

ELAINE NORWOOD

Sandoval

*"Weeping may endure
for a night, but joy comes
in the morning."*

IT'S MORNING!!!

Sunrise

October 30, 1958

Sunset

March 10, 2025

Celebration of Life

Saturday, April 12, 2025

Public Viewing 10am : Celebration 11am



Order of Celebration

OFFICIANT: MINISTER DWAYNE LOUGHRIDGE

MUSICAL PRELUDE

FAMILY & MINISTERIAL PROCESSIONAL

SACRED ARTS MINISTRY & MASS CHOIR PRESENTATION

PRAYEROutreach Pastor Beatrice Guillory

SCRIPTURE READING (ISAIAH 54:17 AND ROMANS 8:35-39)Minister LaMonne Wesley

EXPRESSIONS (FRIENDS)

- 2 MINUTES -

Yvonne Pillars | Donald Whitman | Prophetess Menette Young
C. DeJuan Ruffin | Magdeline Whitman

MUSICAL SELECTION Mass Choir

RESOLUTIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS Lady Marilyn Jackson

OBITUARY READING Lady Marilyn Jackson

VIDEO PRESENTATION

EXPRESSIONS (CLERGY)

- 2 MINUTES -

Bishop Vanessa Ussery | Bishop Aaron Martin
Dr. Dakina King | Minister Shondalyn Harris

MUSICAL SELECTION Mass Choir

EXPRESSIONS (FAMILY)

Pastor Robert Peters | Anthony Norwood, Sr.

MUSICAL SELECTION Mass Choir

MESSAGE OF HOPESenior Pastor Marcus Jackson

INTERMENTSenior Pastor Marcus Jackson

RECESSIONAL

Location

HOME ASSEMBLY CHURCH : MARCUS JACKSON, SENIOR PASTOR
13515 SOUTH FIGUEORA STREET : LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90061 : 310-436-6336 : HOMEASSEMBLYCHURCH.ORG

