

Celebration of Life

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The family would like to express their sincere appreciation for the many calls, prayers, and well wishes received during the time of Gwendolyn's illness as well as in this time of bereavement. May God continue to bless and keep each and every one of you.

-The Franklin Family

ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO

Wiseman Funeral Home

7527 Old Alexandria Ferry Rd | Clinton, MD
301-899-2005

INTERMENT

Restlawn Memorial Gardens

6605 New Hope Road | Bluefield, WV 24701
304-589-3371

PROGRAM DESIGN & PRINT

Monica Stanley

WWW.GIFTOFGRAPHICS.COM

SERENITY PRAYER

God, grant me the Serenity
To accept the things I cannot change...
Courage to change the things I can,
And Wisdom to know the difference.
Living one day at a time,
Enjoying one moment at a time,
Accepting hardship as the pathway to peace.
Taking, as He did, this sinful world as it is,
Not as I would have it.
Trusting that He will make all things right
if I surrender to His will.
That I may be reasonably happy in this life,
And supremely happy with Him forever in the next.

Amen.

*Gwendolyn
L. Franklin*

JUNE 11, 1950 – OCTOBER 6, 2020

Her STORY

Gwendolyn L. Franklin passed away peacefully on October 6, 2020 after a 4 ½ year battle with stage four duodenal cancer. She was born in Bluefield, Virginia on June 11, 1950 to the late Henry and Edith Franklin. She was preceded in death by her brother, Bernard E. Franklin and sister, Shauna D. Franklin.

Gwendolyn attended Tazewell County High School until integration, after which time she attended and graduated from Graham High School in Bluefield, Virginia. She was baptized at an early age and was a faithful member of the Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church.

After graduation, Gwendolyn attended The Executive Secretary School after which she became employed by the Federal Government. This time included employment with the Department of Defense, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Department of Commerce and U.S. Department of Labor. After 36 years of service she retired in 2006. During her employment with the Federal Government, Gwendolyn worked eight years as a part-time sales associate at the Lord & Taylor Department Store and seven years as a part-time sales associate at Neiman Marcus Department Store.

Following her retirement, she developed a joy of line dancing and attended group sessions weekly. As a way of staying active she also enjoyed early morning walks with her friends and neighbors, as well as organizing trips to the orchard to pick apples and peaches in the fall. Gwen also loved to travel and even took a cross country train trip shortly after her cancer diagnosis. While caring for her younger sister Shauna who was legally blind, Gwendolyn became an active volunteer with the Independent and Information for the Blind (IIB). After Shauna's death in March 2015 she remained active with IIB and was voted 2016 Volunteer of the Year. She continued volunteering until February 2020 when her health began to fail.

Gwendolyn is survived by sisters, Carolyn F. Lanier of Silver Spring, MD; Pamela Franklin of Woodbridge, VA; and brother, Michael H. Franklin (Fonda) of Hagerstown, MD. Nephews, H. D'Leon Lanier & Michael N. Franklin; nieces, Shalaun Franklin & Faith Franklin and several great nieces & nephews.

Gwendolyn was a loving sister, aunt, and friend. She was the Matriarch...the glue that held the family together. She will truly be missed as she captured the hearts of all whom she came in contact with.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held at Alfred Street Baptist Church, 301 S. Alfred Street, Alexandria, VA on November 13, 2020 at 12pm; visitation 30 minutes prior. Interment at Restlawn Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Bluefield, WV at a later date to be determined.



Order of SERVICE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2020

Alfred Street Baptist Church
301 S. Alfred Street | Alexandria, VA

PRELUDE

INVOCATION

Rev. Barbara Florvil

HYMN OF REJOICING

"Hold To God's Unchanging Hand"

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament: Psalm 27

Rev. Anthony J. Brownlow

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18

Rev. Marcia Norfleet

New Testament: Romans 8:28-39

Rev. Keith Perkins

PRAYER OF COMFORT

Deacon Tshaka Cunningham

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Rev. Barbara Florvil

MUSICAL SELECTION

"My Soul's Been

Anchored In The Lord"

Deacon Johnny Brown

REFLECTIONS

Mary Crenshaw (Friend)

Shalaun Franklin (Niece)

Carolyn Lanier (Sister)

EULOGY

Rev. Barbara Florvil

HYMN OF REJOICING

"When We All

Get to Heaven"

CLOSING PRAYER

& BENEDICTION

Rev. Barbara Florvil

RECESSIONAL

(Instrumental)

"I'll Fly Away"