



Mary Jones

December 25, 2020

Mary Jones was a gift to this world. She was an amazing photographer, poet, computer whiz, and world traveler. She will be remembered for the positive impacts she had on many people's lives. But most of all, she will be remembered as the greatest sister and aunt anyone could ever ask for.

Mary Jones was born on May 19th, 1956 in Charleston South Carolina, To Elijah Drayton and Francis Jones, but was affectionately raised by her loving parents Ernestine Jones and Gernal Morgan in Harlem, New York alongside her identical twin sister Martha Jones Saunders.

Mary enjoyed life. You'd be hard pressed not to find her smiling and laughing. Her love of family was intense, unmatched and unapologetic. She helped raise her niece and nephew Danielle Shelese and Lamont Idris Saunders as her own. She was a model colleague and dedicated spirit. Her personality - bold, courageous, opinionated and headstrong. But above all, Mary personified love and kindness, the kind of love that can only radiate from the beauty of vulnerability, radical acceptance and an unshakeable faith. Even in her untimely crossing, Mary continues to teach us all about being beautifully human.

Her memory will proudly live on through the lives of her beloved twin sister Martha, her loving brother-in-law Lamont Saunders, and her niece and nephew Danielle and Idris.

Left to cherish her memory is her birth mother Frances Jones Drayton, older sister Mary Drayton Fyall and family, younger brothers MacAuthur Drayton and family and Eugene Drayton and family as well as a host of nieces, nephews and extended family too numerous to list.

Mary also leaves to cherish her memory a number of beloved colleagues and friends; sister friends Soha and Dianna Hahn turned family from her 20-plus year tenure at the American University of Beirut.

We praise God knowing that Mary knew God. We love you, Mary and we'll see you again in Glory.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 2. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Volk Leber Funeral Home
789 Teaneck Road
Teaneck, NJ 07666
info@volkleber.com
<http://www.volkleber.com>

Funeral Service

JAN 2. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Volk Leber Funeral Home
789 Teaneck Road
Teaneck, NJ 07666
info@volkleber.com
<http://www.volkleber.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Volk Leber Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Mary Jones*



Volk Leber Funeral Home - January 02, 2021 at 11:34 AM

SH

Rest In Peace my friend! you will always be alive in my memory. See you on the other side

Soha Hmaidan - January 02, 2021 at 02:11 PM

JF

My condolences to Mary's family

joyce fortson - January 02, 2021 at 02:13 PM

IB

God bless your beautiful soul, dear Mary. Your smile, your positivity, your care will always be there whenever I visit AUB's NY Office. Thanks for dedicating many years of your life to AUB and for being part of lives.

*Imad Baalbaki
AUB VP Advancement*

Imad Baalbaki - January 02, 2021 at 02:49 PM

JM

Mary was a beautiful person, inside and out. Always so full of life and ready to share her joy with everyone. She was a gift.

Jennifer Muller - January 02, 2021 at 02:51 PM

DV

My deepest condolences to Mary's family. She will be sorely missed.

Dennis Villa - January 02, 2021 at 02:55 PM

SB

I was saddened to hear of Mary's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with your family.

Stephanie J. Brade - January 02, 2021 at 03:17 PM

LJ

Rest In Peace my dearest Mary. May your memory be eternal 🙏

Lina Jazi - January 02, 2021 at 03:17 PM

WK

Rest In Peace dear Mary. You will be missed by all your colleagues at the American University of Beirut.

Walid Katergi - January 02, 2021 at 03:29 PM


Mireille
Daoud

May your beautiful soul rest in eternal peace dear Mary 🙏 You will always be in my thoughts & prayers

Mireille Daoud - January 02, 2021 at 03:49 PM

RE

Rest in peace dear Mary. Your beautiful soul, spirit, and energy are going to be missed. My deepest condolences to your family and loved ones.

Rana El-Sayed - January 02, 2021 at 03:49 PM

IB

*God bless you, Mary.
Beautiful sermon, just like her beautiful soul.*

Imad Baalbaki - January 02, 2021 at 04:05 PM

DD

Beautiful Home Going service for a beautiful person

Deborah Drayton - January 02, 2021 at 04:08 PM

OH

My deepest condolences to the family. Rest in peace dear Mary

Opal Henry - January 02, 2021 at 04:09 PM

BR

Thank you, Mary, for your many gifts to us. Rest In Peace.

