

# CELEBRATION OF *Life*

ELDER

*Zitta Jean May*  
**GREEN**

SUNRISE: August 29, 1946 • SUNSET: January 27, 2022

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2022**

**VIEWING: 10:00 AM**

**SERVICE: 11:00 AM**

Ebenezer Church of God  
7550 Buchanan Street  
Landover Hills, MD 20784

*Officiating Minister*  
Bishop Christopher Benjamin  
Ebenezer Church of God

*(All attendees must wear masks, and social distancing will be enforced at viewing and service.)*

# OBITUARY

## The *Life* of Zitta Jean May Green

**Z**itta Jean May Green was born on August 29, 1946, in the Red Lands District of Clarendon, Jamaica to the late Adrian Percival and Mavis Violet McLean.

Jean attended Red Hills Primary School and Edwin Allen High School in Frankfield, Clarendon. She excelled in her studies. Upon graduation, she was asked to assist in teaching at Red Hills All Age School. She accepted the position and taught there briefly before moving to Kingston to pursue an education in nursing.

In September 1965, Jean met the love of her life, Martin Green, while still living in Kingston. Their romance flourished. Jean, however, wanted to pursue a career in nursing and moved to the U.S. from Jamaica in 1968. After completing her undergraduate studies, she earned her bachelor's degree in nursing, followed by her master's in psychology.

Her love, Martin, immigrated to the U.S. a short time after. The couple married on June 10, 1972. Together, they were blessed with four wonderful children.

Jean was employed as a Registered Nurse in many local hospitals and medical facilities including Holy Cross Hospital, DC General (Head of HIV/AIDS

nursing during the height of the AIDS epidemic), Prince George's Community Hospital, Kaiser Permanente, and Laurel Regional Hospital. She also served in a variety of nursing roles, but particularly enjoyed working with newborn babies in labor and delivery.

In 1970, Jean enlisted in the United States Army Reserve. She proudly served as a reservist for 31 years. Her service earned her the Army Service Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, and Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal.

Jean was honorably discharged in 2001 at the rank of Major.

### "THE BEST NURSE EVER!"

Her passion for helping others expanded past nursing. She loved to give back to the

underserved areas throughout the world through various outreach missions. Among them was the Organization for International Development (OID). On numerous mission trips, she visited different parts of Jamaica with this group. The founder and president of OID, Dr. Streete, referred to Jean as "the best nurse ever."

The entrepreneurial spirit she exhibited led to discussions with her sister Winsome (Vee) about starting their own business. Life/health insurance was their first venture. However, they abandoned that endeavor fairly soon and decided to follow

their passion and started their own catering company, JVeEs Catering. Due to the success of their catering business, Jean and Vee opened a restaurant, Yawd Style, in Hyattsville, MD. Jean was dedicated to the restaurant, getting up every morning at 4 am and working until late evenings, except on Sundays. Following five successful years in the restaurant business, they decided to close the business.

Jean joined National Wesleyan Church in Hyattsville, MD under the pastoral care of Pastor John Mills and Pastor Ira Taylor. As a member, she served as an usher, church board member, and Sunday School teacher. Additionally, she took children from her church to summer camp in Denton, MD. The camp administration loved her so much that she became the camp nurse for many years. Her love for Denton led her to purchase a cabin where she spent time year-round getting away, recharging, reflecting, and strengthening her relationship with God.

Moreover, Jean was a founding member of Lighthouse Ministries International, under the leadership of the Reverend Dr. Oswen Cameron. She served on the Special Service Unit. Her service to the church led to her consecration as an Elder in 2018. Additionally, she was a member of the African Christian Fellowship.

