



## Clara Louise Sydnor

April 13, 1933 - December 14, 2025

CLARA LOUISE SYDNOR, affectionately known as “Tough Woman,” was born on April 18, 1933, in Kershaw, South Carolina, to Mimmie “Honey Bell” and Richard Shropshire. Tough Woman peacefully entered eternal rest on December 14, 2025, at the age of 92.

Clara was the second oldest of five children. The family spent her early years in Kershaw, SC, where Clara discovered her passion for cosmetology while spending time in her mother’s beauty salon, as she put it, “liking to hear grown folk talk.” After losing her mother at the tender age of 13, the family relocated to Baltimore, Maryland. Deeply influenced by her grandparents, specifically her grandfather, Clara learned the values of discipline, faith, quiet strength, and the importance of listening. These principles shaped her character and guided her throughout life. In 1950, Tough Woman graduated from Carver Technology and Vocational High School in Baltimore, Maryland.

Clara married Johnnie Roy Sydnor, a blessed union that produced seven children: Daphene (deceased), Yolanda, Jacqueline, Johnnie Roy, Kenneth, Rodney, and Donna. Later, they moved to New York City, building a home where Tough Woman was the heart, steadfast in nurturing the family with love, structure, accountability, and faith. Clara was left to carry the family with determination and quiet grace after her husband’s passing, always placing her children above all. Known for her sweet spirit and gentle presence, Tough

Woman believed in leading by example, the value of education, and strong family bonds. She found joy in sewing, reading, and sharing meals with family and friends. Her faith was a guiding light and source of comfort throughout her life.

Clara's perseverance and entrepreneurial spirit led her to graduate from Wilfred Academy of Hair and Beauty Culture in 1979, following in her mother's footsteps as a cosmetologist. Shortly afterwards, Tough Woman and daughter Jacqueline (a third-generation cosmetologist) opened La Chic Beauty Salon in Brooklyn, NY, where she worked until her retirement. She approached her craft with pride, care, and dedication. After retirement,

Clara continued to give generously of herself, fostering two teenage girls and providing them with love, guidance, and stability. Tough Woman leaves to cherish her memory and lessons: her sister, Freeda; loving children, Yolanda, Jacqueline, Johnnie Roy, Kenneth, Rodney and Donna; daughter-in-law, Delseta and son-in-law, Robert; grandchildren, Shawn, Dana (Shandrea), Eric, Aaron, Rodney, Robert, Brandon, Ebonie and Atiyya; great-grandchildren, Tyler, Aaliyah, Jason, Kennedy, Aameah, Romelo and Kaizen; along with a host of nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. Her legacy lives on through the generations she nurtured and the values she passed down with patience and love.

# Cemetery Details

## Moreland Park Cemetery

2901 Taylor Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21234

# Previous Events

## Wake

JAN 5. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Johnson - Fosbrink (March Funeral Home)  
8521 Loch Raven Blvd  
Towson, MD 21286

## Funeral Service

JAN 5. 11:30 AM (ET)

Johnson - Fosbrink (March Funeral Home)  
8521 Loch Raven Blvd  
Towson, MD 21286

# Tribute Wall



“ *March Funeral Homes - Laburnum Chapel created a Webcast For Funeral on Clara Louise Sydnor in memory of Clara Louise Sydnor*



March Life Tribute Centers - December 16, 2025 at 11:37 AM

CE

“ *I had the privilege of calling Ms. Clara my mom. She loved me and my sister as if we were her biological children. I will be forever grateful for her!!! Love always, Ce'Ce*



cece - December 28, 2025 at 11:07 AM

GJ

“ *I always loved how she dressed. I remember one Christmas she received a full length leather coat. To me it wasn't an ordinary leather coat it was red with pleats in the back with a black mink around the collar and sleeves. She put it on and twirled around with that beautiful smile on her face. That's my favorite memory Miss Clara.*

*With Deepest Sympathy, Geraldine Jackson & Family*

Gerrie Jackson - December 26, 2025 at 08:12 PM

MC

“ We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love, and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

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**March Life Tribute Center** - December 16, 2025 at 11:38 AM