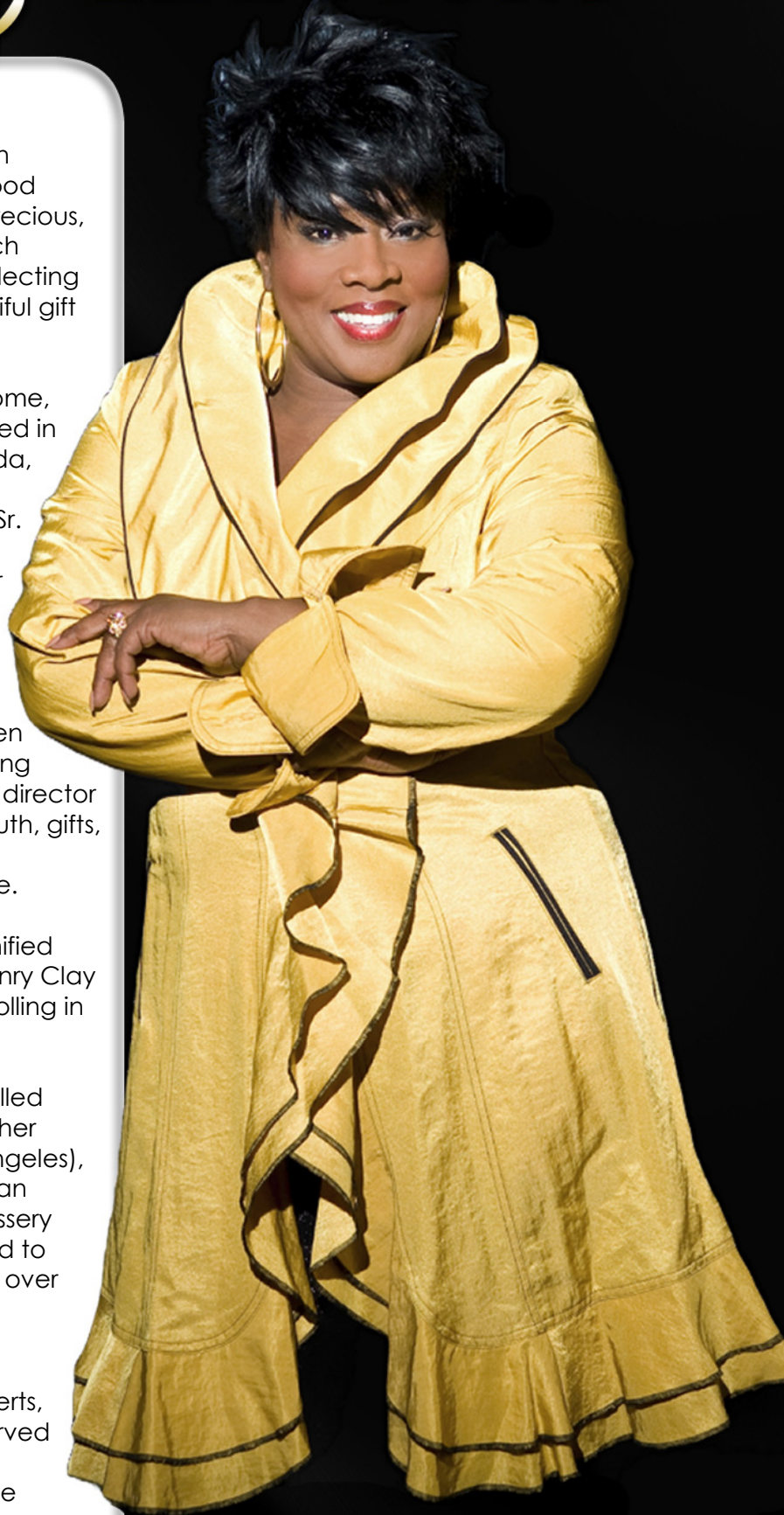
Elaine's LIFE STORY

ELAINE NORWOOD SANDOVAL was born on October 30, 1958. On that crisp, Southern day in Columbia, Mississippi, Charles and Laura Norwood eagerly awaited the birth of their first born; a precious, angelic baby girl that they named, Elaine, which means "Bright" and "Shining Light". Perfectly reflecting the moment, she entered the world as a beautiful gift from heaven.

Nurtured by her parents in a loving, Christian home, Elaine and her three younger siblings were reared in the church and always knew the weekly agenda, "church on Sundays." It all began under the leadership of the late, Pastor Willie Earl Spates, Sr. at the Second Zion Travelers Missionary Baptist Church (Los Angeles, CA). It was there that her extraordinary musical gifts began to flourish under the guidance of Sis. Carol Champ, Sis. Marilyn Ferguson, and Sis. Georgia Booker, who were strong women of faith. She began sharing her voice as a young child in the children and youth choirs, where she stood out as a strong and present vocalist; eventually becoming the director of both groups. Never afraid to embrace her truth, gifts, and talents, Elaine's voice became a powerful anointed instrument that carried her through life.

Elaine matriculated through the Los Angeles Unified School District; attending Ascot Elementary, Henry Clay Jr. High then Narbonne High School before enrolling in El Camino Community College (Torrance, CA).

As she grew both in faith and talent, she felt called to expand her horizons and eventually placed her membership at Home Assembly Church (Los Angeles), where, under the leadership of the late Suffragan Bishop G. Grady Benton then Pastor Vanessa Ussery and lastly Pastor Marcus Jackson, she continued to share her God-given gifts as the Worship Pastor over the Music Worship Ministry. In this capacity, she ensured every musical sound was effective, perfective, and unto the glory of God. This was evident in worship services, conferences, concerts, Treats 'n Eats, and outreach efforts. She also served as the overseer of Sacred Arts Ministry (SAM), supporting and encouraging members in dance and endeavors.





Each Sunday, after fulfilling her commitment at Home Assembly Church, Elaine faithfully made her way to her father's church, Second Community Baptist (Los Angeles). There, she dedicated herself to Worship in the Praise and Worship Ministry. Her arrival was always met with joy, as her dad and others knew her presence would elevate the service; lifting hearts and voices in higher praise to the Lord.

