

Service Of Thanksgiving For The Life Of



Josephine Emily Knox

December 6th, 1931 – February 8th, 2024

Elmslie Memorial United Church
George Town, Grand Cayman
March 18th, 2024
2:30pm

Officiating Minister:
Reverend Christopher Mason

Organist and Audio/Video Tech:
Mr. Antonio Sanchez

Church Ushers:
Ms Francella Myles, Mr. Buel Braggs, Mr. Jamalleo Ramoon

Order of Service



Musical Prelude	Power Point
Opening Remarks	Reverend Christopher Mason
Hymn	To God be the Glory
Prayer	Reverend Christopher Mason
Scripture- Psalms 23	Thora Crighton-Bodden
Hymn	Great is Thy Faithfulness
Obituary	Shirley Roulstone
Hymn	Blessed Assurance
Sermon	Reverend Christopher Mason
Prayer for the Family	Reverend Christopher Mason
Hymn	Victory in Jesus
Benediction	Reverend Christopher Mason
Recessional A/V	Meet You in Paradise by Philip Bodden

Tribute from Josie's Sons and their Families

Our Island Mama

The 4 of us brothers called Josie our Island Mama. She entered our lives when she married our Father 45 years ago!

Josie gave Dad a purpose in life. You could tell they just loved each other very much and enjoyed each other's company!

They loved to travel! Many day trips to visit the family. Cross country excursions to California or British Columbia, Canada, or back to Cayman...it did not matter!

Josie was always happy to see her family, even later in life.

We all knew it was best for her to return to her island family at Dad's passing, where she had the love and care and comfort she would need later on, but it was also sad for us in many ways.

Visits to cayman to see Josie were too infrequent but always memorable.

I, David Jnr. was able to bring my Daughter and Son and their families to visit for a week several years ago. My Son and Son in Law got Josie down to the beach so she could sit in a chair with her feet in the sea! The smile never left her face or ours!

The tears, hugs and kisses whenever we saw her will never be forgotten.

Service Hymns

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with Thee; Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not; as Thou hast been, Thou forever will be.

Refrain:

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see; All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest; sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide; strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow; blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside.

Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of His Spirit, washed In His blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect communion, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight.
Angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Perfect submission, all is at rest. I in my Savior am happy and bless'd, watching and waiting, looking above, filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

Victory in Jesus

I heard an old, old story, how a Savior came from glory, how He gave His life on Calvary to save a wretch like me; I heard about His groaning, of His precious blood's atoning, then I repented of my sins and won the victory.

Chorus:

O victory in Jesus, my Savior, forever. He sought me and bought me with His redeeming blood; He loved me ere I knew Him and all my love is due Him, He plunged me to victory, beneath the cleansing flood.

I heard about His healing, of His cleansing pow'r revealing, how He made the lame to walk again and caused the blind to see; and then I cried "Dear Jesus, come and heal my broken spirit" and somehow Jesus came and bro't to me the victory.

I heard about a mansion He has built for me in glory, and I heard about the streets of gold beyond the crystal sea; about the angels singing, and the old redemption story, and some sweet day I'll sing up there the song of victory.

To God be the Glory

To God be the glory, great things He has done! So loved He the world that He gave us His Son, who yielded His life an atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice! O come to the Father through Jesus the Son and give Him the glory, great things He has done!

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood, to every believer the promise of God; the vilest offender who truly believes, that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Great things He has taught us, great things He has done, and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son, but purer and higher and greater will be our joy and our wonder when Jesus we see.

OBITUARY
JOSEPHINE EMILY KNOX
DEC. 6TH, 1931 – FEB. 8TH, 2024

Josephine Emily Knox (nee McTaggart) better known as Jo or Josie, was born on Dec. 6th, 1931 to Cecily Emeline McTaggart (nee Thompson) and Frederick William McTaggart in the family home on North Church Street in George Town, Grand Cayman.

She was the fifth child and second daughter, after her infant sister (Josephine Emiline) died at only a few weeks old.

In her early childhood, Josie attended Ms Una Bush's school and in 1941 she attended Triple C School until her graduation in 1948.

After her graduation, Josie got a secretarial job at H.O Merren and Co.

