

Homegoing Service for
Pearlie Mae Williams

August 28, 1944 - April 27, 2017



Cleo Williams

September 5, 1945 - April 22, 2017

Service

Saturday, May 6, 2017 – 1:00 pm

Cotton Funeral Home

1025 Bergen Street, Newark, NJ 07112

Rev. Edward Allen, Officiating

Emory Lee, Organist

Fond Memories of Cleo and Pearlle Mae

Aunt Cleo and Mom would always turn on music and have the kids dance and sing for them. One of their favorite songs for the kids to sing was Endless Love by Diana Ross and Lionel Richie. Gerald taught himself to play the keyboard and memorized the melody by ear. Amazing!

Mom would send us to Aunt Cleo's house when we were misbehaving. Instead of punishing us, Aunt Cleo would give us money and send us to the store to buy all the candy we wanted and we would sit around eating junk food and watching Lifetime movies together. She always said "Coming to my house is not punishment!" She was right.

Before school every morning my best friend would come over to the house until time for school. My Mom and Aunt Cleo would come into the room where we were and stand behind us in the mirror. They would both sing into hairbrushes and dance in the mirror and we would all dance and sing together. Mom's favorite song at the time was 'Do Me Baby' while Aunt Cleo's favorite was 'Juicy Fruit.' This happened every morning!

Obituary

PEARLIE MAE WILLIAMS (28 AUG 1944 – 27 APR 2017)

Pearlie Mae Williams was born to Clarence and Willie Iris Williams in Newark, NJ on August 28th 1944. She attended Newark Public Schools and graduated from Southside High School. She received her Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Essex County College. She worked in the mail room for the Newark Housing Authority prior to her retirement.

Pearlie Mae lived in the city of Newark, NJ most of her life prior to moving to Newark, DE in 2011. She was a staple of her local community and a beloved figure amongst her many friends and neighbors. She was affectionately known around the neighborhood as 'Aunt Pearl.' She was best known for taking neighborhood residents under her wing and offering unconditional love, comfort, advice and words of encouragement. She judged no one based on their circumstance and freely welcomed everyone into her home. She especially loved children and became a foster parent and adoptive mother to several children.

Pearl was also known for her great southern cooking. She would give away plates of food to anyone who was hungry whether man, woman or child. Daily, it was common for people to call to her window or come to her door for a hot meal. She would happily wrap up a plate of food and hand it out of the window or invite people inside for a sit-down meal and conversation. She also baked and gave away sweet potato pies during the holiday seasons.

She is survived by her children Gerald Williams of St. Louis, MO, Katie Williams of Newark, DE, Bernadine Martin of Willingboro, NJ, Leonard Williams of Phoenix, AZ, Byrenda Wilson of Catasauqua, PA, Solomon Middleton-Williams of Portsmouth, RI, Antwon Fisher-Williams of Brooklyn, NY and Bianca Williams of Columbia, MO and her siblings Louise Grant of Poinciana, FL, Caroline Pinnock of Avon Park, FL, Sharon Wallace of Chicago, IL, Linda Edwards of Chicago, IL and Luegenger "Peanut" Moses of Sebring, FL, Theodore, Michael, Edwin, Martin and Alvin King and a host of grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Pearlie Mae will be missed by all who knew her.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Reading

Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Selection

Remarks

(Two minutes each please)

Acknowledgements

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Rev. Edward Allen

Recessional

Private Repast

Obituary

CLEO WILLIAMS (05 SEP 1943 – 22 APR 2017)

Cleo Williams, the first of 20 children, was born to Clarence and Willie Iris Williams in Newark, NJ on September 5th 1943.

She attended a Catholic Convent in Princeton, NJ. Though she never married or had children of her own, she maintained a close bond with all her siblings in New Jersey including Frank, Ben, Gerald and Pearlie Mae Williams, now since deceased, and was a big part of the lives of all her nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews. She also remained in close contact with her other living siblings via telephone.

Dearest Aunt Cleo was such a blessing to all that entered her space. Her beautiful, warm, and funny personality made her a joy to be around. She was a loving Sister, Aunt, God-mother and friend to so many. She was very close to her younger sister Pearlie Mae and they always lived within close proximity to one another. She also maintained a life-long friendship with her long-time physician Dr. Mahamaya Malhotra and treated her as one of the family.

Throughout her life Aunt Cleo has blessed the lives of many, especially her God-daughter Leshawn Morgan and all the children in the family. Cleo was the fun aunt, the aunt that you could talk to about anything and expect her trust and truthful responses. She was the aunt that made you laugh with her great sense of humor. To us kids she was the calm after any storm at home. We loved to escape to Aunt Cleo's. She spoiled not only us, but all children to the absolute core. She was the aunt that allowed us to bring out the confidence within ourselves which helped to shape all of us into who we are today. Last but not least, she was the aunt that got us all hooked on the Lifetime Channel. The love for our dear aunt, sister, and God-mom is never ending.

We will forever hold her close in our hearts.

Footprints

One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the LORD. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene, he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; one belonged to him and the other to the LORD.

When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints. He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in his life.

This really bothered him and he questioned the LORD about it. "LORD you said that once I decided to follow you you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me."

The LORD replied "My precious, precious child, I love you and would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

Acknowledgement

Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair.

Perhaps you sent a floral piece If so, we saw it there.

Perhaps you spoke the kindest words as any friend could say.

Perhaps you were not there at all just thought of us on that day.

Whatever you did to console our hearts,

We Thank You, Whatever the part.

Professional Services Provided By

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973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME
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