Beyond her vocal gifting, she was a nurturer, a good listener and a confidant to so many who found comfort in knowing that whatever was shared with her would not be repeated to anyone. Most importantly, she was a worshipper, a praiser, student of the Word of God and a dedicated prayer warrior. If you really wanted a prayer answered you knew she would intercede. Giving God and His people her whole heart, Elaine was never ashamed to share the gospel of Jesus Christ, which was evident in her unique anointing that touched so many lives. She believed that without the anointing of God there was no power in the delivery and, therefore, she daily strived to live holy and to become more like Christ.

Though she is no longer with us, Elaine's light continues to shine, her voice still echoes in our hearts, and her faith remains an everlasting inspiration. **HER SONG LIVES ON!**

She is preceded in death by her mother, First Lady Laura E. Norwood, brother, Glenn E. Norwood, and brother-in-love, David A. Johnson.

She leaves to cherish her memory her loving husband, Jose Sandoval; father, Pastor Charles Norwood; daughter, Levinia (Love) G. Thomas, who was her pride and joy; brother, Anthony C. Norwood, Sr. (Lenita); and sister, Sharon Norwood Johnson.

Her songs also continues to live on in her special daughter, Dominique Ivey; special son, Nati Fissshaye; uncles, Johnny and Carwell (C.W.) Norwood; aunt, Linda Hooker (Willie); nieces, Anthonisha Norwood and Glennisha Norwood Criswell; nephews, Anthony, Jr. and Antuan Norwood; great nieces and nephews, Ariano Washington, Antanika Norwood, Lorenzay Leggett, Zakye Marcus, Ahmon Norwood, Ahmir Norwood, Ah'Mylee Norwood, and Joseph Watkins; special sister-cousin, Kathi Pinkard; special friends, C. DeJuan Ruffin, Michael Boyd, Yvonne Pillars, Betty Thomas, Tracy A. Willis, Marja Dozier, Geneen White; god-family, Marcus Ferguson, Beverly Snell Horn, Deniece Tolliver, Leesa Tolliver, Geron Funches, Arionne Featherstone, granddogs, Chase and Chance, and a host of family and friends who loved her dearly.

HER FAMILY

FAMILY MEANS EVERYTHING! It isn't just about blood; it's about love, choice, and shared experiences. Family is a commitment to being trustworthy, loyal, loving, forgiving, and kind. And in Elaine, we saw all of this and more. She wasn't just a part of this family; she was its foundation - The *Relentless Rock* who carried each of us through life's challenges.

Elaine adored her husband, Jose, and he adored her. They cherished their time together at the beach, walking along the shore. They also enjoyed bicycling, when she could, and simply enjoying the water. To them God's creation was a breath-taking gift and they found peace and beauty in nature's embrace.

Elaine held an incredibly special place in her father's heart. Their bond was unlike any other....deep, unbreakable and full of love. He cherished her presence and found joy in every moment they shared. They would often have to remind the other siblings that she was his "first born" and non-other came before her.

ANTHONY: *When I think of my sister Elaine, my memories are all good. Before Glenn and Sharon came along, it was just Elaine and I. With her being the oldest, I looked up to her in so many ways. I saw her as a sister and sometimes as my brother, too. Elaine was a tough young lady. When we were growing and playing football in the streets, she was so tough that she'd be one of the first to be picked for the team. Her toughness stayed with her up until the time of her passing. She never complained and she was always smiling, even when you had the feeling she was in pain. She never showed it or spoke about it.*

My sister was an angel in my eyes and now she's an angel singing her heart out for the Lord. My sister will always live in my heart and now I must live my life in a way that pleases God so that I can someday



The *Relentless*
ROCK



Together AGAIN



Laura E.
NORWOOD

Glenn E.
NORWOOD

Elaine Norwood
SANDOVAL

David A.
JOHNSON



"The Lord is my strength and shield. I trust him with all my heart. He helps me, and my heart is filled with joy. I burst out in songs of thanksgiving."

Psalm 28:50



LOVE
Elaine's pride and joy



HER FAITH



"No weapon formed
against you shall prosper..."