Josie had a typical growing up for those days. She had many friends, however she and her sisters were not permitted to stray too far from home, especially in the evenings so they entertained themselves and delighted many others playing the guitar and singing with the most beautiful 3-part harmony on the front porch! Josie was taught to play the guitar by her Aunt Leila McTaggart (Ross-Shier) who as many of you know was an accomplished musician and composer and became Cayman's 10th National Hero in 2021.

Many passers by would stop to listen to the trio and some would even join in, including sailors from the warships, marveling at these 3 beautiful sisters with such lovely voices!

Josephine attended church and participated in many church activities in her youth which continued all through her life.

It was at her job, that Josie caught the eye and attention of Cyril Kelvin Coe, better known to all as Buddy on one of his trips home from his job in Venezuela.

Josie and Buddy were married in this same church on June 29th, 1953 when Josie was 21 years old.

Immediately after their marriage, Josie and Buddy traveled to Jamaica to get their paperwork together for their move to Venezuela.

Buddy's job took him all over the country there, but they resided mainly in Valencia and Caracas. Josie loved her 22 years spent there where she met many lifelong friends, including other Caymanians and it was there she proudly learned to speak Spanish fluently. Josie never passed up an opportunity to chat with anyone she found who spoke Spanish!

Sadly, Buddy passed away after a brief illness on July 31st 1974. Josie chose to stay on in Venezuela for a year after his passing before returning home as a young widow to live with her parents.

Josie spent her time keeping her Mom and Dad company and also visiting her sisters Beth and Grace and their families and her dear friends.

Many days were spent at Beth's and Frank's rental cottage on Boggy Sand Rd. in West Bay as Josie loved the beach and the sea, especially during Mango season! (Her Granddaughter Kelly told me one of her standout memories as a child was "Gramma Josie" teaching them how to eat mangoes in Michigan which they had never heard of and hearing her tell of eating them in the sea!)

It was on one of those visits to Boggy Sand Rd. that Josie met the charming David Knox who had been invited to Cayman on vacation by one of Frank's Army buddies! David had been divorced for several years and the two of them hit it off like two peas in a pod, fell in love at first sight and were married not too long after in Ohio on Mar. 30th 1979! Aunt Josie acquired another whole family with this union as David had 4 sons from his previous marriage! She dearly loved them all and their wives and children and they lovingly accepted her into their lives calling her their Island Mama or their Cayman Mama and the Grandkids called her Gramma Josie!

David's Job took them from Ohio to New York and eventually Michigan where they settled in Stephenville, closer to David's family. David sadly passed away on Sept. 29th, 2012 and his remains are interred in the church yard that they attended. Not knowing at the time if she would stay in Michigan or return to Cayman, Josie asked her boys to save some of their Dad's ashes to be with hers as she also wanted to be cremated.

Josie decided a few months later to move back home to Cayman where she resided with Beth and Frank.

Josie enjoyed living on Boggy Sand Rd. where she was a celebrity of sorts! She spent many hours on the porch prior to covid, looking out at the sea, watching and feeding wild chickens, singing, whistling and chatting with neighbors, visitors, or any lost soul passing by, just like in her youth on the porch at her home! One of her special friends was Sheri Hilman who visited regularly and always made Josie feel so loved!

Josie also had one special pet hen that she fed and watched from the porch every evening to make sure she got safely up in the tree in the front yard for the night with a full belly. This hen she called "little Girly". Josie and Beth later acquired a rescue kitten and she became Little Girly also! Josie was devastated when Little Girly died so she got another rescue kitty for Mother's Day in 2020 and that one became Little Girly also!

Everyone loved Josie and they all missed her when after covid lockdown she resigned herself to spending more time inside. Many of them would stop in to visit or sing with her or play the guitar and entertain her! She loved having company and was delighted when this past Christmas Eve a colorful and happy group of carolers from the neighborhood came to the house to bring Christmas cheer to her and Beth!

The singing and whistling continued day and night except when her favorite programs were coming on tv like Sanford and Son, All in the Family, Are you being served, the 700 Club and of course Fox where she did not miss any mention or sight of her boyfriend Leo Terrell 2.0 or her other boyfriend Donald J Trump, or "Trumpalee" as she affectionately called him! Josie would laugh so hard watching her comedies and even if you had no clue what she was laughing at you could not help but laugh along with her and at her!!! Josie loved her chewing gum and her chocolates which she guarded and rationed carefully if she saw them getting low! She loved her ham and pineapple Pizza Nights and her rocky road or chocolate ice cream EVERY night!