Zitta Jean May Green leaves to cherish her memories, her devoted husband, Martin, and their children - Bruce, Dwayne (Alta), Turkishia, and Jawohn (Christina); stepdaughters - Maureen and Jackie; grandchildren - Tajae, Paris, Chabella, Jordyn, Reece, Khalil, Jawohn, Jr., Jeremiah, Malachi, and Gabriella; siblings - Dudley Howell (Daphne), Lynette Palmer, Amy McLean, Glen Drake, Gilbert McLean (Gwen), Hazel Brown (Owen), Winsome Jones, and Carol McLean; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends from around the globe.

*Rest in Peace, Jean.*



# TO MY LOVE *Remember...*

**J**ean, do you *remember*...when we first met in Kingston, Jamaica on a Thursday in September 1965 in Vineyard Town? You were residing with one of your sisters at the time. We began chatting, and from that day on, we were inseparable. Although you had to go back to school, we kept in touch by writing each other love letters. There were no cell phones in those good ole days.

*I remembered*...whenever you came to visit your sister, we would spend time together. We loved going to the movies together. Sometimes, we'd visit Hope Garden or Hero's Park, or go downtown to window shop and talk. We spent a lot of time at Lovers Lane. Your intelligence was one of the factors that attracted me to you. I admired how smart you were. You talked a lot, sometimes too much. And you were very hard-headed. Although you were stubborn--even though it takes one to know one--I always listened to you. I loved your strong will.

*I remembered*...when we got married on June 10, 1972. I knew how passionate you were about learning. I supported you in whatever you wanted to do, even when you told me you wanted to join the Army. I was behind you the entire time and did not want to stand in your way, but I was nervous.



I will always *remember*... how amazing of a mother you were and the love you showed to the four children we had together and your two stepchildren. My dear Jean, you were such a great woman, full of kindness and generosity. Sometimes you were too generous. You sacrificed so much to make sure everyone was taken care of, even if that meant ignoring your own needs. That was just who you were.

*I remember*...that vow I made to you in June that I would never leave you or forsake you. I promised to love and care for you. No, our marriage wasn't perfect. We had ups and downs, but we always worked through them and fixed the issues. You are always in my heart, and you always will be. Even though you are no longer physically present, my heart will always belong to you. My heart aches because you are no longer with us. The children and I will have to pick up the pieces, but we will never forget you. Only God knows why he took you from us so soon. We will see you in heaven someday. Until then...

*Remember*...you are forever my soulmate.

Rest in peace, my love.  
—Martin

# ORDER OF SERVICE

## VIEWING AND PROCESSIONAL

### FLORAL PROCESSION

**MODERATOR**..... Bishop Christopher Benjamin

**OPENING SONG**..... "I Believe" by Island Medley

**OPENING PRAYER** ..... Sister Cecilia Emenari

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament: *Proverbs 3:1-6* ..... Claudia White

New Testament: *Romans 14:7-9 / Revelation 21:1-4* ..... Janae Mansfield

**POEM READING BY GRANDCHILDREN** ..... Jordyn Garrett-Green

Jawohn Green, Jr.

Khalil Green-Fleming

Jeremiah Green

Chabella Green

Paris Green

**PRAYER OF COMFORT** ..... Reverend Dr. Rose Subryan

**TRIBUTE IN SONG**..... African Christian Fellowship Choir

**SIBLING TRIBUTES**..... Jerome Seetram

Khiana Johnson

**TRIBUTE IN SONG**..... Friends of NWC Choir

**TRIBUTE IN DANCE**..... Adagio Dance Ensemble

**READING OF OBITUARY** ..... Davian Bryan and Atiba Wallace

**EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE** ..... Jawohn Green and Dwayne Green

**TRIBUTES** ..... Bruce Green

Darien Strachan, Sr.

