

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING
For The Life Of



Jewel Arguile Smalldon nee Ebanks

Friday November 29, 1929 – Wednesday January 12, 2022

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Selkirk Drive, Red Bay, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands

Saturday, January 29, 2022
At 11:00am

Private Cremation to Follow

Order of Service

Opening Remarks President Orin Ashby
Opening Prayer Brother Kenneth Flake
Hymn 86 “How Great Thou Art” Congregation
Scripture Reading – Proverbs 31:10-31 Sister Allecia Rhone
Hymn 246 “Onward Christian Soldiers” Congregation
Obituary Ms. Heather Bodden OCI, Cert Hon, JP, MP
Musical Number (pre-recorded)..... Hannah Parchment (granddaughter)
Talk President Orin Ashby
Hymn 165 “Abide with me; Tis Eventide” Sister Amanda Vierra (1st verse)
Closing Prayer Brother Matthew Krell

Pallbearers

Mr. Philip Smalldon
Mr. Peter Smalldon
Mr. Murray Johnson

Ms. Sarah Smalldon
Mr. Peri Smalldon
Mr. Jonathan Parchment

Honorary Pallbearers

Mr. William Hessing
Mr. Edward Hessing
Mr. Jaime Smalldon
Mr. Philip Smalldon Jr.
Mr. Craig Ebanks Jr.

Master Aiden Ebanks
Master Noah Wiley
Mr. Marino Felli
Mr. Jordan Thompson
Mr. Alexander Greene

Mr. Wayne Harris
Mr. Brian Harris
Mr. Kheemrajh Harris
Mr. Rasheek Suckoo

Ushers

Mr. Victor Merizalde
Mr. Roderick De La Cruz
Mr. Arturo Moya-Jones
Mr. David Bush

Guest Book Attendants

Mrs. Elna Bush
Mrs. Dee-Ann Foster
Miss. Nilcer Murillo



Tributes

From Husband David

Who knew that our first walk together would last a whole lifetime? It wasn't always an easy road but we loved each other and that was enough. You have blessed me with a beautiful family and now there's so many of them, I can't keep up. You traveled the world with me, never complaining. When I left you to pack up each home as we moved onto our next army posting, you were courageous and strong. You are still the same beautiful woman that I have loved for almost sixty-eight years. Thank you for the memories and your endless love. You may have left me behind but you will never leave my heart. I was and still ever will be, for all eternity, proud to be your husband.

From children Cinny, Ginny, Philip, Kathy & Peter

My darling mum, the home you created for us all and the love that filled it helped me to become the mother I am to my family. Thank you for your amazing example of pure love. It was an honor and a privilege to be your last nurse and I pray that I did my best for you, as always did for me. Thank you for your last gift of clarity, which I received the morning after you, had passed. I know that families are forever and that you are always my mum. - Cinny

Words will never be able to express the deep appreciation and love that I have for you, my mother. You were the epitome of love. Always there, whenever I needed you and often when I thought I didn't but you knew best. I miss you so much and don't know what I will do without you in my life. What will any of us do without you? You were the matriarch of our family, holding us all together. A Jewel of a mother; you will be forever etched into my heart. - Ginny

My mum was and always will be, a beautiful lady inside and out. She was a big part of mine, Karen's and our children's lives. We didn't always live close to her especially in her later years but we were always in touch. We will always love and miss her. - Philip

My heart was torn into two, one was filled with heartache and pain, and the other died with you. Sleep eluded me. I lie awake at nights when the world is fast asleep, through the stillness of the dark; alone I take a walk down memory lane with tear filled eyes. If I could write a story about you, mum, it would be the greatest ever told, of a kind and warm heart, a loving and caring mum who had a generous heart of gold. Diction fails in providing the right words that would correctly describe your sterling qualities. The images fill my head but my education could not arm me with words to say how you are. I could write a million pages yet unable to say just how much you gave of yourself, your love, your resources, your everything; how dedicated you were to caring for us, your children, and others around you. If I could write a story about your life struggles, the needless troubles and battles you went through, a million pages would not be enough to tell the story of how simple a heart you were. - Kathy

My mother was one of the strongest women I know, strong in character and mind. I did not see the frail woman she became but the strong vibrant woman she always was. Her passing has left a hole that can never be filled. -Peter