Isaiah 54:17



A Life of Unwaivering Faith and Triumph in CHRIST

ELAINE'S LIFE WAS A TESTAMENT to faith, perseverance, and the unwavering power of belief in God. From an early age, she committed her life to Christ, walking in His light and serving as a beacon of inspiration to all who knew her. Her faith was not just something she professed - it was something she lived, a guiding force through every season of her life.

In April 2020, Elaine received a devastating diagnosis: Stage IV Cancer. A moment that could have shattered her spirit instead became another chapter in her faith journey. She faced the news with courage, holding steadfast to her belief that God was in control. Through 12 different types of treatments, she exceeded even medical expectations; astonishing doctors and medical staff with her resilience. What should have been a brief battle became a 5-year testimony of endurance, faith, and strength.

Elaine never wavered, never complained, never sought sympathy, and never doubted that God was with her. To her medical team, she was not just a patient - she was a warrior, a woman whose faith defied the odds. She often reminded them that her strength came from God, and that He could do anything, but fail.

Through her trials, Elaine remained a shining light, showing those around her what it truly meant to trust in God's plan. Her family, friends, and all who encountered her witnessed a woman of deep conviction and grace, one who lived and loved with the assurance that she was never alone. Elaine's faith not only sustained her, but it strengthened those around her. She gave her family new strength, inspiring them as they watched her show up every day, never letting on about the pain she was enduring. She carried herself with dignity, courage, and unwavering trust in God, never allowing her suffering to overshadow her joy.

What a strong, strong woman of faith she was. Elaine's journey reminds us all that faith is not just about believing—it is about living in complete trust, knowing that God's love never fails. Her legacy will continue to shine in the hearts of those who were blessed to know her, a beacon of faith and perseverance that will never fade.

A portrait of Elaine Norwood, a Black woman with short dark hair, wearing a red long-sleeved top, a gold necklace with two beads, a gold ring, and a gold bracelet. She is looking upwards and to the right with a joyful expression, her hand near her face.

Elaine NORWOOD

In this moment in history, Gospel music has many great performers, more than ever before, and Elaine Norwood truly is amongst the very best. Her distinct alto voice can be recognized on her Billboard Top #20 Hit “He’s Still Working On Me” or her highly acclaimed hits “I’m all that God say that I am”, “God has a Way” and “My Rock”, where she paints a story and takes the listener on a musical journey of inspiration.

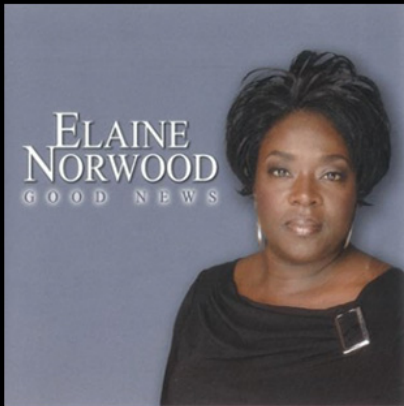
Fledging from a rich musical family heritage and formal vocal training under the tutelage of Professor Winston Poe, she conveys her bountiful inheritance with great emotion and passion in every opportunity to minister through music. She has enjoyed recording and performing with some of the industry’s most respected

secular and gospel artists including Edwin Hawkins, Thomas Whitfield, Dorothy Norwood, Jerry Peters, Sanchez Harley, Leon Haywood, Nancy Wilson, Angela Winbush, The Isley Brothers, Mariah Carey and Stevie Wonder.

Elaine’s myriad of talents extends past music into all of the arts. She studied violin and piano, produced a multitude of plays, most notably she headlined her performance on the “Today Show” and has appeared as a vocalist on the American Music Awards, The Arsenio Hall Show, Good Morning America, BET and The Easter Seals Telethon and The Gospel of Music with Jeff Majors and The Dorinda Clark Show.

Ms. Norwood’s illustrious career in both secular and gospel music serves as the foundation for her Ministry. She is one who visibly moves you with her soulful outpouring of music. As she reaches in and emotes a multitude of sentiment, you will instantly be encouraged & uplifted in hope.

