
AUGUST 2021

ELLA SPEAKS



Our History

On August 16, 1941, Ella Brown brought the family together for the first family reunion in Johnson Park, Piscataway, New Jersey. For several years after that, individual families met separately but came together for Easter and Mother's Day at Ella and Joseph's home at 19 Howard Street in New Brunswick, New Jersey. Ella Brown died on October 25, 1965. In the mid-1970s, Alice Brown Spencer Epps had a desire to continue the tradition. She and Mary B. Brown published the first Ella Speaks newsletter. Then for the next 40+ years, the family has come together as one. We have gathered at Johnson Park, St. Peters High School, and Holmes Marshall Elementary School. We have gathered most recently at Donaldson Park in Highland Park, New Jersey.

Children and Grandchildren of Joseph and Ella Bell Brown

Morris

Edward

David

Phillip

Morris Jr.

Ellen

Richard

Albert (Perry)

Lawrence

Morris

John

(died at age 17)

No Children

Alice

James

Mary

Edward

Roy

Bernard

William (Billy)

Claude

Claude Henry

Richard

Doris

Evelyn

Sylvia

Elaine

Joyce

Robert

Louis

Wilfred

Linda

Muriel

Norma

Lilly Bell

Rudolph

Ann

William

Jeanet

Joseph

Joseph Jr.



August 16, 1941

Back Row: James Spencer, Lawrence Brown, Edward Spencer, Ruddy Wright, and Mary Spencer
Second Row: Willie Wright, Edward Brown Jr., Anne Wright, Claude Brown Jr., Wilber Richardson, and Richard Brown
Third Row: David Brown, Phillip Brown, Francis Richardson, Doris Brown, and Major Williams
Seated on the ground: Silva Brown, Ella Brown holding C. Roy Epps and Elaine Brown, and Morris Brown Jr.

In Loving Memory of Mary B. Brown

Birthdate: October 26, 1928 - Heavendate: June 3, 2021



Grandma, I Kno it was your time to be called home.
It happened so sudden, When you were there alone.
But there's no need to be worried, cuz I know that
you Strong.

You lived a long life, that many may not see, you
never took it for Granted, And that was Special to
me! All the Great times and memories that you leave
Behind, I Kno 1 thing Grandma, It's your time to
SHINE! Now you at peace, With your Family &
Friends, You will always be in Spirit, untill we meet
Again!

-Poem Submitted by Tishie Brown

Achievements, Weddings, & Anniversaries

Niàni Randell is currently an 11th grader at North Point H.S. in Maryland, where her vigorous course schedule is filled with advanced placement (AP) and honors classes. Niàni currently holds a 4.4 GPA and has been on Principal Honors all school year. Niàni is a member of the National Honor Society. Niàni also has two jobs, one at Nips Juice House and the other, a Lifeguard at area pools. Niàni is a Girl Scout, and a Top Teen of Top Teens of America, Southern Maryland Chapter. Niàni plays Varsity Basketball on her school team and is on the DC Premier AAU traveling Basketball team. In December 2020, Niàni has obtained her driver's license and is in the process of finalizing college selections for her graduating year in 2022. Niàni is the daughter of Nicole Randall.

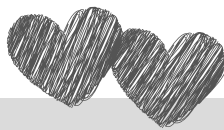
Dhani Best, son of Michelle Percy-Best and grandson of Linda Brown graduated from Chancellor High School in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Meshach Arnold is graduating with a Bachelor's of Music Production degree from Full Sail University and expects to begin a Music Film Scoring Master's program at Berklee College in January. Meshach was recently hired as a composer for his first film. He is the son of Leah Epps Arnold and Tony Arnold.