Maxine Mansfield

Heartland Hospice

Denton Wesleyan Camp

Dennis Edwards

**EULOGY** ..... Pastor Torrey Fingal

**CLOSING PRAYER** ..... Bishop Christopher Benjamin

### BENEDICTION

**RECESSIONAL**..... Medley of Songs

# REMEMBERING *Jean*

**There aren't enough words to describe you—**

*Christian, daughter, sister, wife, mother, aunt, grandmother, godmother, mother-in-law, prayer warrior, nurse, veteran, entrepreneur, giver, friend, supporter, advisor, humble, gracious, kind, outspoken, energetic, multi-tasker, compassionate, selfless, caring, vibrant, precious, and courageous...*

**WOMAN OF GOD.**



## *Tributes of Love...*

“Thanks, Mom, for everything from helping me with my firstborn son to helping me deliver my second. Thanks for being my prayer warrior. Thank you for always believing in me and investing in me to help leave a legacy for my boys. I will miss you, and I will keep doing my best to make you proud. I am grateful for everything you have done. We love you and miss you.”

— Your baby, Ja Ja

“Since January 27, a part of me has been missing that I know will never return. You taught me to be strong and push through, but this is tough. Mom, you always wanted the best for me, pushed me to do my best, and then you pushed some more. You have always been my #1 fan. I never wanted to disappoint you. You taught me so much throughout my life, and I will cherish those lessons forever. Your energy level was unmatched. I will miss your daily morning text message. I wish I could get one more text, one more phone call, one more dinner, one more sporting event, one more prayer, one more lecture, one more word of wisdom, one more moment by your side. Mom, I love you. As much as I miss you and wish you were here, I know you are in Heaven, singing and dancing with no more pain.”

—Dwayne



HI, MY GODIE, LIFT UP THE SPIRIT. “Jean, my little sister, why did you leave me? I still had so much to say to you. It was with a heavy heart, yet a special privilege, to see you drift away in the arms of our Father in the presence of your husband and other family members as your favorite reggae gospel song played.

“I have since gone back in time to recall/refresh my memories. I remember as a child how you pretended to have asthma when you didn’t want to do your chores and even to get special foods cooked for you (trickster). Throughout the years, you always showed love, kindness, and a willingness to help in all phases of life. You made your presence felt in every event that you attended. I felt like our relationship was special, but certainly got stronger when you returned to Jamaica. That was like a nine-day love.

“It is impossible to replicate your unannounced visits to the Nutrition Club and even to my house. Oh yes, I still visualize you doing handwashing and placing clothes on the outside line to dry (always busy); not to mention, you cooking on the fire outside on the makeshift grill and stove.

“You are one of the kindest and giving persons I’ve known, both of yourself and your mind. As I’ve told you over the years, I can never repay you for all that you have done for me. Your service in the health/wellness missions (OID) to Jamaica was remarkable. The special energy that you displayed was contagious.



Your work as a Herbalife distributor was intense, giving people a better understanding of nutrition while also gaining financial benefits.

“Jean, my sister, words cannot sum up the person who you were. A star has fallen. God must have a better assignment for you, which is why he took you. Continue to follow him. Walk good. See you.”

— Lyn



“Sis Jean (dancing queen)! I miss you. You were the life of any party you attended. You would just walk in and take control. Whether it’s setting up, serving, or even on the grill, you were also a part of my/our special breakfast club. Sis, you have impacted many lives with your charity, love, and kindness. So now you must take a break and dance with your heavenly family. Sis, although we begged you not to go, we know God has called you home for bigger and better things. Love you always, Sis.”

—Pinks



Isaiah 57:1-2- Good people pass away; the godly often die before their time, but no one seems to care I wonder why. No one seems to understand that God is protecting them from the evil to come. Those who follow godly paths will rest in peace when they die.

“What can I say about my sister Jean? I was told we made the connection since childhood. When she was in high school, I used to sit at her feet until she finished



her schoolwork. We continued our close relationship throughout her life, and nothing could break our strong bond. We did several things together, from going to Kings Dominion to opening up a business. Whenever I had anything to do, as long as Sis Jean was available, I had no problem. I knew I could count on her for a laugh or a word of wisdom. She was honest and fun. Although others think of her as always having an iron face and being mean, that was far from the truth. She was my friend, my sister, my mother, my confidant. Sis Jean helped everyone near and far. My girl, you are gone too soon. While we love you, it seems that your Creator loves you more, because of the Godly, respectful woman you are. I love you. You've left a big empty space in me. Sweet sleep, my love."