Professionally Recorded Albums



HER MUSIC

School Accomplishments

'Shades of Love' to sing 'Harbor City' coed, partner in 'Battle of Bands' contest

A Hollywood Bowl appearance this summer will be the prize sought by 55 teenage musicians in the Battle of the Bands preliminary contest March 29 at Los Angeles Valley College. Top-scoring entries from three preliminary contests will compete in the June 20 finals in the Hollywood Bowl. Past winners in this annual competition include the Carpenters, the Grammy Award winning brother-sister team who topped the 1966 contest.

The very talented Leslie Jon, past winner of the Bowl competition, whose new album "Just Call Me Leslie Jon" has been recently released, will be the host for the event.

The chance for instant stardom each year draws Los Angeles County's top young musicians and vocalists to the Battle of the Bands, sponsored by the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation. Finalists will be announced May 1.

Contestants expected to perform in the March 29 preliminaries include "Shades of Love," a vocal duo composed of Lynn Davis, 16, of Harbor City, and Elaine Norwood, also 16, of Gardena.

The list also includes the Pico Rivera Stage Band, from Downey; La Miranda, Long Beach; Lynnwood, Montebello; Pico Rivera and Whittier; Seaciff a band from Burbank and Glendale; Tetrachord, a combo from Agoura; Calabasas and Westlake Village; and What Four!, a combo from La Mirada.

Ready to sing March 29 in a "Battle of the Bands" preliminary contest are Lynn Davis (r) of Harbor City and Elaine Norwood of Gardena also known as the "Shades of Love."

Volume L, No. 1 NARBONNE HIGH SCHOOL — HARBOR CITY, CALIFORNIA

"Shades of Love" Place First
by LINDA HELZER

Narbonne students Lynn Davis and Elaine Norwood were first place winners at the Hollywood Bowl Battle of the Bands this summer.

The two girls, who call themselves Shades of Love, won first place in the Vocal Ensemble division. They also won the Sweepstakes Award, which was given for the best performance of the whole evening. This was the first time that any vocalist has ever won the Sweepstakes Award in the entire 16 years that the Battle of the Bands has been in existence.

Elaine and Lynn sang a medley of "Ain't No Mountain High Enough," "Stop on By," "Walkin' in the Rain," and "Could It Be I Stayed Too Long."

The girls also won gift certificates for the best comeback of ticket sales.

The Shades of Love (Lynn and Elaine) won the hearts of the Hollywood Bowl that night, just as they have won a place in our hearts at Narbonne for their outstanding talents in past performances.



In the Studio

Blessing the Community







"Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary:
 praise him in the firmament of his power. Praise
 him for his mighty acts: praise him according to
 his excellent greatness. Praise him with the sound
 of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and
 harp. Praise him with the timbrel and dance:
 praise him with stringed instruments and organs.
 Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him
 upon the high-sounding cymbals. Let everything
 that hath breath praise the Lord. *Psalm 150*
 Praise ye the Lord."

Active Pallbearers

Henry Anderson Dock Matthews
V. Emile Brown Darien Whitman
Kenneth Thorton Donald Whitman

Honorary Pallbearers

Anthony Norwood, Sr. Keith Godfrey
Anthony Norwood, Jr. John Hall
Antuan Norwood Harold Howard
R. Anthony Burch LaMonne Wesley

Honorary Paw-bearers

Chance Chase

Arrangements Entrusted To

Angelus Funeral Home
3875 Crenshaw Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90008

NO REPAST

Sincere Thank You

During this difficult time, your many acts of kindness have brought comfort and reminded us just how deeply Elaine was loved and how she touched so many lives. Whether through prayers, words of encouragement, thoughtful gestures, or selfless deeds, you have been a source of strength for our family, and for that we are forever grateful.

To Pastor Marcus Jackson and the entire Home Assembly Church family, we extend our deepest thanks. To Sis. Magdalene Whitman and the Sacred Arts Ministry, your love and support have meant so much to us. We truly appreciate you.

To our beloved Second Community Baptist Church family, we thank you, we love you, and we are grateful for the unwavering support you have shown us.

From the depths of our hearts, we thank each and every one of you. Your kindness and love have lifted us, and we will never forget the compassion you have shown during this time.

With love and gratitude,

The Norwood & Sandoval Family