

Katie Bell John was born in Bennettsville, South Carolina, the only sister to two brothers as part of a nurturing and loving family. At the age of seven her family relocated to New Rochelle, New York. Katie became a product of the New Rochelle Public School system and graduated from the New Rochelle High School. At her high school graduation, she was a recipient of the Ethel K. Loeb Foundation Scholarship to attend a summer enrichment camp concerned with social work, community living and world affairs. This camp was in Massachusetts, and as a direct result of spending time in Massachusetts she would later relocate to Boston, Massachusetts.

In March 1955, Katie decided it was time to relocate, so she with a child in hand and one on the way she travelled north from New York to Massachusetts by bus. It was ironic that her bus was stopped by police searching for the Lindbergh baby that had been kidnapped and even more ironical that she was the only one on the bus traveling with a baby.

In Boston, Katie worked in Lynn for a leather goods manufacturer, where she would go into labor with her second child ending up at Lynn hospital and never returning to that job. She then worked downtown on Berkley Street making men's overcoats and jackets in the clothing industry. She also worked several years at Raytheon in Newton, and then ventured to Cambridge working for a subsidiary of NASA. In 1969 President Lyndon Baines Johnson would send a congratulatory message commending their area for keeping up with the data processing necessary to accommodate the first landing of men (Astronauts Armstrong and Aldrin) on the moon. Remaining in Cambridge, she would venture to a computer corporation. From there she would join the Lottery Commission; however, after finding out they did not pay into Social Security, she "hightailed" it out of there! Her final employer was the MBTA; where she started as a key punch operator and ended as an office engineer responsible for contracts in different locations and making sure information provided was accurate. She retired from the "T" with twenty years of service in 1999.

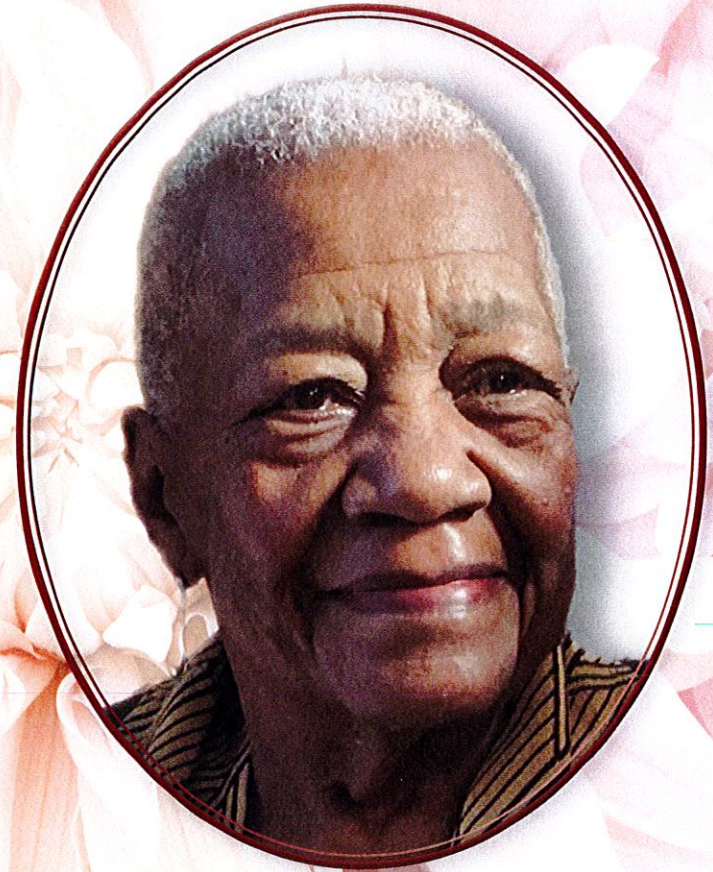
Katie was an extensive traveler, with friends and colleagues, with visits to the Holy Land, Africa, Thailand, Australia, New Zealand, London, Paris, Argentina, Spain, Jamaica, Aruba – just to name a few. She also had the extreme pleasure of boarding several cruise ships to various ports of call.

Katie was married to the late Stanley Days; the absolute "Love of her Life"; the mother of two children: daughter – Jelaine Nicola (Babe) John (deceased)); and son – Gary John (Beanie) wife, Phyllis J. John. She is pre-deceased by her parents: Frances and Rufus John, and brother, Linzel John. She is survived by brother, Douglas John, as well as many nieces, nephews, and a host of friends.

Katie was the grandmother to three granddaughters: Camille Latrice Clark, Simone Ivory John, and Chanelle Kathryn (namesake) John; two grandsons: Darren Francis John (wife Elaine John) and Gary John Jr., and great grandmother to Ashley Rose Francis and Tyler Lowell; and great-great grandmother to Jelaine Francis and Jaheim Mecca Francis.

Katie B. Days was a longstanding member of Concord Baptist Church serving with over sixty-plus years. She was one of Concord's most renowned "Gospel Birds", being a longtime member of most of Concord's choirs and never having the desire to join any other church! She did however acknowledge that when she first joined Concord, she was not shown love and the welcoming support that is so very important to new members. She made it her mission to meet new members and show them a "down home" welcome. She also noted that as far back as she could remember she was singing and giving God praises and "she's not tired yet" of singing and praising Him!

*in loving memory*



*Katie Bell John (Days)*

March 3, 1935 - June 18, 2023



Memorial Service Celebrating the Life of

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# Katie Bell John (Days)

March 3, 1935 ~ June 18, 2023

Music Prelude : Brother Dennis Montgomery

## Processional

Opening Prayer: Pastor Conley Hughes

Musical Selection: Minister Roscoe Mills

Scripture Reading: Chanelle John

Old Testament: Joshua 1:9

New Testament: John 14:1-3

## Family Reflections

Sharon Radcliffe, Michelle Green, Larry Joyner, Simone John, Gary John Sr.

Musical Selection: Minister Roscoe Mills

Poem: Simone John

My Prayer: Chanelle John

*Lord as I grow old, let me still serve you faithfully. When I am weak, help me to show others your strength. Through wrinkles let others see the joy on my face that comes only from you. Even when I am moving slowly, let me still move for you. I will gladly do your will until my last breath. If I am on this earth, you have me here for a reason. I will continue to live for you in Jesus name.*

Amen, Amen

Obituary Reading/Acknowledgments:

Sharon Radcliffe

## I'm Free

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free  
I'm following the path God has laid, you see  
I took his hand when I heard him call  
I turned my back and left it all  
I could not stay another day  
To laugh, to love, to work, to play  
Tasks left undone must stay that way  
I found that peace at the close of the day*

*If my parting has left a void  
Then fill it with remembered joy  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss  
Oh yes, these things I too will miss.  
Be not burdened with times of sorrow  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow*

*My life's been full, I savored much  
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch  
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief  
Don't let it lengthen now with undue grief  
Lift up your hearts and peace to thee  
God wanted me now; He set me free.*

*The family of Katie Days gratefully acknowledges with sincere appreciation all the expressions of sympathy, love and friendship extended to us in our time of bereavement.  
May God continue to pour out His blessings on you all.*

*Special acknowledgement to the Home Health Aides Edna and Nancy for the loving care given to our Matriarch at this most precious time in her life. Your loving assistance will never be forgotten.*

Musical Selection: Minister Roscoe Mills

Prayer of Comfort: Reverend Joseph R. Lloyd

Eulogy: Pastor Conley Hughes

## Benediction

## Final Viewing

## Pall Bearers:

Darren John, Gary John Sr., Gary John Jr.,  
Larry Joyner, Jason Rosenwald,  
Larry "Duce" Cobb