From Grandchildren

Grandmothers are extra special people. They are upgraded versions of mothers – MOTHER 2.0. The do-over opportunity given to them leaves us wondering "why can't my Mum be just like Nanny". And when they are no longer here, the void is surreal. An empty space where there are now memories. The memories we share of mango season; we weren't in trouble as long as Nanny was sitting with us under the mango tree chomping on as many mangoes as our bellies could hold. The memories of watching you make mango jam and then enjoying it as a staple of our breakfast in the morning or late night snack just before bedtime. A favorite pastime with all the grandchildren is the time Nanny spent with each of us taking us fishing. Ok we get it, it's not something that Granddad liked and him going with you was not the option; we were! And we loved every moment of it staying out past bedtime. Nanny taught us that life is like a Pageant. Her entire life and existence was pure pageantry with grace, sophistication, grandeur and mutual respect. Our Nanny was like glue and glitter. The glue that held the family together and the glitter that we will continue finding in our hearts and souls long after she's gone. She still and will always sparkle within our hearts and fondest memories. Sleep peacefully Nanny. Your loving grandchildren

My heart breaks knowing that I can't walk in and see your face. You've always been one of the strongest women I know besides my mum, but she got that from you Nan. Thank you for always lending a listening ear and for filling our plates. For taking me fishing, letting me play in the sprinklers, caring for me when I was sick, fighting off the bad guys and loving me endlessly. You will always play a big part of our lives and your memory lives on forever. We love you eternally, -Jon, Hannah, Noah, Isabella, Emily and Elias

I can't describe the sadness I have felt in trying to find the right words to say. I really enjoyed spending quality time and talking with my grandmother and that's something I reflected on in this poem I wrote in her memory.

Under the arch is where we'd sit and watch the cars drive by.
I'd paint your nails you'd tell me tales of what was on your mind.
You taught me how to make a hat just out of silver thatch,
You'd take us fishing with only a line and we'd do just great with that.
You gave me 25\$ when I failed my written test,
Told me I'd pass the second time I just had to try my best.
I remember playing in the yard then eating mangos off the tree,
Sometimes getting yelled at....For eating too many!
So many childhood memories spent in your company,
I'm thankful for the bond we shared, so much love, so much care.
Your memory I will always have and hold so very dearly,
You were the best grandmother and I miss you greatly. – Sadi

My grandmother was a great woman. I have so many memories of her that I will forever cherish. When I was younger and I'd go to her house after school, we'd pick the green mangoes from the mango tree. We'd always get into trouble with nanny afterwards but she was cool about it. When I was sick and she and granddad would collect me from school, I remember she'd always give me a piece of bun with some butter and a cup of juice for a snack; that used to taste so good and would make me happy. I also remember the delicious mango jam she'd make with the fresh mangoes from her tree. I wish I could remember how she told me it was made. I remember we'd sit on the front porch for hours while she'd tell me stories of her life growing up, they were always so fascinating to listen to. More recently, I'll remember how she'd think I was Hannah, even though she'd get reminded that I wasn't at least ten times a day. I will always remember how gentle she was with Zoey and how much they loved each other. Any chance that nanny would get, she'd ask to hold Zoey and would always offer to help out with her even though nanny herself was very fragile. Most importantly, I'll remember how much nanny loved us all. I'll never forget coming home and seeing nanny sitting in her chair watching a show on TV and hearing her sweet contagious laugh. Nanny was truly the definition of what grandmother means. It breaks my heart that nanny is no longer with us but I know she is no longer hurting and is looking down on all of us making sure we are all kept in check. The memories of her will definitely live on in the hearts of all those that have had the chance of meeting her and for that I'm so happy. I will for sure be telling Zoey, when she gets older, what a great and strong woman her great grandmother was. - Chloe

From Siblings Faith, William, and Edward

We knew about our sister Jewel; our mother spoke fondly of her, but we had never met her until many years later as she had grown up with her father. We met her in 1951 for the first time in Jamaica. She was the eldest and we were taught to address her as Sis. We have fond memories of her during our early years. She remembered us at Christmas, often sending shoes and other useful gifts. There were seven of us altogether. Wilfred passed away as a child, George and Madge have also gone before us. George's widow, Lee, remembers Jewel as loving and kind, always making them so welcome whenever they visited. Jewel and Madge at one time, were roommates in Jamaica. They looked out and after each other. Our sister liked fame and beauty. Her first exposure to this was entering the Miss Jamaica pageant. She placed seventh and was the most beautiful by far! She continued with pageants even into her later years. She was full of love and charity and always thinking of someone else's needs. She lived a full life and that was our SIS!

