



## Veronica Howell -Abell

May 10, 1954 - September 9, 2012

### Veronica's Story

It was May 10, 1954, and it seemed as if one of heaven's melodious voices descended to the earth. The first utterances from new born Veronica LaRue Howell, were just the beginnings of a talent. A talent that would bring glory to God and a taste of "glory" to every ear it reached. Born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin to Gloria (Perry) Howell and Pastor Clarence Howell, she was the second of three children, who included an older brother, Clarence Earl, and the younger brother, Edward.

During the next 10 years, their ministry would require Pastor and Mrs. Howell to move several times. While residing in Fontana, California, Clarence Sr. lost his life in a tragic traffic accident. Veronica's brother Clarence relocated with their mother to Pasadena, California, while Veronica and Edward went to stay with their maternal grandparents temporarily in Oklahoma. After the passing of some years, Mrs. Howell (Gloria) found another love and married widower George Johnson. The family grew to include his five children: Barbara, Marian, Ralph, Reba and Dwayne. Later the family would spend several years in Lubbock, Texas, only to permanently settle in Altadena, California.

Time seemed to fly by and the teenage years found Veronica exercising her musical talents in many ways. Singing became an integral part of her life. Her

18 years of classical vocal training were displayed during various church services, school and civic events, as well as winning numerous vocal competitions. Although her beautiful voice was legendary in the Seventh-day Adventist Church, there were times she preferred feeding the homeless to concertizing.

After graduating from Glendale S.D.A. Academy, the San Francisco Conservatory School of Music became the school of choice where Veronica's musical talents continued to blossom. Leaving the conservatory in 1973, she continued her studies at Oakwood College (University) and Loma Linda University (La Sierra Campus) where she earned her BA in 1977. Following her studies, Veronica began to share her voice globally. Veronica would share the stage with many gospel legends, such as The Hawkins Family, The Winans, Vanessa Bell-Armstrong and Larnelle Harris, only to name a few. Veronica enjoyed performing with The Shades of Now as a teenager, and as an adult performed with The Albert McNeal Jubilee Singers of Los Angeles and Sound Spectrum. She especially enjoyed lifting her voice in duet with her beloved husband Jerold! She loved participation in evangelistic crusades and other religious services throughout North America. Veronica received many offers to sing for the world, but she chose to suffer affliction with the people of God rather than enjoy great financial benefits for a season. Veronica founded SonShine Ministries as an outreach to those in need of spiritual encouragement. That glorious voice would be captured on four album projects that include "FREE", "MY HOUSE IS FULL", "I AM NOT ASHAMED" and "LET IT SHINE."

In December of 2002, she became Veronica Howell-Abell in a beautiful wedding to Jerold Michael Abell. The next nine years and almost nine months were filled with joy, excitement, calm serenity, learning, spiritual growth, conquering challenges with God's help, sharing, and sharing oh, so much beautiful music! Jerold and Veronica moved from the San Diego area to Yucca

Valley to help care for her mom and dad. This gave her parents much comfort in their senior years. Because she loved her parents dearly, she continued to closely oversee their care until her dad was laid to rest in September of 2010. In October of 2011, her mom was placed in a senior care facility.

The last four years would find Veronica working as Tribal Services Coordinator for the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians, in Indio, California. As an administrative staff member her job required intellectual exertion and a great amount of patience. Though her job was taxing, Veronica's dedication to her parents and husband never wavered.

On September 9, 2012, Veronica Howell-Abell breathed her last breath. She now awaits the second coming of Jesus Christ and the glorious resurrection. Veronica touched and inspired lives everywhere she went. She will be forever remembered as a happy, fun-loving, wife, daughter, "sister", cousin, aunt, niece, god-mother, sister-in-law, friend, church elder and servant of God.

She will be missed beyond measure by her husband and partner, Jerold Abell, her mother Gloria Howell- Johnson, her brother and sister-in-law, Clarence and Caren Howell, her brother, Edward Howell, brothers, George Ralph Johnson Jr. (Jan Chambers) and Dwayne Johnson, Inga Johnson, and sisters, Barbara Dottin (Claude), Marion Monk (B.C.), Reba Steen (Glenn) and their descendents.

Also mourning her passing are her parents-in-law, Robert and Ida Henry, sister-in-law, Brenda Abell, brother-in-law, Willie Abell, brothers-in-law, Rufus and Steven Abell and their wives Shirley Abell and Mary Abell, and their descendents.

Extended Family includes:

The Perry Family:

Ricky and Regina Perry and their descendents

The Nelson Family:

Marilynn Nelson Lindsey, Russ and Paulette Nelson, Walt and Dee Dee Nelson and their descendents

The Penick Family:

Gerald and Linda Penick, Carolyn Henderson, Bill and Arlene Penick, Floyd and Toyia Penick and their descendents

The Runnels Family:

Pearl Runnels (aunt), Van and Vernice Runnels, Joe and Michelle Runnels, Frank and Odetta Runnels, David and Aleta Runnels, Jonathan Runnels and their descendents

The Canson Family:

Earl and Vivian Canson, Steve and Linda (Canson) Mackey, Roland and Bridgette Canson, David and Jeannie (Canson) Hudgens, Reggie Canson and their descendents

Adopted sisters who will miss her include, but are not limited to: Emma Leech (Justin), Colleen Pierre-Louis, Diana Andrews, Rene' Davis, Deborah Fowler, Loretta Middleton, and her beloved sister-cousin, Marilyn

The list continues with many extended family members, close friends, god-children and colleagues beyond measure. The memories that we cherish of Veronica will live on in our hearts through her songs and pictures. We look forward to the resurrection and the reunion in heaven where we will have "no more nights, no more pain, no more tears never crying again. We'll sing praises to the great I am and will live in the light of the risen lamb".

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be sent to the Altadena SDA Church. Please write on the memo line: Veronica Abell Memorial Fund. The proceeds will be used for the care of Gloria Johnson. <http://altadenasda.org/>

# Previous Events

## Funeral and Celebration of Life

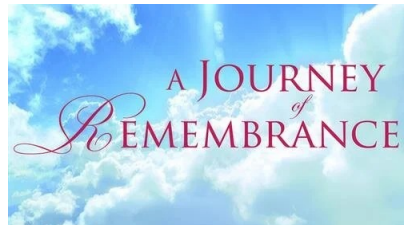
OCT **28**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (PT)

Altadena SDA Church  
2609 N. Lincoln Ave.  
Altadena, CA 91001

# Tribute Wall



“ *Reflecting on Memories created a Tribute Video in memory of Veronica Howell -Abell*



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**Reflecting on Memories** - October 24, 2012 at 07:17 AM

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*Wonderful and stunning! Miss you Veronica!*

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**Sheila Donato** - February 24, 2025 at 11:50 PM



“ *Linda Hill lit a candle in memory of Veronica Howell -Abell*



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**Linda Hill** - October 26, 2012 at 12:34 AM



“ 191 files added to the album Memories Album



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**Reflecting on Memories** - October 24, 2012 at 07:54 AM