

A portrait of Joycelyn Ellara Williams, a woman with short dark hair, wearing a pink floral lei. The background is dark with gold butterflies and roses.

*Celebration  
of  
Life*

*Joycelyn  
Ellara  
Williams*

**Sunrise: July 7, 1962  
Sunset: January 21, 2025**

**Saturday, February 8, 2025 - 10:00am**

**Crawford United Methodist Church  
3757 White Plains Road, Bronx, New York 10467**

# Obituary

*"...Even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith-being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire-may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed." 1 Peter1: 6-7*

After the birth of four boys, Kelvin Morgan and Hyacinth Eugene Williams received a blessing of a baby girl on July 7, 1962 on the beautiful island of St. Kitts. They named her, Joycelyn Ellora Williams. Joycelyn was the only girl amongst five boys after Winston was born and later, she had three other sisters.

Joycelyn was a dainty, and courageous person, who held high standards for herself and her siblings, which she carried into her adult years. Growing up in the McKnight area, she attended the Irish Town Primary School, the Basseterre Junior High School, and Basseterre Senior High School.

## **Her Childhood and Kittitian Church Life**

Joycelyn, better known as 'Lyn' attended the Wesley Methodist Church, very early in life, she received Jesus Christ as her personal Lord and Savior. She was involved in various areas of the church. She was a member of the Youth Fellowship, after its discontinuance, she joined the newly formed group - Christian Arts and Cultural Organization (CACO). She was a member of the Junior Choir and 2nd St. Kitts Girl's Brigade and remained an active participant achieving the rank of a Lieutenant Officer. She was a part of the St. Kitts National Secretary Association. Joycelyn served as a Sunday School Teacher, and as the Secretary of the Circuit Office from 1981-2001. As an employee of the church, she under took her role with dignity and tenacity and executed every level with professionalism in her secretarial position. She was always mindful that God required the best of her and she did not give anything less. She was plain in her speech, obedient in her actions and was able to guide ministers in the office procedures. She was welcoming to new ministers and maintained a high level of respect for everyone who walked through the doors of the Methodist Annex. Most of all, she loved God and her church.

## **Her Care for Family**

Although, she did not have any children of her own, she found it her duty to assist her brother Lucas in raising his daughters Bernadette and Mayra. This she took very seriously, and she did her best in teaching them spiritual principals. She was always present for her siblings her young brother Winston and sisters, Stacia, Terecia and Amanda. She made every effort to know what was happening in their lives and was able to give sound advice when anything was wrong. She was interested in their love lives and found it her duty as big sister, especially in Stacia's life to know who like her sister. Her comments would be, " Mi sister... then the advice would follow. Aunty Lyn was seen by the young ones as disciplinarian but all she wanted us to understand life must be cherished and taken with great dignity and pride, and a good name is better than riches.

## **Her American Journey**

In 2001, she migrated to Puerto Rico to be with her mother, Hyacinth. Then moved to New York where she resided. She continued her studies, as a Nursing Aid: EKG Examiner. In this career, she had the opportunity to give daily care to the elderly and persons who were unable to take care of themselves. Lyn did this job as a caretaker with great pride. In taking care of the elderly was a reminder of the times she spent time with her late maternal grandmother Alicia Phillip. Residing and working in the USA, Joycelyn never forgotten God and her church life, she became a member of the Crawford Memorial United Methodist Church in Bronx, served on the Ushers Board and extended her services in other ministries. These attributes showed her love for her Lord in all aspect.

It was Joycelyn's intention at age 60, to back her federation of St. Kitts and Nevis to be closer to her family, however, in 2020, in the heat of COVID-19, she became infected and affected. The COVID-19 infection severely damaged her lungs. This began the long Covid journey. But God was not finished with her yet. Lyn remained steadfast, immovable and trusting in a God who can do marvelous things. During the early part of her illness she overheard one of the doctors asking what are we going to do with this one?" God gave her a voice and strength to open her eyes to say, "what do you mean by this one? This shocked the doctors and nurses because they had given up on her. Although COVID19, had taken one of her lungs and left her with approximately 80% of the other, Lyn knew God was always with her as she depended on oxygen and she lived on to see four more years. Her constant WhatsApp messages, phone calls, visits from family and church friends, daily devotions and online church worship, she was able to feel connected to her God and others.

On the morning of January 21, 2025 her sunset came and she has now gone home to glory to be with the God she faithfully served.

She leaves to mourn her brothers, Lucas, Elton, Mervin and Winston; sisters: Stacia, Terecia and Amanda. Brother-in-law: Mark, Sister-in-law Joanna; Nieces/grandnieces: Bernadette and Mayra, other nieces/nephews; Aunt: Sylvia Symister and Family, Uncles: Carl Herbert and family/Desmond Phillip, The Williams, Esdaile, Douglas families in St. Kitts, Trinidad, Canada, USA. Special Friends: Cassandra Williams, Dawn and Sheila Osborne, Ethline Merritt, Emerald (Emy) Merritt, Hyacinth Anderson, Isaiah Welsh, Rev. Veronica Williams-Gumbs, Arthlyn Belle and Family, Mova Simmonds and family. Pastors and members of the Wesley Methodist Church and Crawford Memorial United Methodist Church. We give God thanks for allowing Joycelyn to see 62 years.

On behalf of the entire Williams family, thank you to: Beth Abraham Rehabilitation Center who cared for Lyn over the past four years, The Wesley Methodist Church, Past and present pastors, members of Crawford Memorial, All who attended her celebration of life in New York and in St. Kitts. Thank you for your support and prayers.

*For all the saints, who from their labors rest,  
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,  
Thy name O Jesus, be forever blest: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Williams W.How (1823-1897)*

# Order of Service

Gathering

Word of Grace ..... Rev. Heidi N. Thomas

Greetings ..... Rev. Stacia Robinson

Opening Hymn ..... “It Is Well with My Soul” – UMH# 377

Prayer ..... Rev. Heidi N. Thomas

Old Testament – Ecclesiastes 3:1-9..... Alex Daniel (Brother-in-law)

Gospel Reading – John 14:1-4, 18-19, 25-27..... Cassandra Williams

Tributes and Testimonials ..... Hyacinth Anderson

Isaiah Welsh

Sheila Osborne

Resolution..... Sister Michelle Bromfield

The Obituary ..... Ryan Williams

Soloist

Sermon/Eulogy ..... Rev. Noel Chin

Hymn..... “Blessed Assurance” UMH# 369

Commendation ..... Rev. Noel Chin

Prayer of Thanksgiving ..... Rev. Stacia Robinson

Closing Hymn ..... “When We All Get to Heaven” UMH #701

Dismissal with Blessing..... Rev. Heidi N. Thomas

Final Disposition  
Springfield Cemetery  
Basseterre, St. Kitts

# The Lord's Prayer



*Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come.*

*Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.*

## Acknowledgments

**The family would like to express their deep appreciation and sincere thanks for all acts of kindness shown to them during their time of bereavement.**

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*Professional Service Entrusted To:*

**McCall's Bronxwood**

*Funeral Home, Inc.*

4035 Bronxwood Avenue

Bronx, NY 10466

718-231-7647

Fax 718-231-7665

E-mail: [Director@McCalls.net](mailto:Director@McCalls.net)

Web: [www.mccalls.net](http://www.mccalls.net)

