:17 PM

SM

“ Sabrina Muscovealley-Roberts lit a candle in memory of Betty Jean James



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**Sabrina Muscovealley-Roberts** - January 20 at 02:31 PM

JJ

“ Thank you for being for a vital part in my life including my children, we will always have fond memories of the love you shared.

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**Jeffrey James** - January 14 at 05:45 PM

GL

“ Condolences to the family from the Ledsinger family.



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**gary Ledsinger** - January 14 at 10:03 AM

BR

“ Barbara RogersLandry lit a candle in memory of Betty Jean James



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**Barbara RogersLandry** - January 14 at 09:23 AM

CD

“ Carolyn Donalson-Smith lit a candle in memory of Betty Jean James



Carolyn Donalson-Smith - January 13 at 06:37 PM

CN

“ Mother Betty was a woman of strength, purpose, and deep love, and her legacy lives on through her children and everyone she touched. She will be greatly missed. With heartfelt sympathy and love, Oscar & Cassandra Naylor

Cassandra Naylor - January 12 at 11:00 PM

PF

“ Perkins & Fields Families purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Betty Jean James.



Perkins & Fields Families - January 12 at 08:22 PM

SF

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Shelba Frazier - January 12 at 05:32 PM

SF

*From the Pontiac Knolls A-Team. We send our love and condolences to the family!*

**Shelba Frazier** - January 12 at 05:36 PM

SF

*From the Pontiac Knolls A-Team and the entire neighborhood. We send our love and condolences to the family.*

**Shelba Frazier** - January 12 at 11:39 PM

DC

“ *Our prayers are with you and your family during your this difficult time.*



**Dennis Collins** - January 12 at 12:24 PM

AH

“ *Adele Hopkins lit a candle in memory of Betty Jean James*



**Adele Hopkins** - January 11 at 09:48 PM

TS

“ *Mrs. James you will be missed. The Scruggs family loves you. Fletch family you are in our prayers*



**Tammy Scruggs** - January 11 at 02:19 PM

CH

“ *My condolences to the Fletcher family. Ms Betty work with my mom at GM and I'm went to school with Tracey. Louise and Cynthia Howard*



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**Cynthia Howard** - January 11 at 01:11 PM

FS

“ *Freda Simmons lit a candle in memory of Betty Jean James*



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**Freda Simmons** - January 10 at 08:22 PM

MM

“ *Matria Melvin lit a candle in memory of Betty Jean James*



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**Matria Melvin** - January 10 at 03:05 PM

SS

“ *Selina Spears lit a candle in memory of Betty Jean James*



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**Selina Spears** - January 10 at 02:01 PM

RJ

“ Rosie Jordan lit a candle in memory of Betty Jean James



Rosie Jordan - January 10 at 09:55 AM

ET

“ Ernestine Tolbert lit a candle in memory of Betty Jean James



Ernestine Tolbert - January 10 at 09:43 AM

SG

“ Sabrina Gissendanner lit a candle in memory of Betty Jean James



Sabrina Gissendanner - January 10 at 01:30 AM

LY

“ Lawanda Young lit a candle in memory of Betty Jean James



Lawanda Young - January 09 at 10:12 PM

LB

“ I thank God for Mrs. Betty. When my parents became ill. Mrs. Betty would cook a meal once a week until she was unable. I love and appreciated her for her acts of kindness. Praying for the family. Love you all.

Laverne Bobo - January 09 at 08:05 PM

CT

“ CORINE TURNER lit a candle in memory of Betty Jean James



CORINE TURNER - January 09 at 08:05 PM

BR

“ Barbara RogersLandry lit a candle in memory of Betty Jean James



Barbara RogersLandry - January 09 at 08:00 PM

SH

“ Get your rest my dear cousin! There were so many family memories. I will never forget.



Shay - January 09 at 06:15 PM

LC

*Lit a Candle for Betty Jean James*

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**Leola Carter** - January 13 at 02:59 PM

SD

*Our Louisiana family will always have a place in our hearts for Betty Jean. We have such great memories and shared a lot during our Harris Houston and Brown Family reunions. Such a strong organizer and believer in family. She will be greatly missed. Forever in our hearts ❤️  
.Sharon Harris Doyle, Bossier City, Louisiana*

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**Sharon Doyle** - January 23 at 08:14 PM