

Celebration of *Life*



Cheryl Anne Dodson Orr

November 15, 1957

April 10, 2020

August 10, 2020

CHERYL ANNE DODSON ORR

“To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heavens.”

— Ecclesiastes 3:1

Devoted mother, loving wife, wonderful daughter, compassionate sister, and caring friend, Cheryl Anne Dodson Orr, passed away gracefully on April 10, 2020, in her home with her family by her side.

Cheryl was born November 15, 1957, to Mrs. LaVerne and the late Mr. Richard F. Dodson in Cleveland, Ohio. Cheryl was primarily raised by her mother LaVerne and her late stepfather Mr. James R. Williams. Cheryl was the eldest of five girls, affectionately known as the Dodson sisters. Cheryl was a natural leader who demonstrated kindness, patience, compassion, humility, and servitude at a young age. A studious child, Cheryl graduated from John F. Kennedy High School in Cleveland, Ohio in 1975. She attended Ohio Northern University in Ada, Ohio, and in 1980, she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmacy. In June of 1998, she completed the Certificate Program in Healthcare Management at Georgetown University in Washington, DC.

Cheryl met her college sweetheart, William “Bill” Orr, in 1975 and they married on August 8, 1981. Together, they began a journey that took them around the world. Becoming an Air Force spouse afforded her unique opportunities that included over a dozen moves to places like Las Vegas, Nevada, San Francisco, California, and Misawa, Japan.

To this union, two sons were born, Brian and Michael.

No matter where she was, she made her family and others feel welcome. She was known for her extraordinary hosting abilities. A prospective guest once said, “I’m so glad to be invited; Cheryl’s hosting skills are legendary!”

On top of her motherly and hosting duties, Cheryl was also an outstanding pharmacist who felt her occupation was more than a job, it was a calling. Cheryl fiercely advocated for her customers in so many ways, fighting for the care they needed and deserved. She was a mentor to young pharmacists and technicians, showing them the extra mile, or inch can make a real difference for real people.

She did not shy from adversity or leadership. She served as President of the Parent-Teacher Association, President of the Cambryar Homeowner’s Association, and a leader in the Boy Scouts of America Troops 1145 and 195 for both of her sons. She was a long-time advocate of social justice, working tirelessly with the Alfred Street Baptist Church Social Justice Ministry, and serving as a Fairfax County Election official.

Later in life, she pursued another passion of hers, Interior Design. She enrolled in classes at Northern Virginia Community College and became a Certified Interior Decorator. In 2016, she started her own company, Orr @ Home: Cheryl Orr Interiors, LLC.

There was rarely a moment in which she wasn’t planning, cooking, designing, organizing, and sharing ideas with others. In her 62 years on earth, Cheryl’s generosity, kindness, strength, humility, advocacy, and compassion are living legacies for us to follow.

Cheryl was preceded in death by her father Richard F. Dodson, stepfather James R. Williams, and parents-in-law, William and Annie Orr. She leaves to cherish many fond memories to her husband: William E. Orr, Jr.; her two children Brian and Michael; her mother LaVerne Williams; four sisters LaVerne Pendleton (Michael), Rhonda Rayford (Ray), Lisa Williams (Shun), Renita Overton (Anthony), two sisters-in-law, Renee Bessick (John), Jennifer Williams (Glenn), a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and best friend Cheryl Robinson.

Order of Service

Prelude.....Instrumentalist

Invocation.....Minister Elijah McDavid

Hymn of Rejoicing.....Blessed Assurance, #345

Scripture Reading

Old Testament.....Proverbs 31: 25-31Deacon Lionel Martin

New Testament.....John 14: 1-6Deacon Lorraine Sanders

Prayer of Comfort.....Rev Paul E. Jeter

Video from Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley, Pastor

Obituary.....Read Silently

Expressions of Love (2 to 3 minutes).....La Verne Pendleton—*Family*
Cheryl Robinson—*Life-long friend*
Charles Liarakos—*Cambryar Homeowners Association*
Sally Proctor—*Co-worker*
Gail Templeton—*Social Justice Ministry*

Video Tribute

Musical Selection.....My Help (Jackie Gouche Farris)

Eulogy.....Minister Elijah McDavid

Benediction & Closing Prayer.....Minister Elijah McDavid

RecessionalGoing Up Yonder

The interment will be held at Arlington National Cemetery



Expressions of Appreciation

The family of Cheryl Anne Dodson Orr would like to express our heartfelt appreciation for the outpouring of love and support from everyone during this difficult time. Your presence encouraged our hearts. Your prayers uplifted our souls. Your cards, flowers and comforting words enhanced our memories. Your prepared meals sustained our bodies. Words cannot express how appreciative we are that you shared in the celebration of our loved one's life and in the sorrow of her death. Your support has made all the difference. May God bless each of you!

Pallbearers

Jonathon Bessick
Matthew Bessick
Shaundale Bessick
Wil Cope
Kristian Dodson
Quintin Groce
Quashawn Melton
Jordan Pendleton
Michael Williams
Glenn Williams

Honorary Pallbearers

John Bessick
Anthony Overton
Michael Pendleton
Ray Rayford
Glenn Williams
Shun V. Williams

Services Entrusted to

Pope Funeral Home
5538 Marlboro Pike
District Heights, MD 20747