Barbara L Rosica - January 02, 2021 at 05:28 PM

DJ

Mary Jones was Real people, Full of love. No pretense but intense. Real knows real and Mary an I shared a degree of love unencumbered by any boundaries based on truth and mutual admiration of Baadasss!! We were family shortly after meeting. Sharing the Jones last name she would often call me her brother. We shared the prime of our lifes working at 4 WTC for Swiss Bank for over a decade.... Up until now I've never been about regrets but with Mary's passing I am so hurt and pain filled that our time together on this earth did not continue after our separation when Swiss Bank relocated to Connecticut. To Martha, Danielle and Lamont my prayers and thoughts are with you. Any strength I may have is at your disposal at any time. Martha please hold on tightly to all around who love you as you are in a suffering known only to a few. God Bless.

Drake Jones - January 02, 2021 at 08:41 PM

DJ

*Mary Jones was Real people, Full of love. No pretense but intense. Real knows real and Mary an I shared a degree of love unencumbered by any boundaries based on truth and mutual admiration of Baada___s!! We were family shortly after meeting. Sharing the Jones last name she would often call me her brother. We shared the prime of our lifes working at 4 WTC for Swiss Bank for over a decade.... Up until now I've never been about regrets but with Mary's passing I am so hurt and pain filled that our time together on this earth did not continue after our separation when Swiss Bank relocated to Connecticut. To Martha, Danielle and Lamont my prayers and thoughts ate with you. I am at your service to share any strength and comfort I may possess. Martha, please hold close those who love you. You will need thier strength as you indure a suffering known only to a few. Peace and Blessings.
Drake*

Drake Jones - January 02, 2021 at 09:17 PM

EV

*"No sun outlasts its sunset
but will rise again
and bring the dawn." - Maya Angelou*

Your light and love will last an eternity dear Mary, On angels' wings my friend.

Eva - January 02, 2021 at 09:32 PM

EE

Will miss your presence... Mary.

Eric Eyges - January 03, 2021 at 11:59 AM

SC

I am shaken and heartbroken to read this news of Mary's passing. You will always be a bright light in my heart, dear one, as I remember the laughter and joy that always surrounded you. May you rest now and continue to guide those left behind with your love.

Much love, Susan Cergol

*"And when great souls die,
after a period peace blooms,
slowly and always
irregularly. Spaces fill
with a kind of
soothing electric vibration.
Our senses, restored, never
to be the same, whisper to us.
They existed. They existed.
We can be. Be and be
better. For they existed.*

Source: <https://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/when-great-trees-fall-by-maya-angelou>

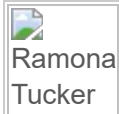
Susan Cergol - January 11, 2021 at 02:37 PM



“ Volk Leber Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mary Jones



Volk Leber Funeral Home - December 31, 2020 at 01:16 PM



How beautiful ❤️! Love, comfort and peace to the family.

Ramona Tucker - December 31, 2020 at 06:14 PM



Beautifully done,thank you for all of your creativity.during this most very very hard time.

Aunt trudy. - January 01, 2021 at 10:54 PM



I envy the angels who will share your magic rainbow of joy

Sana Murad - January 02, 2021 at 10:39 AM



This so touching....you were a beautiful soul Mary and I will miss you dearly. Holmes

Yolanda Holmes - January 02, 2021 at 01:16 PM



We were so blessed to have Mary in our lives--to share this life with her as family members. Her life has blessed our lives over the years and we are forever grateful that God allowed our lives and paths to cross. We are continually praying for Martha, Lamont, Danielle and Idris. We love you all and we're here for you whenever you need us. With all love Redell, April, Tori and Justice

Redell Dixon - January 02, 2021 at 04:29 PM

AM

I was blessed to have a friend like Mary Jones. Its hard to believe that she is gone. I will miss her. My sincere condolences goes out to the family. I will continue to pray for Martha and her family. I pray that God will continue to cover. Love always ANNA, & WILLIE Mitchell

Anna mitchell - January 03, 2021 at 03:29 PM



“ Mary Jones

October 08, 2023 at 09:59 PM



“ Mary Jones

October 08, 2023 at 06:27 PM



“ Mary Jones

August 30, 2022 at 02:48 PM

DL

“ Mary I love you & miss you dearly 😭 . Always & forever in my ❤️
Love your Boobe



