

Celebration of Life



Gwendolyn S. Smith
March 9, 1935 – May 7, 2022

Saturday, May 28, 2022 - 10:00 a.m.

Maranatha Baptist Church

112-42 Springfield Blvd, Queens Village, NY 11429

Pastor Akim Beecham

Organist Glen Gibson

Obituary

Gwendolyn Albertha Smith affectionately called Miss Gwen or otherwise Gwenno by her deceased common law husband Leonard Chin. She was born on March 9, 1935 in the parish of Westmoreland to the parents of Edith and Samuel Smith. Her mother gave birth to eleven children, six girls and five boys. Gwendolyn has five children, four girls and one boy: Jeffrey Williams, Deta Williams, Donna Chin-Anderson, Sandra Chin, and Winsome Chin who passed away last April 29, 2021 of covid 19.

Gwendolyn went to school in Westmoreland then to Montego Bay. She then ventured out to Kingston working various jobs, then she got pregnant with her first born Jeffrey. She then had the rest of her four girls, then she said five is enough. Gwendolyn had the opportunity to work with the Jamaica Omnibus Service aka J.O.S in the early 70s which went out of business in 1983 and then work at other various jobs.

Miss Gwen was one of those no-nonsense people, “don’t come on her bus walk pass her and don’t pay her”. She took up her ticket rack one day on the bus and burst a thief head, because he was picking a woman passenger pocket while she was boarding the bus. In May 1997, Miss Gwen migrated to the USA. She immediately started looking for work which her last job was at White Plains Hospital as a nurse’s aide. She became naturalized citizen in August 2007. Gwendolyn had a stroke in 2010 that ended her career. She then retired and stayed home after.

Gwendolyn likes to give jokes to make you laugh until tears come to your eyes. She was a very feisty person, don’t mess with her. Gwendolyn was diagnosed with dementia last year February while she was in the hospital for covid-19. She had a few surgeries before that until she had her second stroke in July 2021. Then January of 2022 she fell at the rehabilitation and broke her right hip which she had surgery done. With all those episodes she knew all her children and grandchildren names, because most of her grand great grand names start with a J. She would call them Jahjah and laugh and said “she never knew she had so many rasta pickney”.

Everyone love her at the rehab, they called her mama. Some of the male staff say hello my girlfriend. They had to do that to get her to take her medication and eat the food there. She sometimes call her daughter Ellaine to bring her shrimp lo mein and coconut water. The staff always hung out in her room because she always crack them up with jokes.

Gwendolyn leaves behind children: Jeffrey, Ellaine, Opie and Sandra.
Granddaughters: Shaunette, Sheena, and Charlene aka Candice.
Grandsons: Jermaine, Sheldon, Jamal, Dane, Jabour and Richard.
Great grands: Jaydan, Brandon, Micah, Jermih, Jesiah, Janiah, Skylar, Jermir, Gospel, Xion, Mercy and Hayden.

Say not in grief she is no more but live in the thankfulness she was. You will be missed mom: walk good until we meet again. RIP

Order of Service

Organ Prelude

Processional

Selection..... “What A Friend We Have In Jesus”

Scripture Reading.....Donna Chin-Anderson (Daughter)
1st Thessalonians 4: 13-18

Scripture Reading..... Richard Baker (Grandson)
Psalm 150: 1-6

Selection..... “Blessed Assurance”

Tributes..... Jeffrey Williams (Son)
Sheldon Anderson (Grandson)
Dane Anderson (Grandson)

Obituary and Acknowledgement..... Deta Williams (Daughter)

Selection.....“How Great Thou Art”

Eulogy

Remarks..... Funeral Director

Final Viewing

Recessional Hymn..... “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Pallbearers..... Sheldon Anderson
Dane Anderson
Richard Baker
Jermaine Williams
Jamal Williams
Jabour Williams

Interment

Kensico Cemetery, Valhalla NY

I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me
I took his hand when I heard Him call
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day.

To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I found that peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it up with remembered joy.

A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Oh, yes these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.

My life's been full, I savored much.

Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.

Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free!

-author unknown

Acknowledgement

The family would like to express their profound and heartfelt gratitude for every act of love and kindness extended to them during these most difficult days. In the days ahead, we will need your continued prayers and support.

The Family

Professional Services Provided By:

E.L. George Funeral Services

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