From Joseph Woods - Cruise Operations & Security Manager Port Authority of the Cayman Islands

Mrs. Smalldon, for over a decade and a half, kept the restrooms and yard at PACI's Spott's facility clean and spick and span. I recall many conversations with her over the years and she would always lament how people could throw garbage on the ground when there were trash cans all over the facility. She gave her best and was always committed to the task; reliable and dependable. As I ponder her life, contributions and passing, I am filled with a feeling of sadness; sad that life is so short and finite. It was good to have known her and to have had the opportunity to interact with her over those many years that she looked after Spotts for PACI. Just a few weeks ago, I saw her and spoke with her. She was still up and going and I admired her for her strength at her age. I will always remember her as I drive past Spott's Dock. To Kathy and the rest of the family, I offer my sincere condolence on the loss of your dear mom. She will be missed.

May God bless and comfort you all. –

Obituary

Jewel Arguile Smalldon nee Ebanks was born in Spot Bay, Cayman Brac on November 29th, 1929. She was the daughter of Irene Rebecca Bodden of Cayman Brac and Alva Edison Ebanks aka Capt James from North Side, Grand Cayman.

During the famous 32 storm when she was three, her mother took her to Rebecca's cave for safety and afterwards her father took her to live with family in Little Cayman.

She lived in Little Cayman until she was seventeen; when she stole her father's cow and sold it to pay her passage on the ship Cimbocco bound for Jamaica.

Arriving without a passport she was rescued by her mother's cousins Bonnie and Lilly Dixon.

In Jamaica, Jewel put herself through school and Nursing school while working at the Pegasus Hotel/Silver Slipper club where she met celebrities such as Errol Flynn and Rock Hudson. One night she served a handsome soldier who only ever ordered one beer and made it last the whole evening! He walked her home one night after work and after knowing Jewel for only one week, he gave her an engagement ring. After that whirlwind romance, she married William David Smalldon and so began sixty seven and a half years of adventure for them both.

David had been stationed in Kingston with the British Army and that is where they married, without parental or Army consent. After two days of married life, the Army sent David to Belize for six months, thinking that by the time he got back one or the other of them would have changed their minds and that would be the end. Not so. David came out of the Army and they settled in his hometown village of Bishops Tawton in Barnstaple, Devon, England.

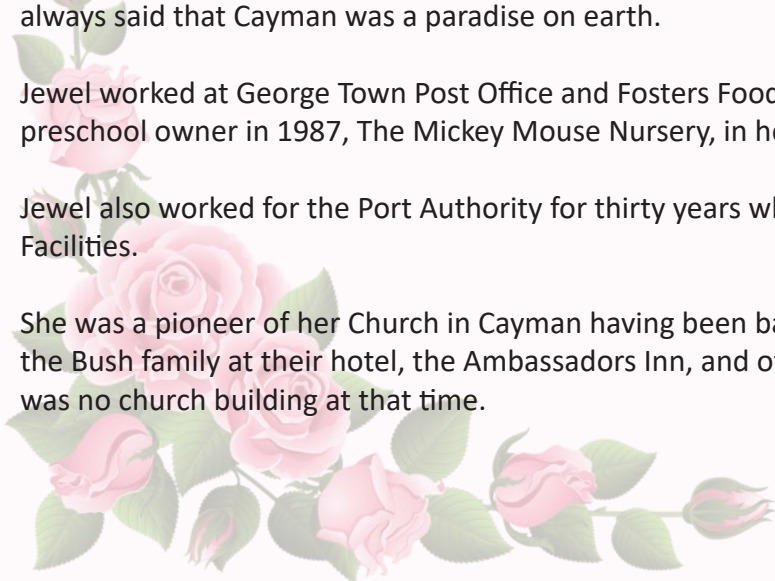
Three children would be born in the U.K. before David rejoined the Army; Cynthia, Virginia and Philip. Jewel and David travelled all over the world including Cyprus where Katherine was born and Northern Ireland where Peter was born. They also spent five years living in Germany, and visited most European countries and also the Mediterranean, living in Malta and visiting Sicily and Italy. Once David was discharged from the Army they settled in Rainham, Kent, in England. They bought and lived in their first home. Jewel went back to work as a Nurse.

She returned to Cayman in 1980. Her brother, Carson Ebanks Senior, had passed away and she was attending the funeral. It was then that she decided to uproot the family and relocate to Cayman permanently. She had always said that Cayman was a paradise on earth.

Jewel worked at George Town Post Office and Fosters Food Fair until she established her own business as a preschool owner in 1987, The Mickey Mouse Nursery, in her home.

Jewel also worked for the Port Authority for thirty years where she was the caretaker of the Spotts Jetty Facilities.