Josie was usually pretty happy, joyful, fun-loving, a prankster and a joker, but when she was not happy you knew it! She didn't mind telling you off which usually made most of us laugh and pick on her even more!!!! It was all in fun and she was a pretty good sport but if she could have given us all the "Soopappas" and "busted lips" she threatened us with, none of us would be here today!!!

Josie was pretty independent in spite of her mobility issues due to neuropathy that she developed early in mid life. She could get around the house on her walker and get herself in and out of bed. She never passed the picture of her brother in law Frank, on the wall without talking to her "Frankie Doodle". We were sure one day he might talk back to her.

Josie always wanted to look good even if no one was going to see her. She always got her hair cut by Monica and every Sat. she got it washed and rolled up in her yellow curlers and then styled! She always fixed herself up in the mirror with her makeup and put on her perfume like she had a hot date!!! She was particular about her soap, lotions, makeup, deodorant and such and if she was low on any of them you better find the right replacement and no substitute!

During her 12 years living with Beth, Josie had the best of care from Beth herself and a host of wonderful caregivers who looked after both her and Frank until his passing, including Monica (also known as Bobo) and Audrey (who Aunt Josie named Commandante). For the last 14 months she had her very own dedicated caregiver, another Ms Audrey!

Josie was in great health especially for her age. She even survived a bout of covid at 90, until on the evening of Jan. 17th she complained of stomach pain and was clearly not herself so she was taken by ambulance to GT Hospital. Her health declined there and she wanted to be at home so on the evening of Jan. 22 she was taken back to her room on Boggy Sand Rd. She was confined to her bed by this time but with the professional assistance of the loving folks of Jasmine, Josie was well cared for and kept comfortable. She spent her waking hours watching out her bedroom window for cruise ships or passers by. She also witnessed the tempest of the Feb. 5th/6th Norwester but mostly she rested. On Feb. 7th and 8th her condition worsened and at 8:35pm on Feb. 8th Josephine departed for her Heavenly home with family and her caregivers by her side and her guitar hymns playing softly for her transition journey.

Josie was preceded in death by her beloved infant Sister, Mother, Father, brothers William Eddingston McTaggart, Frederick Wyman McTaggart, Raib McAlster McTaggart, sister Grace Darling Hurst, and husbands Buddy Coe, Sister in Law Maizie Dina and David Knox.

Left behind and missing her on the McTaggart side are her baby sister Beth, Sisters in Law Bonnie McTaggart and Margaret McTaggart, Nieces and Nephews Tony Mosley, Shirley Roulstone, Karl McTaggart, Johnny McTaggart, Ontaeya Graves, Colleen Burlison, Sharon Roulstone, Pamela Mosley, Malcolm McTaggart, Frederick McTaggart, Frank Roulstone 3rd, Gregory McTaggart and their families. Special Grand Nieces Hayley Roulstone, Katherine Bovre and Grand Nephew Hunter Roulstone.

On Buddy's side Niece Pauline Wood (Merrel) and their children Curtis, Sean and Kimberly Wood-Tibbetts, Grand Nieces Thora Crighton-Bodden. Tammy Buck and Grand nephew Dale Crighton and their families. Niece Karen Thomas and her children and Nephews Jim and Bud Dina.

On David's side, Sons David Knox Jnr, Tim Knox, Patrick Knox and Jonathan Knox and their wives, 9 Grandchildren Kelly, Davey, Josh, Lance, Patrick, Mike, Jill, Alex, Brianna, and their families including 17 Great Grandchildren.

She is also sadly missed by her loving caregivers, and many other dear relatives and friends.

Josie's and David's ashes will be dispersed together by the family privately.

Keep singing with the angels now our beloved Josephine until we meet you in Paradise.







The family would like to say a sincere Thank You to all who have expressed their condolences in many ways from near and far. Thank you to Janet Macmillan and the office at Elmslie, Jasmine for their kind assistance to us to ensure Josie was well cared for and comfortable and who also helped with her arrangements on her passing, to the EMT's and members of the Cayman Islands Fire Service who transported her to HSA and back home, to Brett McTaggart for the Power Point, to Bodden Funeral Services for their care through this process and to all who have helped out in other ways.

God Bless You All