

In Loving Memory of
Denise Loraine Briggs

Sunrise
August 22, 1962

Sunset
September 12, 2024



Saturday, September 28, 2024 - 12:00PM

Unity Missionary Church

98 Putnam Street

Paterson, NJ 07501

Rev. Wayne Fisher, Pastor

Apostle Lilisa Mimms, Officiating

Reflections of Life

Denise Loraine Briggs, also known as Nicey, Luke or Shrek, was born on August 22, 1962. She was the daughter of the late Jesse and Florine Briggs. Denise, and her twin brother Dennis, were the youngest of eight children.

Denise was a proud product of the Paterson Public School System where she attended School #13 and Eastside High School. During these years, Denise met and maintained a lifelong friendship with so many people. However, there was no greater bond that Denise shared than with Genneace Buie-Moore and Faith Winfrey. Denise was voted "Happy-Go-Lucky" by members of the faculty and by her peers as she always had a way of unselfishly lifting others up. She graduated from Eastside High School in 1980.

After high school Denise enrolled at Montclair State College majoring in psychology. While on campus she met a group of women who would change her life forever. In the Spring of 1982, she along with eight other women joined Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Incorporated. Her line name was "Sure Thing" and if you knew her you would know that she thought she was always right. Through Zeta she met a lot of women who became family and showed her a sisterhood that would stand the test of time.

Upon leaving college Denise held different positions with various companies, all focused on helping people, especially children. She was a member of the board for HeadStart because education was very important to her. While serving on the board she traveled to different states helping to assist with programs surrounding early childhood education. There was a time that Denise served as a substitute teacher for her children's second grade class, because the teacher had an extensive absence that kept her out of the class for nearly an entire school year!

In 1995, Denise began working for NJ Transit as a bus operator. Working for the public became her passion. Years into her career she became a union delegate where fighting for the rights of her coworkers became her mission. Through her hard work and dedication, Denise became the Vice President of her Union. The ATU Local 822 was proud to have her, and this responsibility sparked a new fire for her. Helping people was her passion and it was so important to her. She made herself available to those that needed her, even if it conflicted with her care and treatment schedule and routine.

Denise was a member of Unity Missionary Church in Paterson under the leadership of the late Rev. Dr. Ethel Bland. Due to Denise's battle with cancer and her frequent battles with Covid-19, she was no longer able to physically go to church however her love for the Lord never wavered. She served on the Usher Board as well as the Pastor's Aide Committee. She loved her church family, and she loved being a servant leader.

Denise was a huge NY Giants and NY Mets fan. She loved to make others laugh, whether it was with her sense of humor, crazy stories or her outlandish rap songs. She wanted everyone around her to be happy.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Jesse and Florine Briggs, son, Nasir S. Davis, and by her two sisters, Missionary Marlene Briggs and Valerie Briggs.

Denise leaves to cherish her loving memories; two daughters, Datrell Briggs and Vesta Briggs; two sons, Dontrell Briggs and Terrance Briggs; seven granddaughters, Ja'Kiyah Briggs, Mariyah Briggs, Ja'Niyah Briggs, Dream Davis, Nalanii Atkinson-Davis, Xylo Davis, and Halo Davis; one grandson, Nasir Davis Jr., and a grandpup, Tuxedo Bloo Briggs; one sister, Treniece J. Briggs; four brothers, Wayne T. (Nonie) Briggs, Jesse R. Briggs, Steven L. (Audrey) Briggs; twin brother, Dennis L. (Almetra) Briggs; goddaughter, Deydrienne Briggs; godsons, Junior, Jeremiah Cook; her very special friend, Dorcas Anne (Dorrie) Brunson, and her best friends, Faith Winfrey and Genneace Buie-Moore. She is also survived by a host of loving family, friends, Sorority Sisters and her NJ Transit family.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection
Gary Johnson

Scripture Readings
Old Testament - Rev. Cruz
New Testament - Dennis Briggs

Prayer of Comfort
Rev. Wayne Fisher

Selection
Almetra Briggs

Acknowledgments
Steven Briggs Sr.

Remarks

Reflections of Life
Faith Winfrey

Selection

Words of Comfort
Apostle Lilisa Mimms

Recessional

Final Disposition

Cedar Lawn Crematory
200 McLean Blvd
Paterson, NJ 07504

*To those I love and those that love me,
When I am gone, release me, let me go*



*Don't spend too much time in mourning,
Tears are for the sad;
I left to be with Jesus
And this should make you glad*



I've parted this life my loved one,

But worry not for I am not gone,

I am merely resting.



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!*

Acknowledgment

The family wishes to thank all of you for your prayers, messages of comfort and the many other acts of kindness shown during our hour of bereavement. May God continue to bless you in a very special way.

Professional Services Provided By
CARNIE P. BRAGG FUNERAL HOME

Caring for the Community Since 1937

256 Rosa Parks Blvd. • Paterson, NJ 07501 • (973) 278-6330

143 Myrtle Avenue • Passaic, NJ 07055 • (973) 779-1892

To send online condolences, visit www.braggfuneralhome.com



www.honoryou.com

