



## Annette Caldwell

July 24, 1936 - July 22, 2025

Annette Caldwell

Sunrise: July 24, 1936 – Sunset: July 22, 2025

Annette Caldwell (née Johnson) was born to Clarence and Willer Mae Johnson on July 24, 1936. She was the oldest of four children. Annette graduated from Paul Laurence Dunbar High School in Baltimore, Maryland in 1955, where she was voted “Best Dressed,” a title that reflected the flair for fashion she maintained throughout her life. In 1956 she married her childhood sweetheart, William E. Caldwell, Jr.

Her interest in community service started as a young woman when she joined the NAACP and worked on voter registration drives. In 1964, the Caldwell family moved to Lorain, Ohio, seeking better employment opportunities.

Annette was employed by the Neighborhood House Association and dedicated 33 years of service to the Cityview Center in Lorain, Ohio. She began as a custodian, but saw an opportunity to do more and started volunteering. She became an assistant preschool teacher and even returned to school to study Early Childhood Education at LCCC (Lorain County Community College). Through extensive social service training and by assisting the previous director, she eventually became the director. In 2000, Annette retired as the Director of Cityview Center.

In addition to her career, Annette served on numerous committees and boards to advocate for her community, and she was especially passionate about supporting young Black males. Her volunteer roles included the Girl Scouts of

America, where she encouraged Black girls to participate in scouting; the Lorain International Festival Committee, where she worked to increase Black representation and support an African American princess in the pageant; the YWCA board, where she helped implement programs for women at Cityview Center; and the Clearview PTA board, where she ensured that Black children received all educational opportunities available to them.

Annette received many prestigious accolades during her lifetime. She was a member of Buckeye Chapter #46, O.E.S. (Order of the Eastern Star) in Lorain, Ohio, and held lifetime memberships in the NAACP and the NANBPW, Inc. (National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc). In 1989, she was honored with the Sojourner Truth Award from the Lorain club of NANBPW, Inc.

Annette was a faithful and very active member of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Lorain, OH, where she served as one of the first female trustees. While living in Chesapeake, VA, she joined Providence United Church of Christ. In 2012, she made her final move and became a member of St. Stephen Baptist Church in Louisville, KY, under the leadership of Rev. Kevin W. Cosby.

Annette was preceded in death by her mother, Willer M. Alston; her husband of 47 years, William E. Caldwell Jr.; and a grandson, Nyles C. Neely Sr. She leaves to cherish her memory five children: Veronica Caldwell Williams (Terence), Wendy A. Caldwell, William E. Caldwell III (Gladys), Anna M. Caldwell, and Antoinette Caldwell. She is also survived by seven grandchildren; fourteen great-grandchildren; one brother, Andrew Page; two sisters, Doreather Nesbit and Linda Samuel; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. She lovingly leaves, never to be forgotten, her best friend, Carrie E. Wilson.

Annette's favorite hymn, "Blessed Assurance," echoes the testimony of her life in its timeless refrain: "This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long." Those words were not just lyrics to her — they were her declaration, her legacy, her unwavering testimony. Her children called her

blessed, not only for what she did but for how she did it, always with grace, purpose, and quiet courage. Indeed, this is her story — and what a glorious one it is.

All services will be held at St. Stephen Baptist Church, 1018 S. 15th Street, Louisville, KY 40210. Visitation will be on Friday, August 8, 2025, at 10:00 A.M., followed by the funeral service at 11:00 A.M. Interment will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park, 4400 Bardstown Road, Louisville, KY 40218.

# Cemetery Details

## Resthaven Cemetery

4400 Bardstown Rd  
Louisville, KY 40218

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 8. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St Stephen Church  
1018 So. 15th St.  
Louisville, KY 40210

## Celebration of Life

AUG 8. 11:00 AM (ET)

St Stephen Church  
1018 So. 15th St.  
Louisville, KY 40210

# Tribute Wall

JJ

“ My deepest and sincerest condolences to Annette Caldwell family. I'm a dear friend of Doreather Nesbit of Baltimore Md. I met Annette Caldwell, along with her daughters some years ago when they came up for a family reunion at Doreather house. What a good time was had that evening, so glad that I got the pleasure in meeting you guys. May the memories of your mom live on forever in each and everyone of you , as I know it will



Janet Jones - August 09, 2025 at 04:18 PM

PM

“ Patricia McFarland-Wisdom lit a candle in memory of Annette Caldwell



Patricia McFarland-Wisdom - August 08, 2025 at 07:02 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Annette Caldwell.



August 08, 2025 at 04:00 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Annette Caldwell.

August 08, 2025 at 04:00 AM



“ Adult Parole Authority-Cleveland Region purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Annette Caldwell.



Adult Parole Authority-Cleveland Region - August 07, 2025 at 01:29 PM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Annette Caldwell.



August 06, 2025 at 06:58 PM



“ Love best friend Carrie Wilson purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Annette Caldwell.



Love best friend Carrie Wilson - August 06, 2025 at 03:15 PM

LW

“ Love best friend Carrie Wilson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Annette Caldwell.

Love best friend Carrie Wilson - August 06, 2025 at 03:15 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Annette Caldwell.



August 06, 2025 at 01:03 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Annette Caldwell.

August 06, 2025 at 01:03 PM

LS

“ Lorain NBPWC sisters purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Annette Caldwell.



Lorain NBPWC sisters - August 06, 2025 at 10:48 AM

TT

“ The TGIM girl tribe purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Annette Caldwell.



The TGIM girl tribe - August 05, 2025 at 08:44 AM

TT

“ The TGIM girl tribe planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Annette Caldwell.

