

Ms. Mary Jane Granger
Philanthropic Leadership Award

Ms. Mary Jane Granger is being honored with the Philanthropic Leadership Award for her tireless efforts to improve and give back to the Black community in Ocean City. Ms. Granger was born the day after Christmas in 1945 in Mullins, South Carolina. She was one of three children of Robert and Sarah Mae Davis. She moved to Ocean City at the age of 27 and remained there for thirty-one years until her passing.

Ms. Granger was a very active businesswoman in South Jersey, owning a number of prominent and successful businesses. From 1971-1979, she owned Granger Cleaning Service. She also owned Jane's Farm Market and was the Chief Executive Officer of Pete's Place Professional Car Shine from 1980-1987. She is perhaps most well-known for her local daycare that provided love and care to countless children in Ocean City—Mary Jane's Daycare—which she owned from 1987-1995. For her business acumen, she earned the title of local Businesswoman of the Year numerous times. She also appeared on the television show, *Good Morning America*, a number of times, as well as being featured in local newspapers. She was also very active in volunteer work, particularly as a member of the NAACP. Ms. Granger was the mother to nine children and grandmother to many grandchildren. But she raised generations of children from all different backgrounds in the community. She was a loving mother figure who always helped those around her in any way that she could. She passed on December 10, 2003.