She was a pioneer of her Church in Cayman having been baptized in 1965 in Northern Ireland. She met with the Bush family at their hotel, the Ambassadors Inn, and other member's homes for Sunday service as there was no church building at that time.



She once hosted twelve missionaries at her home in Spotts for Christmas lunch. She has been visited twice in Cayman by the Missionary that baptized her, Elder Robert Smith as they had remained fast friends.

Her passion for pageants was fueled by entry into the Miss Jamaica pageant in 1952 at the age of twenty-two. Since then she has organized pageants and many baby contests, been involved with amateur theatre, plus story and poetry writing. Some of her work was published in newspapers and books. She loved fund raising and humanitarian aid such as after Hurricane Mitch. Even after her family prayed three times that she wouldn't go, she did, and travelled to Banaca, Honduras to help with the cleanup of the Island.

She co-established the Spotts clean-up committee, did tree planting in Little Cayman and approached government to get the mosquito spraying program to Little Cayman.

Jewel spearheaded the building of Grannies' cottage at the Spotts Dock as something for the tourists to see when they came off the cruise ships that docked there in bad weather. She was assisted by the inmates of Her Majesty's Prison, Northward. Grannies' cottage was sadly destroyed by Hurricane Ivan and she did not have the funds to replace it.

Jewel loved to make and decorate wedding cakes especially for those who got married in her garden! Four or five weddings were held in the garden at Spotts. A renewal of vows for her son and daughter in law on their 25th wedding anniversary was also held there. She also enjoyed making Christmas puddings and cakes, mango jam and bread pudding. She loved a yard or dinner sale and could often be seen on the roadside outside their house.

In 1994 she was awarded a silver plaque for her contribution to the Royal Visit by utilizing her gardening skills on the piece of land outside their home commonly known as the Spotts straight. She enjoyed her own garden very much and spent many hours planting and watering. She enjoyed taking part in the Pirates Week Float Parade and quite often brought home a prize for having the best float.

Jewel was the Director of the Glamorous Granny, Full Figure and Modern Miss pageant for thirteen years and would accompany her local winners to International contests, herself eligible to enter and was once awarded Director of the year!

After the 9/11 disaster, Jewel threw herself into fund raising. She and her then reigning Glamorous Granny Mrs. Bridget McPartland travelled to New York with travelling companions comprising of the Cayman Islands Fire Dept, Royal Cayman Islands Police Service and the Cayman Islands Medical Services to present a cheque for \$72,953.00 to the relief fund for victim's families and survivors.

Jewel and David were invited to Buckingham Palace for tea with the Queen in 2011. She later said that the sandwiches were stale and horrible and the tea was cold. She said that she would rather have stayed at home and made it herself. High Tea at the Smalldon home was always a lavish affair.

For many years Jewel had enjoyed collecting for the Veterans annual Poppy Day. Jewel loved to celebrate life in so many ways. Her family meant everything to her. She encouraged them to embrace life and live it to the fullest by her example.

She has left a rich and varied legacy for many. She will be sorely missed by everyone who knew and loved her. She was an amazing example of strength, endurance, faith, love and charity.

Surely the Lord will say, well done good and faithful servant.

The strongest woman we will ever know

At first glance Mum's hands may seem crippled and meek, she flinches when you bump them and her grip is quite weak. But these hands are a reflection of the woman inside, although burdened with limits, still strong with pride. When opening a jar seems too great a task, it's only after great hesitation that she finally asks. Don't let that mislead you for you must understand, it's not what they can't do, but rather what they can.

These hands have the strength to raise a family right, to wipe away every tear and hold you real tight. They come together each day in prayer, and whenever you need them, they're always right there. So if these hands don't appear all that tough, remember they're full of tenderness and love and for us, that's enough.



Thanks & Acknowledgements

The Smalldon Family would like to thank everyone for the outpouring of love, support, and prayers during this difficult time.

Sincere gratitude to her dedicated caregivers; Jasmin Fearon and Monica Lewis for all their love, kindness, patience, and support emotionally, physically and spiritually for Jewel and her family over the years. Special thanks to Drs Joy Wallace-Grant, Nelson Iheonunekwu, Judith Nicholls and Virginia Hobday, her physiotherapists Chauveneas and Christina, the staff of George Town Hospital Emergency Room, the Paramedics, EMT's and anyone else who may have contributed to her care, no matter how small. Thanks also to Jasmine Care Nurses Elizabeth Dikau and Heather Huizinga who tended her in the last days. Special mention to Scott Ruby and his team at Bodden Funeral Service for their compassion and patience. And also the members of the Grand Cayman Branch of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints who came together in our time of need.