Leslye Lopez graduated with honors from Southern New Hampshire University with her Master's Degree in English & Creative Writing on August 1, 2021. She is a member of Sigma Tau Delta (The International English Honor Society) and was inducted into the NSLS (The National Society of Leadership and Success). Leslye is the daughter of Roy Epps

Virginia Ford is a Big Apple Award Recipient & Fellow for the 2021-2022 school year! This fellowship awards exceptional teachers who have significantly impacted student learning, have strong instructional practices, and have contributed deeply to the school community. Out of 11,328 nominations from all five boroughs, she is one of 20 winners! And she did this while pregnant with her third child and earning her second Masters degree! Virginia is the daughter of Renee Brown Brooks

Tony Lopez received a Certified Information Security Manager (CISM) certification indicating expertise in information security governance. Tony also coaches two track teams, one of which is headed to the Junior Olympic Nationals. He is the son of Leslye Epps Lopez and Tony Lopez Sr.



Malcolm Williams Jr. and Gina Boykin celebrated their 5 year anniversary on July 23, 2021

Naomi Arnold and Christopher Leyh were wed at Black Ankle Vineyards in Mount Airy, Maryland on May 23, 2021

Birthdays, Births & Fallen Leaves

Births

O'lani Marie Pearson, Daughter of Ira & Bella Pearson. Born 7/1/2021.
Granddaughter of Shani Stanley.

Journey Robinson, Daughter of Jazelle Robinson. Born 10/29/2020.
Granddaughter of Jalil Brown Robinson and Rashida Mahone.

Sophia Balbina Ford, Daughter of Virginia Brooks and Joseph Fod. Born 5/1/2021. Granddaughter of Veronica Brooks.

Ava Sheila Brown, Daughter of Philip Charles Brown and Jane Gray. Born 9/18/2020. Granddaughter of Philip Brown, Jr. and Sheila

Name	Age	Birthday
Jatique Brown	21	9-Oct
Meshach Arnold	21	21-Dec
Naiema Gardner	30	20-Jan
Seidah Sabir	30	14-Apr
Johnnie Willard	40	15-May
Sean White	40	2-Jul
Keith Gaines	40	4-Jul
Diane Wellington	45	24-Oct
Tyrone Brown	50	7-Jan
Patrice Brown	50	20-Aug
Reggie Hunt	50	12-Nov
Gregory Nanton	65	25-Aug
Michael McGregor	70	24-Apr
Renee Spencer	70	22-Jun
Arthur Spencer	70	1-Sep
James Spencer	70	23-Sep
Karen McGregor	70	23-Sep
Walter Brown	75	23-Oct
Roy Epps	80	6-Jun

Fallen Leaves

Kevin Wilson (60), Husband of Andrea Wilson. Adrea is Elaine Jackson's daughter.
Sunrise February 3, 1961, Sunset February 5, 2021
Bronx, New York

Mary B. Brown (92), Daughter of Alice Brown Spencer Epps and James Spencer
Sunrise October 26, 1928, Sunset June 2, 2021
Bronx, New York

Businesses & Other News

Businesses

JNicole Events

Owner: Jenell McMillon Prince

Event Planner

Social Media: jnicoleevents

Website:

<https://www.jnicoleevents.com/>

Email: jnicoleevents@gmail.com

Sheba's Reigns

Owner: Lorraine Spencer Sabir

Handcrafted soy candles & aromatherapy products

Social Media: Sheba's Reign



Website: <https://www.shebasreign.com/>

Email: Shebas.reign@gmail.com

Future Submissions to Ella Speaks

We look forward to hearing about all the wonderful events happening in the family. In an effort to streamline the process, we are asking that you submit all future Ella Speaks events on our new Submission form. Please go to bit.ly/ellaspeaks to access the form.

Ella Speaks Submission Form

 [nastarr.arnold@gmail.com](#) (not shared) [Switch account](#) 

* Required

Submitter's Name *

Your answer

Submitter's Email *

Your answer

Contact Naomi Arnold Leyh (nastarr.arnold@gmail.com) or Leah Arnold (leaharnold2@gmail.com) for questions or comments.