



Marie Gandonou

JUN 21, 1958 - NOV 14, 2025



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Memorial Gardens & Mausoleums

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Marie Gandonou

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Marie Damienne Gandonou was born on June 21, 1958, in Dagbe, Porto-Novo. She grew up as the beloved eldest sibling, setting a gentle example for those who came after her.

She began her primary education at École Béninoise in Lagos, Nigeria, and later continued her academic journey at Notre Dame de Lourdes in Porto-Novo for her secondary education. Marie's professional life reflected her diligence, grace, and strong work ethic. She first served with the Embassy of the Democratic Republic of Congo before joining Bouygues Construction Company and later Dumez Nig. Ltd. in Lagos, Nigeria.

In 1993, she traveled to the United States of America, where she built a life marked by resilience, faith, and deep love for family and community. She remained there until her peaceful passing at Sinai Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. Marie loved helping others and took classes at Prince George's Community College, University of Maryland to earn her nursing certification.

She also pursued courses in hospitality, management, and life skills. A nurturer at heart, she loved children deeply and treated them as her own. She especially enjoyed supporting children with disabilities and special needs. Marie worked as a Personal Care Assistant for St. John's Community Services and later as a Direct Care Specialist for the National Children's Center in 2005.

In 2002, she earned a degree in practical theology from the International Seminary. She was called to ministry as an evangelist and prayer warrior and held a deep passion for serving the lost and the less fortunate. Marie carried an entrepreneurial and philanthropic spirit throughout her life. She launched several businesses and community programs, including Marie's Catering Services, specializing in West African cuisine.

She also founded the Good Samaritan House of Rescue, a nonprofit organization serving the homeless, children, and individuals with disabilities. In 2006, she launched Yehoadah Healthcare



Obituary

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Agency Inc., designed to provide in-home care to residents in need. Marie was preceded in death by her father, Pa Damien Gandonou; her mother, Theresa Azagba; and her brother.

She is survived by her loving husband, Dossou Akognon; her devoted sons, Lucas Adeola (Beauty), Didas Akognon (Khadijah), and Arnold Fagbeji; and her daughter, Denise George (Bill). She also leaves to cherish her memory five sisters, three brothers, five grandchildren, and a host of friends and extended family.


Marie's spirit of service, resilience, and love left an unforgettable impression on all who encountered her. Her infectious smile and comforting voice brought joy and peace into every room she entered. To God be the glory for Marie's beloved life and lasting legacy!




Events

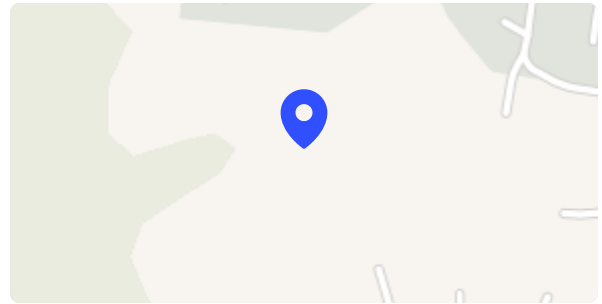
Marie Gandonou
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Burial


 **Thursday**, December 4, 2025


 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM ET

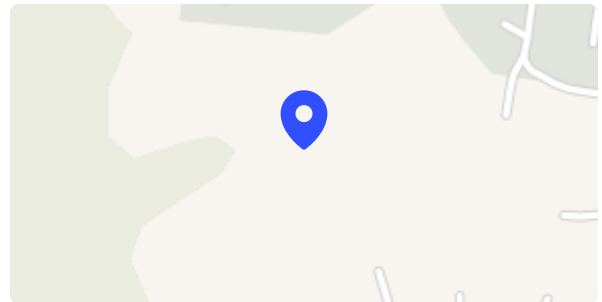
 **Trinity Memorial Gardens**
3221 Mattawoman-Beantown Road, Waldorf MD
20601



Cemetery Details

 **Trinity Memorial Gardens**
3221 Mattawoman-Beantown Road, Waldorf MD
20601

 **(301) 932-8900**





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Marie by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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