—Vee

"Sis Jean. We have spent some good times together. I especially want to highlight the times we spent on the OID missions. Watching you navigate the crowds of people with your calm but military-like demeanor. I enjoyed shopping in Falmouth market with you in preparation for Christmas dinner, which we spent together, just you, Sis Lyn, and me. We played dominoes and drank wine with lots of laughter. We really bonded that weekend. Not to mention the trip we took to Port Royal together; good times we had. You were a very special sister who showed up for any event or activity where help was needed. You showed your love with actions.



I love you for that. You will be greatly missed. Keep dancing with the angels above. Rest, my dear sister; it's your time to rest."

—Your loving sister, Carol

"Who are you? What did you mean to me? How did you affect my life? As I reflect, you were one of my bouncing boards and bargain shopping buddies, and always willing to listen without judgment. As a child, I experienced more seriousness on your face, which was a little intimidating. I believe our relationship grew at your place of business, Yawd Style Restaurant, where I volunteered and saw many versions of you. I mostly admired your hard work, energy, and dedication.

"My emotions go from high and low as I watch those videos of you with those crazy dance moves. It's no wonder I miss you so much. You always say, "Once you have energy, you have to keep moving;" and that you did like the energizer bunny.

"Your career choice as a nurse definitely suits your character. You were always taking care of someone. Your kindness and willingness to do for others without hesitation never go unnoticed. God knows best. You have served your purpose. The angels are now rejoicing because they know they have another hard worker aboard. SIP Auntie, until we meet again."

—Your niece, Janet

"My dearest Aunty. I will miss you sooo much. I'm so thankful for our



time together, all our shopping trips, lunches, chats, and so much more. I love the way that you were not afraid to express yourself. Even though 2020 was such a messy year, I am thankful for the times we spent together every two weeks. Sis Jean, you saw me come into this world, and I am grateful to have been by your side as you made your way back to the one who loaned you to us in the first place. Love you, Aunty.”

—Erica



“Believe me when I tell you, this one hurts. With the passing of my dear Aunt Jean, we lost a warrior. A true pillar of our collective family. To know my Aunty Jean was to love and respect her for her no-nonsense, engaging personality. She brought love and joy to those she touched, and I will miss her dearly. My Aunt’s amazing personality and boundless energy were only outshined by her love of service. She served God, her country, and our family. I’m deeply saddened that she did not get more time for herself, as she was serving others to the very end. You were there for us when we needed you, and I’m so heartbroken that you’re gone. We will never forget the fun-loving, dancing, joyous bad-ass warrior that you were. Rest In Power, Queen.”

—Davian



“Aunty Jean, you were my godmother, friend, nurse, advisor, and one of my biggest supporters. After mom passed on, I felt comfort knowing that I still had



you; and now you’re gone. I know that I’m supposed to be happy for you knowing that you are in heaven amongst all our loved ones, but it’s going to take time because I wanted you here with me. I was patiently waiting for you to come home so I could tell you everything that was going on, but God knows best. I’m missing our What’s app video calls and our late-night chats--but no more pain. You are free now. I love you and will miss you very much. I am just glad you were in my life. I will always speak of your grace, humility, kindness, and not to forget, your outspoken ways. I loved that about you. I never knew what you were going to say and looked forward to your reply, knowing whatever it was, it was out of love or you were just being cheeky. Rest easy my fairy godmother until we meet again.”

—Love always, Sherece



“Sister Jean, I remember our first road trip to Canada, to taking the taxi to the market in Jamaica, to roasting sweet potatoes, breadfruit, and yams. I loved our early morning and late afternoon walks. We were always on the move. It was always an adventure with you. You were such a blessing to me and my family. WE LOVE YOU. Rest in Paradise.”