The TGIM girl tribe - August 05, 2025 at 08:44 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Annette Caldwell.



August 05, 2025 at 06:28 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Annette Caldwell.

August 05, 2025 at 06:28 AM

VS

“ Va Sistas purchased the Serenity Wreath for the family of Annette Caldwell.



Va Sistas - August 04, 2025 at 12:42 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Annette Caldwell.



August 03, 2025 at 12:16 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Annette Caldwell.

August 03, 2025 at 12:16 PM



“ Miami V. purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Annette Caldwell.



Miami V. - August 03, 2025 at 06:50 AM



“ Miami V. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Annette Caldwell.

Miami V. - August 03, 2025 at 06:50 AM

WT

“ To the Caldwell Family: Although words cannot begin to ease the sorrow of your loss. Please know that there are so many who care. May GOD'S promise of eternal life and the memories of your loved one bring you comfort and peace...William I.(Book)Taylor Jr., from Lorain, Ohio. While in Lorain. I was President and Sister Caldwell was Vice President of Steel City Holding Co., which took care of the Building for The Brother Masons and Eastern Stars of Buckeye Lodge No.68 and her Eastern Star Chapter...I am now 75yrs old and a Past Master of Mt.Calvary Lodge No.126, etc., Louisville, KY.

William Taylor - July 31, 2025 at 04:40 PM

DM

“ Deaconess Dr. Julia Avery Muse purchased the Meat & Cheese Wooden Gift Crate for the family of Annette Caldwell.



Deaconess Dr. Julia Avery Muse - July 27, 2025 at 04:56 PM

JM

“ My deepest condolences to you and your family over the loss of your Mother, Mrs. Annette Caldwell. I did not know her personally, but I've heard so many wonderful things about her. I know she must have been a dynamic woman because I can see some of the qualities and characteristics in her daughter, Veronica. May GOD continue to Bless the family with Love, Peace and Joy.  
Deaconess Dr. Julia Avery Muse  
Providence UCC, Chesapeake, VA

Julia Avery Muse - July 27, 2025 at 04:45 PM

SB

“ My condolences to the Caldwell family. Ms Caldwell was a true inspiration to all who came in contact with her. Her thoughts, her words and most importantly her actions helped improve the lives of so many people. She will be truly missed by everyone. May beautiful memories bring the family peace during this difficult time. I'm so sorry for your loss 🙏❤️ (Shay)

Sharon Bethune - July 27, 2025 at 03:41 PM

WM

“ The McCoy family sends their heartfelt condolences to Veronica Williams and her family.

Wilbert A McCoyJr - July 27, 2025 at 05:58 AM

SE

“ Mrs. Caldwell provided sense of consistency and pride in the youth of Campeto. We knew to use our manners and hold our actions accountable just by eye contact. Your virtues never went unnoticed. Take your rest, SiStar.



Shatela Evans - July 26, 2025 at 02:47 PM

PM

*To the Caldwell children and grandchildren. I was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of your beautiful, gifted and very giving Matriarch. I was not blessed to know her personally, however from the life she lived and the legacy she left i have been blessed to call her youngest daughter. Dr. Antoinette Caldwell, also beautiful, gifted and caring my friend. Mrs. Annette's season on this earth touched the lives of so many different people in so many different places. She consistently and selflessly gave of her time and talent to uplift everyone she came in contact. She lived her life to the words of two of those old gospel songs 🎵 "When I've Gone the Last Mile of the Way," "Let the Works I've Done, Speak For Me." Her season on THIS SIDE is complete and the journey on the OTHER SIDE has just begun. My prayer is that our GOD will continue to keep you wrapped in the warmth of HIS ARMS as you continue your own journey and season. ❤️*

*With sincere sympathy.  
Patricia McFarland-Wisdom and Family*

---

**Patricia McFarland-Wisdom** - August 08, 2025 at 12:28 AM

CL

*“ Annette was a very Dear and loving Lady friend of mine. She will be missed. I use to call her just for a laugh and we enjoyed each other just laughing. Love and will miss her sweet voice. Love you Charlean Lurry family be Blessed ❤️*

---

**Charlean Lurry** - July 26, 2025 at 11:47 AM

RC

*“ Momma Caldwell was an amazing lady. She had a heart of gold. I loved her smile her fashion style but most importantly she treated everyone equally she was definitely a disciple of God. I will truly miss her but will never forget this incredible woman. RIP sweet lady. My thoughts and prayers are with her and her family. Love you all Roseanna*

---

**Roseanna Cox** - July 26, 2025 at 06:55 AM

EK

*Heartfelt condolences to the Caldwell family having known Mrs. Caldwell for 60 years while attending Friendship Missionary Baptist Church. She was always a dignified, loving, caring person, flare for fashion. She could definitely rock some hats, a true vessel of God, rest in heavenly peace, Mrs. Caldwell.*

---

**Elizabeth King** - July 26, 2025 at 10:06 AM

IS

*My heartfelt condolences to the family of Mrs. Caldwell. She was a beautiful woman my child and niece use to attend cityview center preschool. Take your rest beautiful lady . Love Inez Shaw 🙏🙏🙏*

---

**Inez Shaw** - July 28, 2025 at 09:14 AM

LW

*My heartfelt sympathy goes out to Deaconess Veronica and the entire Caldwell family on behalf of the departure of your mother. I remember her at PUCG as quiet spirited with a beautiful smile. Continued prayers of comfort for the family.*

*Mr. and Mrs. Charles Williams*

---

**Lillie Williams** - July 28, 2025 at 04:14 PM