

Celebrating The Life of



Sharley Duah

February 9, 1970 - May 28, 2020

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2020
Service: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

ETERNITY FUNERAL SERVICES, LLC
725 East Gun Hill Road • Bronx, NY 10467

Obituary

“There’s promise and beauty in so many things if we are open to it. Even through the darkest moments, if we try and see the light, there is promise in this as well.”

– Natalie Bacho

We are gathered here today in the memory of my sister, Sharley Duah. So that together, we may acknowledge and share both our joy in the gift that her life was to us, and the pain that her passing brings. In sharing the joy and the pain together today, may we lessen the pain and remember more clearly the joy.

I would like to thank you all for coming here today to mourn the loss of Sharley, with special thanks and blessings to all her beloved friends.

Sharley, was only 50 years old when she passed suddenly. She had suffered multiple strokes at the beginning of this year and had been prone to having seizures. We had hoped she would get stronger and recover quickly. So, her passing came as a shock to all of us. While we know that she is at peace and that her struggles are at an end, there is pain and sadness. But even though she is gone, she has left the legacy of her love and perseverance.

Her children and grandchildren were her legacy and they brought her tremendous comfort and were there for her throughout these years. They were her pride and joy and she knew she had plenty to be thankful for.

Sharley, was a person who enjoyed doing for others. She would rather go without than to watch another suffer. My favorite memory of her was when we took a trip to the Dominican Republic and I had torn the zipper off my suitcase, the last day we were to leave. So, my immediate reaction was to panic, and she calmly said let us go to the gift shop downstairs. We checked it out and they had nothing. So, we had to hop on a local tram and make our way to the mall to find a suitcase. It was early morning and all the stores were closed. So, we waited for it to open and she helped me pick out the only suitcase we could find. Which was overpriced and she added to what I did not have. She had compassion and a heart of gold, not to mention patience.

She loved to create hairstyles, even when we were young, she would do my hair for me. All throughout my childhood. She started out with her dolls and would go through the whole process of washing the dolls hair then braiding it. Barbie would have a hair full of cornrows. I, on the other hand would just chop it off. Could not be bothered. I remember she did my hair for my high school graduation photograph. It was as good as any beauty salon if not better. Till this day, I still say it is the best picture I have ever taken in my life.

She loved doing hair so much so, that she attended college and became a stylist. It brought her satisfaction to see people happy with her handiwork. It gave her purpose and she knew it was meaningful. You know how they say everyone is born with a gift, that was Sharley's gift. She became friends with a lot of people through her craft.

Sharley saw the good in people. She sought after love and respect. I remember having long conversations with her. We would be on the phone for hours, discussing problems at work and how to handle issues or swapping healthy eating and exercise tips. We spent hours on the phone cackling about the past and our mistakes. We reflected on how we have grown and what our next steps would be. She was my girl and being three years apart allowed us to have different perspectives and still relate to each other. We never ended a conversation without saying I love you sis.

What I loved about her was that she was a free spirit. She knew how to have a good time. She worked hard and played hard. She brought beauty and grace to all our lives. I have learned from being around my big sis Sharley is, to live life to the fullest. To take time and honor those that care for us.

In closing I would like to leave you with a brief quote:

“The reality is that you will grieve forever. You will not ‘get over’ the loss of a loved one; you will learn to live with it. You will heal and you will rebuild yourself around the loss you have suffered. You will be whole again, but you will never be the same. Nor should you be the same nor would you want to.”

– Elisabeth Kübler-Ross



Tribute to My Daughter

My life changed from the moment you were born. You were the light of my life, the apple of my eye and my reason to live, breathe, laugh and love. I remember how even as a child how concerned you were about your family. You always wanted to make them feel loved and not worry. I know sometimes your decisions and life choices often had us at odds. But the love I have for you only made us same minded. I miss you my dear daughter. I still can't believe you are gone. My tears alone won't bring you back. You have gone and left an empty space in my heart that can never be filled. I only pray to God to embrace you on your journey. I count my blessings every day for having you in my life. I love you my daughter, farewell my dear Sharley. May you rest in peace and know that I will always keep you in my heart and hold you in my fondest memories.

*No words I write can ever say, how much I miss you every day,
as time goes by, loneliness grows, how I miss you, nobody knows!
I think of you in silence, I often speak your name but all
I have are memories and some photos in a frame.*

*No one knows my sorrow, no one sees me weep but the love
I have for you, is in my heart to keep. I've never stopped loving
you and I'm sure I never will, deep inside my heart, YOU are with
me still. Heartaches in this world are many, but surely mine is
worse than any. My heart still aches, as I whisper low, 'I love you
and I miss you so.' The things we feel so deeply, are often the
hardest to say, but I just can't keep quiet anymore, so I'll tell you
anyway. There is a place within my heart, that no one else can
fill, I love you so, my precious child ...and I always will.*



Tribute to My Sister

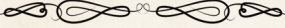
She was the one I turned to for advice.

She was the one I looked up to and cared for deeply. We were born three years apart. My mom would often share stories about how Sharley thought I was her baby doll. The adoration and care she had for me was the same that I had for her. As children, we fought often like cats and dogs as siblings, often do. But as we grew older, we developed a bond. She had children and they became my own. I had mine and he was her child. I always fought for her good because she was a loving soul. She was the one I called on when my spirit was low. The one who loved and supported me through the good and bad times. She was the one I called on in times of celebration. My sister was my heart. I'm grateful for the time we had. May you rest in peace Sharley. You are always in our hearts.

