



Apostle EvaNell Diane Atkins

April 7, 1955 - February 23, 2025

Obituary

EvaNell Diana Atkins, a resident of Fruitland, Maryland, departed this life at the age of sixty-nine (69) on Sunday, February 23, 2025 at Tidal Health. She was born to the late Johnnie Carter, Sr. and Pastor Ollie Mae Carter on April 7, 1955 in Delray Beach, Florida.

“Diane”, as she was affectionately called, attended schools in Fruitland, Maryland and later attended James M. Bennett High School in Salisbury, Maryland.

Diane was employed at Jody’s Shirt Factory and Miss Rina’s Café in South Bay, Florida. She later retired from Salisbury University’s Dining Service in 2008.

Diane was married to Alex for over forty (40) years. She was a faithful and proud member of St. John’s House of Deliverance in Fruitland, Maryland. There she served as an usher, on the kitchen committee, the pastor’s aide, the adult choir, the Ministerial staff and later became an ordained Apostle on the Apostle’s Panel of Signs, Wonder and Restoration Umbrella Ministries.

Although she was affectionately called Diane, when it came to the kitchen she

was best known as “Lady D” or maybe even the “GOAT” lady. Lady D expressed her love and passion through her cooking. Though anything she ever cooked was always finger lickin’ good, she was best known for her famous curry goat, oxtails, and her homemade SWEET POTATO PIES (and Patti’s don’t have nothing on hers). In addition to cooking, she also enjoyed crocheting in her spare time and loving her family.

Diane leaves to cherish loving memories: her husband, Alex; two daughters, Lakisha Snead Showell (Doug) of Salisbury, Maryland and Nykeetra Atkins of Fruitland, Maryland; a stepson, Morris (Samantha) Atkins; a son-in-law, Marvin Ames; five grandsons, Marquis, DaQuantre, Trendon, Joseph and Jeremiah; two great granddaughters, Paris and Kelis; two special nieces (granddaughters), Zynalah and Kylee; three sisters, Patricia (James) Butler and Ruby Brown, both of Salisbury, Maryland and Lisa Franklin of Florida; four brothers, Pastor Daryl Carter of Fruitland, Maryland, Lawrence Carter of Princess Anne, Maryland, Johnnie, Jr. (Anna) Carter of Salisbury, Maryland and Alfonso Carter of Florida; one uncle, Harry Hunter; special cousins, Angie and Elaine; special friends, Betty Barnard, Rose Allen, Rita White, Anne Carter and Elaine Copeland; her mother-in-law, Diane and her father-in-law, Leroy, both of Florida; sisters-in-law, Sophia (Reginald) Jernigan of Port St. Lucia, Florida and Sonia Booker Orlando, Florida; a brother-in-law, Amos (Chasity) Welch; and special nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

In addition to her parents, Diane was preceded in death by a daughter Trina Lockwood-Ames, a sister Jacqueline Carter-Spence and her maternal and paternal grandparents.

LOVINGLY SUBMITTED ~ THE FAMILY

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 15. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Bennie Smith Life Celebration Center
901 West Isabella Street
Salisbury, MD 21801

Funeral Service

MAR 15. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bennie Smith Life Celebration Center
901 West Isabella Street
Salisbury, MD 21801

Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

Bennie Smith Funeral Home - March 17, 2025 at 02:48 PM



“ *Bennie Smith Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Apostle EvaNell Diane Atkins*



Bennie Smith Funeral Home - March 17, 2025 at 02:13 PM



“ *Cousins James & Josephine Hunter Green lit a candle in memory of Apostle EvaNell Diane Atkins*



Cousins James & Josephine Hunter Green - March 15, 2025 at 09:15 AM

GE

“ My sincere condolences to the Atkins and Carter family. My prayers continue to go out for the family. Diane made a difference in so many lives. A true servant of the LORD. Rest in peace cousin!

Geneva Owens
Charlotte, NC

Geneva - March 14, 2025 at 06:42 PM

DB

“ Sending my deepest condolences to the family. I am sadden to hear of Apostle Diane's passing. We had not seen one another for years until a few months ago when I came home for one of our Fruitland homeboy's Homegoing service. We hugged each other so tightly and we both were genuinely happy to see each other. I never thought that would be my last time seeing her. Rest In Peace.



Doretha Bounds Burrell - March 14, 2025 at 04:43 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Apostle EvaNell Diane Atkins.



March 14, 2025 at 12:24 AM

BG

“ On behalf of Victory Faith Worship Center, we extend our deepest condolences. Our thoughts are with you and we pray that God gives you peace and comfort during this difficult time.

Apostle Matthew and Bishop Cora Brown

Barbara Gumby - March 13, 2025 at 08:18 AM

AM

“ Sending heartfelt sympathy and prayers to the family. Diane was the mother of my late niece, Trina Lockwood-Ames. May she rest in peace.

Angela Marshall - March 12, 2025 at 12:11 PM

DS

“ Sending our deepest condolences from Deneen , Charles & Linda from Gainesville Florida

Deneen Scottish - March 11, 2025 at 04:31 PM

AP

“ My Deepest Condolences To You And The Family Praying For Y'all Alice Peter's



Alice Peters - March 11, 2025 at 01:02 PM

TW

“ *Sorry For Your Loss*



Thomas Widgeon - March 11, 2025 at 07:54 AM

TB

“ *To all of the family we send all our prayers, Love and our support because this is not a easy time and there is no time long enough to share with those we love or prepare our hearts to say good-bye.*



Therman&Barbara Brown - March 11, 2025 at 07:23 AM