Denise Square Lluen - January 08, 2021 at 08:31 PM

DL

“ Marie & Mary, god now has both of these beautiful soles. Two Angels flying high & dancing in heaven. 🙏🙌🕊️



Denise Square Lluen - January 08, 2021 at 08:29 PM

DL

“ Mary , I miss & love you dearly . Your Boobe 🙏🙌🕊️



Denise Square Lluen - January 08, 2021 at 08:14 PM

DL

“ Mommy & Mary 63rd birthday celebration . Two Angels in heaven 🙏



Denise Square Lluen - January 08, 2021 at 08:09 PM

EV

“ *"No sun outlasts its sunset
But will rise again
And bring the dawn."- Maya Angelou*

*Your light and love will shine eternally dear Mary. On angels' wings
my friend.*

Eva

Eva - January 02, 2021 at 05:12 PM

RS

“ *Mary, I didn't know you for very long, but it was clear you radiated
happiness and joy to all those around you. Your colleagues at AUB
couldn't wait for your visit to Beirut, and you showed everyone the
beauty of a person at peace with herself. I am enriched by the few
times we had together outside the office. Rest in peace.*

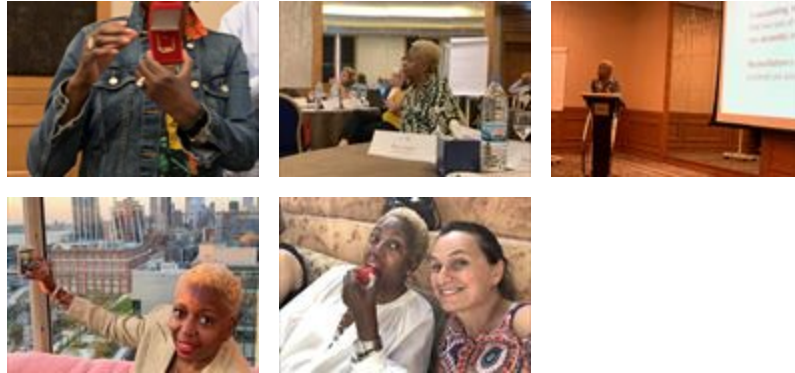
*My condolences to Mary's family and all her friends and colleagues
in NY and Beirut.*

*Ramin Sedehi
Former COO at AUB*

Ramin Sedehi - January 02, 2021 at 03:18 PM

Soha Hmaidan

“ 6 files added to the album Memories Album



Soha Hmaidan - January 02, 2021 at 02:53 PM

MS

“ Mary. I still can't process this. I think of you and think of independence, laughter, a bright light, the life of the party. Always thoughtful and considerate, grounded, curious, insightful. Thank you all these years at AUB for you. Thank you for sharing yourself, for teaching, for loving. Your love and pride for your family came through every single day I saw you. Rest in power, you are so missed. Love you ❤️ Megan Scanlon

Megan Scanlon - January 02, 2021 at 02:05 PM



“ Meat & Cheese Sympathy Gift Crate was purchased for the family of Mary Jones.



January 02, 2021 at 12:47 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mary Jones.*



January 02, 2021 at 12:02 PM



“ *Our deepest sympathies and condolences for the loss of Danielle's Aunt, Mary Jones. Mary Jones was a Beautiful and Amazing Woman with such a Big Heart. She will be missed dearly and her legacy will live on. We pray for peace and comfort for her entire family at this difficult time.*



With Love,

~Penny & Tommy Popp and The Popp Family

Penny & Tommy Popp and The Popp Family - January 02, 2021 at 11:59 AM



“ *Love The Thorpe Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mary Jones.*



Love The Thorpe Family - January 02, 2021 at 11:30 AM



“ *Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Mary Jones.* ”



January 02, 2021 at 10:05 AM



“ *Bountiful Rose Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Jones.* ”



January 02, 2021 at 09:58 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mary Jones.* ”