—Donna and family



Proverbs 18:24 (KJV)- A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly.

“I will always count my friendship with Jean as a blessing to my



family and me. Over the past 41 years, I had the privilege of being blessed by Jean's: family support, conversations and laughter, culinary skills (especially jerk, curry, and egg rolls), high energy and multi-tasking, love and compassion, nursing expertise, unselfish caring and helping, and spiritual advice. I thank God for sending Jean Green into my life. REST IN PEACE, MY FRIEND"

—Love, BB, Tiffany, and Vincent

"Aunty Jean was such an amazing person to me. I trusted her, and she trusted me. She showered me with real love. Aunty Jean kept it real with me, and I did the same with her at all times. She left her mark everywhere she went. She would give the clothes off her back to others, even to a stranger. I would often ask her when she would take time for herself? Her response was always "Pickney, I'm doing my Father's work". She would then follow that with a loud AMEN! We had such a strong bond. She has always been supportive of me in everything that I set out to do. She never missed a chance to tell me how proud she was of me. I am so heartbroken, but I know she wouldn't want anything more than to be with her Jesus! Rest well, Aunty Jean."

—Khiana Johnson

"What can I say about someone so dear? Auntie, so loving, so caring, so energetic. You cared for everyone. As a teenager, you were my sounding board, which



meant so much to me. Your ears were always wide open to me. You spoke your mind (loudly), but you never judged me; just gave me love. You were always going to bat for me with Mom. You would just peel out those beautiful eyes and say, "Daphne," in a loud, stern voice. What can I say about someone so vibrant, precious, and courageous? You fought like the champion that you were. I am grateful that I not only loved you but showed you love up until the last hours of your life. I miss you so much, and I will continue to dance for you. Your spirit will live on with me until eternity."

—Maxine

"Sister Jean, I don't even know what to say, but you are truly missed. Only God knows best--no more pain. You were stern but fun at the same time. Thank you for everything you've done for me--you gave me a car and a savings account. We took some fun trips together. Thank you for allowing Dwayne and me to ride on the beltway in the trunk with the hatchback open dangling our feet and catching the breeze. It was great having you attend both my children's and my sporting events. Dance on, my auntie, my godmother. Now you are a sleeping angel. You're the 5th to leave us too soon. I loved the nicknames that were given to me. Auntie Margie called me road runner, Auntie Joy said Nikita, Sister Daphne referred to me as Shorty, and yours was Nikolai. Sleep in Peace."

—Nicole





When tomorrow starts without me,  
and I'm not there to see,  
If the sun should rise and find your  
eyes filled with tears for me,  
I wish so much you wouldn't cry  
the way you did today,  
While thinking of the many things,  
we didn't get to say;  
I know how much you love me, as  
much as I love you,  
And each time you think of me, I  
know you'll miss me too;  
When tomorrow starts without me,  
don't think we're far apart,  
For every time you think of me, I'm  
right here in your heart.

—Maurice (Kirk), Rohan,  
and Atiba

“Mrs. Zitta May Green was affectionately known as Jean Green or Major Green retired from the United States Army. As they say, “Once a soldier, always a soldier.” It follows you all the way through life. Mrs. Green was a no-nonsense type of person. Her spirit was beautiful. You could see her heart through her smile. She was such a people person. Whether she knew you or not, she was a willing servant with a helping hand and giving heart. There are no lengths Mrs. Green wouldn't go to help someone in need. No matter how far it was, she was right there without hesitation. Even if it was the word of God, she would impart a scripture for you to think about. Interestingly enough, when you called her phone, she quoted Colossians 3:23 (NKJV), “And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men.” She exemplified this through



her life, not looking for anything in return, but from her heart for God is how she lived.

