

August 10, 1959 – March 3, 2022



Wednesday, March 9, 2022 - 11:00 am

Clarence B. Wright Funeral Home

579 Grove Street, Irvington, New Jersey Elder Anthony Collins, Officiating



On Thursday, March 3, 2022, **Denise Lenore Thomas** departed this life and entered eternal rest. Denise was born on August 10, 1959, to become the oldest child of Betty White and Johnny Thomas.

Denise was educated by Jersey City school system. She became a mother of three boys and her focus was to provide for her family. So, she took a course that enable her to gain employment as a Home Health aide. Denise worked for several Home Health agencies in Jersey City. She knew the Home Health aide position would not be enough to maintain her and her boys financially, so she became a Mary Kay representative to supplement her income. Denise worked in both capacities until such due to medical issues.

In her young life, Denise faced many challenges however, she embodied the spirit of a true fighter. She would not relent when situations and obstacles attempted to defeat her. She was determined to win whatever fight she encountered and many of them she did.

Later Denise became a member of Clearview Baptist Church family under the leadership of Pastor Eric Beckham at that time. Denise began to view life differently and changed how she did some things.

Denise had a great passion for fashion and was known for her unique sense of style. She always coordinated her outfits from head to toe using bright and bold colors. Her choice of clothing was as vibrant as her personality. She always voiced her opinion and would go to bat for her family and friends. Denise made friend easily and she was the life of the party wherever she went. She was loved by all who knew her.

Denise is preceded in death by her brother, John Thomas and grandson, Taheem Thomas. She leaves to cherish her memories: her partner Faheem Coleman of Newark, NJ, her mother Betty White of Augusta, Georgia, her father Johnny L Thomas (Delores) of Walterboro, South Carolina, three sons: Tyquan (Shonda) of Newark, NJ, Kareem of Newark NJ and Shareef of Augusta, Georgia, three brothers: Michael Thomas (Joy) of Plainfield, NJ, Anthony Thomas (Robyn) of North Plainfield, NJ, and Jaime Grant of Philadelphia, PA, two sisters; Lorretta Watkins (Ralph) of East Orange NJ, Kanisha Basden (Glenn) of Roselle, NJ, twelve grandchildren: Sequoia, Ashley Evans-Thomas, Tylieash, Kashmir, Zair, Keon, Jusaire, Jayison, Admire, Lyric, Kalani, Journey, and Uni, and, one great grandson: Amiri Culver, and one Goddaughter, Katrina (Jameel) Watson of Jersey City, NJ.

Also, to cherish her memory: 6 nephews, 4 nieces, her Clearview Baptist Church family and her Van Vechten community family as well as a host of loving cousins and friends.

If there is anyone that we failed to mention, please know that it was not in our HEARTS to do so. "We Love You All!".



Processional Clergy and Family
Officiating Elder Anthony Collins
Prayer of ComfortPastor Lester Walker
Scripture Reading Minister Cedrick Porter
Selection
RemarksFamily & Friends (2 minutes)
Acknowledgements & Obituary McKayla Watkins
Selection
EulogyPastor Lorretta Watkins

Recessional

Rosedale Cemetery Linden, New Jersey

nterment

A repast will be held immediately following the funeral services at Clearview Baptist Church, 304 Hobson St, Newark NJ.

The one with the biggest heart, the best snacks, the warmest hugs, and the best advice

My whole life I've cherished the love and wisdom you genuinely shared Your life was full of loving deeds

> You taught me how to care You watched me come and go

And no matter how many mistakes I made, you were always there. Watching me learn from them made you hold me tighter and love me more.

Your laugh was like music to my ears
Your smile alone warmed hearts
You brightened up the darkest days
You meant so much to us all
You were truly special
You were a super grandma
Your love will never be forgotten
And our memories will forever remain in my heart

So, there won't be any goodbyes Until we meet again, I'll just say "fly high grandma." Ashley Evans

If we had to describe you, we would say "You were a powerful woman in your own right." You were LIFE SIZE! Small in stature but big in presence, boisterous in her thoughts and opinions and always one to cut straight to the point when it came to uplifting others. You were powerful in her own way and even more powerful when it came to family. You were a daughter, sister, mother, grandmother, and always a friend. You were not quick to pass judgement but quick to tell others how to turn their flaws into strength. You were and STILL are bigger than the life that was contained in your physical body.

A warrior through triumphs and losses. You are the physical embodiment of strength and unconditional love which lies deep within this family. A strength like no other and your spirit lives on through your children, grandchildren, siblings, nieces, and nephews. May we all honor you as you rest peacefully above and remember that sense of strength and love when we most need it.

Lovingly submitted, The Family

Acknowledgement

The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour. May God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.

Professional Services Provided By

Clarence B Wright Funeral Home, Inc.

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