January 01, 2021 at 05:55 PM

BG

“ Dear Family,

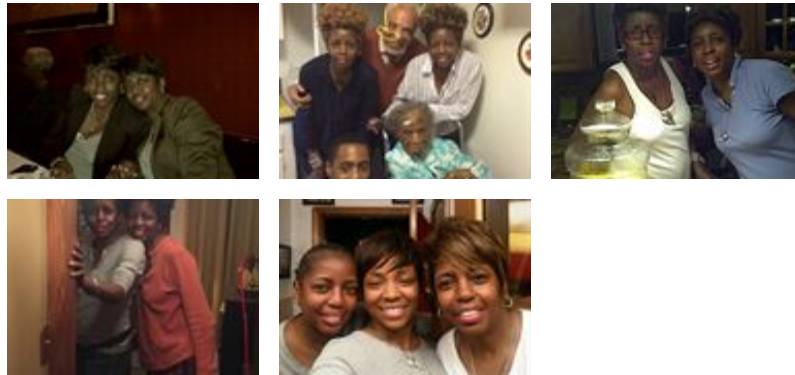
That "r" was not a mistake that I typed for this post. We are still in a state of shock, disbelief and immeasurable sadness that Mary has gone on to Glory. She was such an amazing person who treated everyone who entered in her presence like royalty. The world has lost an angel while Heaven has gained one more. Saunders family, you are now and will forever be in my daily prayers. I love you like family and you will always affectionately be known as our "family". You'll are stuck with Kennedee and we love you. Rest in peace Mary...

- Beverlee and Kennedee

Beverlee Garvin - December 31, 2020 at 03:00 PM



“ 58 files added to the album LifeTributes



Volk Leber Funeral Home - December 31, 2020 at 01:08 PM

BR

“ Martha & Family, my deepest condolences for the loss of Mary. I remember when we were little girls on Park Avenue in Harlem pretending we were the Supremes singing (Stop in the name of love), as we performed on the sidewalk. Those were some very fond memories I hold near and dear to my heart always!! She has her wings now and watching over us now with Aunt Ernestine and Miss Epe. Everlasting Love, Birdena

Birdena Reed - December 30, 2020 at 06:22 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mary Jones.



December 30, 2020 at 02:56 PM

MR

“ Miss mary jones, was a beautiful person and i will miss her.she was a fashion statement and every time her and her sister would see me they would compliment me and check my sock to see if iam matching my pants.my condolences to the family she may be gone , but she will never be forgotten .family stay strong and together help each other in this time of need

Mr REGINALD Smith. Aka SMITTY Rock - December 30, 2020 at 02:09 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Jones.*



December 30, 2020 at 11:08 AM



“ *God needed an angel. Mary was a compassionate and beautiful soul. She was a longtime friend and sister to me. My memories of the good times we have spent together will remain with me forever. My heart goes out to Martha and my family. May God give them strength. I feel comfort in knowing that she will always be here to watch over us. Rest in peace Mary.*

Sandra Costas - December 29, 2020 at 05:32 PM



*From: Jean Davis & Family 🌹
My Deepest Condolences to Martha & Family 🙏
Isaiah 41:10
Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Amen 🙌
Martha, Hold on to God's unchanging hand. God Bless You & Keep You Forever.
HAPPY HOLIDAYS ❤️🙏🥰*

jean Davis - December 30, 2020 at 04:18 PM

G.

I grew up with Mary Jones. Whenever I think of her I see her beautiful image in my head, always simultaneously I feel her strength and compassion. She had those qualities as a child and was always a leader. Mary and her sister Martha hosted the best parties when we were growing up on Park Avenue. It ironic after many years apart I attended a party hosted by Gene Anthony Ray the Star of the Emmy Award winning TV show "Fame" a party also attended by my friends Keith Sweat and Russell Simmons at the time, and to my surprise Mary and Martha were good friends with Gene Anthony Ray and Co hosts of the party as we. Years later while I managed Financial IT accounts on Wall Street, I am assigned the Swiss Bank Account at the World Trade Center. When I arrive my account contact Ms. Mary Jones greeted me just as she did at her parties, dignified, classy, graciously, powerfully and as if no time ever separated us. I loved her a very marvelous woman and human being. Martha, I can't imagine you two apart, yet your spirits will always be one! I love you both. My and my children's prayers go out to you and your family. As my mom always told me "Stay Strong". Mary is in a better place. Amen.

<https://m.facebook.com/kissastarrphoto/>

George "RaStarr" Walker . - December 31, 2020 at 08:39 AM