A Tribute from a Cousin to his Best Friend

A Tribute from a cousin to his best friend "Those we love don't go away, they walk besides us everyday, unseen, unheard, but always near." Knowing this it's still hard to conceptualize, because we're used to being able to see, hear, touch, our loved ones. Sharley, known to family and close friends as Nana Yaa, or Yaa for short, left an impression that will be missed. Not only was she just family, she was also a best friend. From my early childhood to young adult life she has been there to watch and guide me in making sure she was looking out for my best interest. She loved hard, so hard to maybe even a fault that she put her own struggles to the side to make sure who she loved was being taken care of. Her exterior could come off as standoffish, but knowing her, she was the most jovial being you would come across. Her spirit and energy will me missed by her friends and family, but most of all me. The emptiness that is left in my heart will now be filled with the memories, love and compassion she has left for me.



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Tribute to My Mom

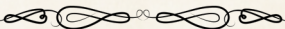
I go into this knowing there will never be enough time to help me understand why you are not here. We went through a lot together over the years, we fought hard but we loved harder. We had some tough times but the good always outweighed the bad and we always made it back full circle. You were the best mom you could be, you were a gladiator and I will be forever grateful you taught me to be one too. Even when you were sick you still found a way to smile, laugh and be that stubborn person we loved. You taught me everything I know about being a mother so rest easy knowing I will always make sure Tameika, Savon and all the kids are good. I leave here knowing that with all the lessons you've taught me I still have one more to learn and that I will have to do for the rest of my life is how to live without you. I try to tell myself you are at peace and no longer suffering as you are up there enjoying eternal day parties because you love those. So, consider this an all white day party in your honor.

If Roses Grow in Heaven

By Dolores M. Garcia

If roses grow in heaven, Lord please pick a bunch for me,
Place them in my Mother's arms and tell her they're from me.
Tell her I love her and miss her, and when she turns to smile,
place a kiss upon her cheek and hold her for a while.
Because remembering her is easy, I do it every day,
but there's an ache within my heart that will never go away.

I Love you always and forever.



Tribute from a Son to his Mama

Dear Mama

No one understands that you meant the whole world to me. We may have argued a few times, but not once has it made me love you any less. I love you too much. You've been there for me through it all even when I was at my worst when I felt like giving up. When I was falling you picked me right up. You made sure that I would get back on my feet. I'll never forget the memories that we shared together, from us going out to eat at one of our favorite restaurant, which is BBQs. Or going to the movies to see whatever we felt would make us laugh. Mama, you were an amazing woman, my mother, my heart in human form. My best friend who showed nothing but tough love to each and every one of us. That tough love was and still is the best love. Not only that, you were a warrior who got through any obstacle that came your way. You made sure that our lives would be great, and I love you so much for that. Losing you is going to be the hardest loss that I'm going to have to deal with for the rest of my life. But I know one thing for sure is that you'll still be here spiritually. I'm going to continue making you proud, I'm going to do my best to be strong for you. Just like you were strong for all of us. I love you mama to the moon & back.

Tribute to my Auntie

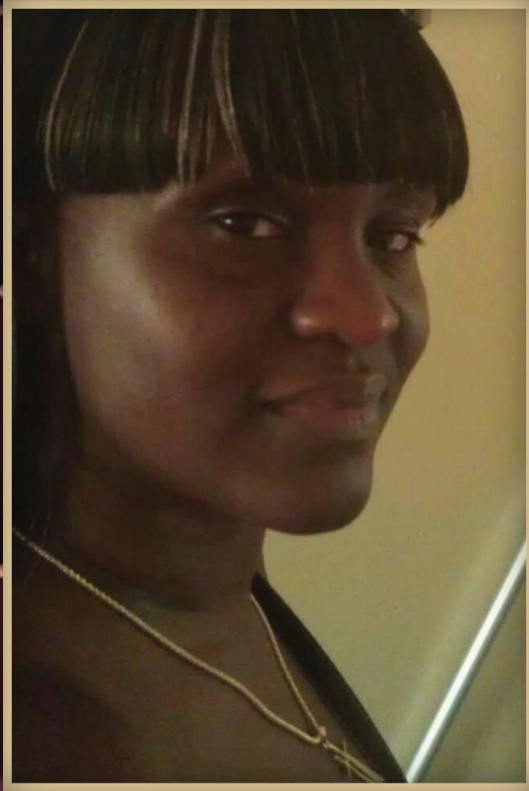
Dear Auntie Sharley,

I wanted to thank you auntie for always being there and for finding joy even through chaos. You always laughed at my corny jokes no matter how cheesy they were. Thank you for giving me such loving cousin's that I see as my own brother and sisters. You were the spark that would light up a fire in everyone and make everyone laugh.

Most importantly thank you for being my auntie I will never forget you and all the wonderful times we had. So, thank you from the bottom of my heart. Its hard to believe you are no longer here. I love you auntie. May you find peace. You will be missed.

Love Always, Michael





Acknowledgement

*The family of **Sharley Duah** acknowledges with great appreciation all acts of kindness, sympathy and love extended to us during this time of bereavement.*

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