

PROCLAMATION

BOROUGH OF RED BANK

100th Birthday – Rose Johnson

WHEREAS, Rosena Johnson, affectionately known as Rose, was born in Jamaica West Indies, on August 31, 1923. Leaving the comforts of her home country, Rose made the courageous decision to migrate to the United States in 1963 and became a naturalized US Citizen in February 1982.

Rose worked in childcare when she first came to the United States and even after these many years still shares a close bond with the families for whom she worked. After taking the necessary courses for certification, Rose was employed by Riverview Hospital (now Hackensack Meridian / Riverview Medical Center) as a Nursing Assistant, Monitor Technician, and Unit Secretary for 15 years. Rose genuinely loved her work caring for the patients. It is not surprising that Rose had such an impact on Riverview. Her joy for helping others in health care began in Jamaica as she served as a member of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade. One of Rose's fondest memories of serving with the St. John's Ambulance Brigade is captured by a newspaper photo that shows her in the background when her Majesty Queen Elizabeth was visiting a children's hospital in Jamaica in 1953. After retiring from Riverview, Rose volunteered both at the hospital, and for the Lunch Break Program in Red Bank.

Rose has been a member of Calvary Baptist Church, in Red Bank, NJ since 1975 and until her health failed, she actively served in the following ministries of the church: The Missionary Circle, visitation committee, Nurses Unit, Senior Ushers ministry, and the Culinary Committee. She still maintains a close relationship with her church family and is grateful for the opportunities when she can worship virtually.

As a resident at Complete Care (Formerly Hackensack Meridian) in Shrewsbury, New Jersey, Rose continues to have influence. On one of the walls in her room hangs a Life Saving Award she received on February 4, 2021. Rose received this award for her: "Quick thinking, courage and steadfastness for obtaining the help needed to save her room-mates life."

Among Rose's many hobbies and interests are gardening and putting together puzzles. Rose is the "resident gardener" at Complete Care, and the impact of her green thumb is enjoyed by residents and guests. Some of the beautiful puzzles Rose completed have been framed and are on display on the walls at Complete Care.

Rose's unconditional love for and tremendous impact on her family and friends is like no other. She is always present with an encouraging word and support, a joke, and that infectious laugh, and always armed with prayers to meet anyone's needs. Rose's life is characterized by faith, love, kindness, and service to others. In Rose's own words "I am happy I make a difference."

Rose's faith in God is a source of her strength and longevity. Her favorite scripture quote is "With God all things are possible". Rose truly embodies the beauty of her name.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, William Portman, Mayor of the Borough of Red Bank on behalf of the Borough Council, do hereby proclaim August 31, 2023 as an official day of celebration on the 100th birthday of Rose Johnson and wish her continued health and happiness.



William Portman, Mayor