“I recall the times we would drive to church camp in Denton, everyone knew her. You constantly heard, “Hi Sis Jean.” She was very well respected. When I would go by her home and see her, she would tell me to come in, sit down, and let's talk. She was never too busy. I always could depend on her WhatsApp message with a funny video or prayer message. Mrs. Green was faithful about that.

“In addition to checking up on my family and me to see how we were doing, she would go by and visit my aunt. I admire that. I would be amazed at how she found the time. I was so grateful to see her and talk with her when she came home and to play music for her and pray with her. We hold these memories dear to our hearts; these soft, intimate moments. She listened, and we spoke our hearts to her.

“Mrs. Green will be deeply missed. We love you and know for certain, you're resting in the sweet arms of God. We thank God for your life.”

With our deepest sympathy,  
—Betty and Claudia White

“Dear Mrs. Green. Words cannot truly convey the depth of our relationship. You were so much more than my mother-in-law. You were my friend, my confidant, and my prayer warrior. We had a special bond. From the beginning of my and Dwayne's journey 15 years ago,



you welcomed Reece and me with open arms.

“Back then, I shared with you I had lost my mom and the emptiness I was still experiencing six years after her passing. You expressed you knew exactly what I was feeling. The following year, 2008, my dad passed away. I was heartbroken. I was 41 years old and had lost both of my parents. I shared with you that I felt like an orphan. I had so much life to live and no parents to share it with. You showered me with love and support, encouraging me to stay strong and keep my faith in God. As my relationship with Dwayne grew and we were married in 2012, so did my relationship with you. It blossomed into something very special and meaningful.

“You knew we’d be home in the evenings, so you would call our house phone. When Dwayne would see your number on the caller-id and answer, the conversation would often go like this:

Dwayne: “Hello, Mom.”  
Mrs. Green: “Dwayne, let me speak to Alta.”  
Dwayne: “I am your son.”  
Mrs. Green: “I know. Let me speak to Alta.”

“We would laugh that you would call our house and ask for me. Deep down inside, it made me feel special. It warmed my heart to know I had a “mom” in my life again. Your love was unconditional. Your love and friendship helped to fill the hole



in my heart. You were a strong and amazing woman, who loved God and prayed for us daily. You were always on the go. You hardly ever sat down at all. Dwayne and I marveled at your endless energy, wishing we had an ounce of it. You lived life to the fullest in good times and bad.

“I am sad my best friend in the world and the love of my life has lost the woman who shaped him into the man he is today. I am thankful you passed that ability to love unconditionally to your son. I know you would not want us to cry or be sad. You would encourage us to trust in our faith in God and be strong. I am thankful and blessed to be your daughter-in-law. I am thankful and blessed I had the opportunity to experience your unconditional love. Your memory will live in my heart forever. The light and truth of your love will never go out. Rest easy my dear mother-in-law.”

—Your daughter-in-law Alta  
(or “Miss Alta” as you always called me)



“They say you only get one mother. You only birthed one daughter. Our bond and relationship was unique to us, and I will cherish it always. You laid the blueprint for me, and I will always be thankful for the 36 years that God allowed us to have. I’ll keep the dance floor vibrant in memory of you. You are me, and I am you, forever.”

—Love, Kiki

Rest in Heaven,  
*Sean*



## PALLBEARERS

Kieso Akpabio  
Davian Bryan  
Maurice Kirk Hinds  
Alrick Randy James  
Gairy Palmer, Sr.  
Darien Strachan, Jr.  
Marlon Tyner  
Atiba Wallace

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The family of Elder Zitta Jean May Green expresses their sincere thanks and appreciation for the many prayers, expressions of love, and the kind deeds extended during this time of bereavement. May God continue to bless each of you as you have blessed us.

## Elder Zitta Jean May Green's care entrusted to:

JB Jenkins Funeral Home  
7474 Landover Road  
Landover, MD 20785

## INTERMENT

George Washington Cemetery  
9500 Riggs Road  
Adelphi, MD 20783

I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing. 2 Timothy 4:7-8 (KJV)