



Ms. Joyce Dennison

November 22, 1941 - September 1, 2024

Joyce Dennison passed away on September 1, 2024. She grew up in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, where she attended Kennett Consolidated School grades 1-12; and later graduated from Morgan State College in Baltimore. After teaching in public schools in Kennett Square and in New Castle, Delaware she joined the Women's Army Corps, and remained in the Army for 10 years. She later settled in Baltimore, where she became the Director of the Maryland AIDS Hotline; and later returned to teaching in the Baltimore City School system. After retirement, she joined the Renaissance Institute of Lifelong Learning, College of Notre Dame of MD University. She loved writing essays, playing mahjong, traveling, exploring the spiritual realm, and listening to opera and jazz. In 2021 she published a collection of essays, *Out of My Mind*.

She is predeceased by her loving parents Lindley G Hemsley & Martha Dennison Bond; and also by sisters Clara, Elva, and Margaret. She is survived by her loving partner of 40 years, Amanda Joyce; and a large and loving extended family. In lieu of flowers please consider making a donation in Joyce's memory to the Kennett Heritage Center, Kennett Square, PA; the United Negro College fund; or the Renaissance Institute, College of Notre Dame of MD.

A celebration luncheon to be held immediately following the memorial mass at

Church of the Nativity & Holy Comforter (6112 York Rd, Baltimore, MD 21212)

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT **19**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Govans Presbyterian Church
5828 York Rd
Baltimore, MD 21212

Tribute Wall

so

“ you have been so much on my mind, dear joyceling--sōwbel

A SKELETAL SUMMATION

*I have held the frail hand
of a frail friend working hard
to leave the hardy bones
of her home and living*

*and holding your hand, and then
just your bird-like little finger, I knew more
of your life than our forty years
of flannelled friendship could say*

*it is your birthday, today, joycey
and I am missing all that we have
yet to do and will not do except
in some dreamy realm of reveries*

*O'Keefe liked to view the sky through
bones of desert creatures, but I want only to hear
your bones rustling, whistling
near or not so near, but humming*

*directing all of us to
your whereabouts so we might
find our still furry and unshorn times
to share and unshare*

over and over.

so - November 22, 2024 at 02:39 PM

GP

“ I can't express my sorrow at reading that Joyce has passed. A wonderful lady who always showed up for the reunions with such joy. I'm so going to miss knowing she is in the world. God bless

Grace Pfeifer - September 23, 2024 at 07:49 PM

KD

“ It was truly a blessing having Cousin Joyce to share her book and life experience with the senior center in Lancaster, PA in February 2024. Joyce shall always remain in our hearts. Our condolences and prayers to you Amanda. Love! Karen



Karen G. Dixon - September 22, 2024 at 12:20 AM

JS

“ Amanda, Flash & I were so sorry to read about your great loss. Joyce was a very special person. Joe

Joe Stewart - September 17, 2024 at 05:47 PM

DS

“ We've been so fortunate to have such a wonderful neighbor in Joyce. She will be so missed! Here is a fun memory of Joyce and Amanda dressed up for Bloomsday.



Dana Shaw - September 14, 2024 at 07:34 PM

SS

*what a spectacular photo--captures so much of the play, joy, intelligence and whimsy of your lives together *****so'*

sb sowbel - September 30, 2024 at 08:53 AM

AN

“ *Sending condolences and love to Amanda and Joyce's large family. Through her wonderful descriptive writing in our Renaissance Memory Pictures class I felt that I got to know Joyce through her many years of adventures and love. She always had a warm sense of humor and a good, friendly word to say. I am grateful to have known her.*

Andrea P Naft - September 10, 2024 at 01:31 PM

LD

I am so blessed to call Joyce a friend. I played many mahjong games with her and always enjoyed her company and her wit. She is a great lady who taught me a lot about life through her various experiences In life.

LuAnne DiStefano - September 15, 2024 at 09:05 PM

SL

“ Joyce was such a gift to my life. I loved her mere presence, her laughter, eye rolling, her advice- solicited or not- and her PROJECTS which always benefited others! She had a huge heart sometimes hidden behind a commanding exterior- but she sure got things done. She scoured Baltimore and neighboring counties to find a pair of shoes to accommodate a very unwieldy brace I had to wear. I wore those shoes for over 4 months- loved them and hated them!

My heart just sank when Amanda called in June to tell me her time was short. I am profoundly grateful I was able to spend time with her before she left us. Joyce's buddy, my husband Larry, simply cried when I told him. They liked golf, the Orioles and talking about politics and justice.

We were at our home in WV when Amanda telephoned to tell us Joyce had gone. I walked out on our deck and just shook my head as a cardinal descended into the bird bath. I think she wanted me to put more water in it.

With love to Amanda and Joyce's beloved nieces.
Larry and Shirley Bigley LaMotte



Shirley Bigley LaMotte - September 09, 2024 at 02:35 PM

SS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Sb Sowbel - September 09, 2024 at 12:56 PM

SS

joycey in her morgan state university jacket, nov, 2010

Sb Sowbel - September 10, 2024 at 02:04 AM

SS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Sb Sowbel - September 09, 2024 at 12:54 PM

SS

this is joycey enjoying the beautiful bench her family had erected on the grounds of the park where she and her friends and family used "to rip and run" when it was just the back field

sb sowbel - September 30, 2024 at 08:55 AM

AP

“ *My condolences to Amanda and the rest of her family. I have known Joyce since the 1980s from working together in the LGBT community before the HIV/AIDS epidemic began. She had such a wonderful spirit about her and had a special kindness for all she encountered.*

Andre Powell - September 06, 2024 at 02:50 PM

SA

“Joyce, thanks for all our project Wednesdays, the best crew chief ever!

Always stopping by to check on me in the RI Office. I will cherish all our laughs and hard work; all that high-level decision making. You will be sorely missed. I am so glad to have had the pleasure of working with you.

Amanda, thanks for entertaining our scavenger hunts. You are in my thoughts and heart at this most difficult time.

Sandy Adams - September 04, 2024 at 01:25 PM