



*In Loving Memory
of*

Shirleyann Modest

Sunrise
July 30, 1958

Sunset
June 7, 2012

Service

Friday, June 15, 2012 - 10:00 a.m.

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

*Bro. Al Hunt, Officiating
Marvin Hadley, Organist*

Obituary

According to the will of Jehovah, **Shirley Antonia Modest** was called from our midst on Thursday, June 7, 2012 at Mt. Sinai Hospital.

Shirley Antonia Modest better known as “Shirleyann” was born on July 30, 1958 in Harlem Hospital, New York, NY to the late Mary Modest Whitted and Thomas Sanders Modest.

After reading *Isaiah 43:10*, Shirleyann became a devoted and loyal pursuer of the “TRUTH” and studied with Jehovah’s Witnesses for many years. Unfortunately, due to her health, she was not able to reach her most cherished goal of being baptized and officially fulfilling her love to teach and preach as a witness of Jehovah. Despite this obstacle, through her encouragement and faithfulness, Shirleyann brought many into the loving arms of Jehovah so that they may also experience His peace, grace and mercy.

Shirleyann’s charismatic bright personality and gorgeous smile lit up every room she entered. She was a free spirit who was full of life and always lived life on life terms. She always looked at situations from a realistic prospective and always told it like it is. If you were ever in a situation she would give you her last then rely upon her faith in Jehovah to make a way for her.

She was a feisty fighter with a great joy for living. When remembering Shirleyann, most will recall her love for partying, her spirit of giving, her sympathy, empathy and encouraging words to those who were disheartened and her non-judgmental, but candid advice. Her devotion to her children was beyond words. On a weekly basis she held talk sessions with them dubbed “the circle” where they all shared their experiences, tribulations, and aspirations. Her love for her friends and family also ran deep especially for her cousins who were more like her sisters and brothers Juny, Rasheek, Donnell, Sandy, and Debbie. If you ever had the pleasure of knowing her I am sure you have a great story to tell. Shirleyann touched the lives of many and will forever be remembered, cherished, and loved.

Cherishing and celebrating her life are: her husband, Bruce Laviera; three children, Ambra M. Lewis (Newark, NJ), Gregory T. Lewis (New York, NY) and Kaylyn R. Laviera (New York, NY); one sister, Cynthia Davis (New York, NY); one niece, Zagora A. Davis (New York, NY); two uncles, George Gayles (Newark, NJ) and John Gayles (Bronx, NY); four aunts, Laura Barnett (Columbus, OH); Emma F. Gayles (Newark, NJ); Vertie Gayles (Newark, NJ); Shirley Gayles (Durham, NC) and an abundance of family and friends to many to name but never forgotten.

Shirley was preceded in death by her brother, Thomas Sanders Modest, Jr.; two aunts, Rosa Lee Jones and Geneva Gayles and two uncles, Loucious Gayles and James Gayles.

Order of Service

Obituary

Rashanna Daniels

Eulogy

Bro. Al Hunt

Discourse

Prayer

Final Viewing

Recessional

“Victory Is Mine I Won’t Complain” - Soloist

From Bruce

Sadly missed along life’s way
Quietly remembered everyday.
No longer in my life to share;
But in my heart Shirleyann
You are always there.

“And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”

Revelation 21:4

Interment

Fairmount Cemetery
Newark, New Jersey

Following the interment, family and friends are invited to return to the repast at the Wagner Senior Center (435 E.120th St.) between 1st and Pleasant Avenue, New York, NY 10035.

Dear Mommy,

Thank you for being such a motivating force in our lives. Your love, strength, compassion, sense of humor, and wisdom will be forever in our hearts. We are truly blessed to have had such a dynamic mother along with countless memories and endless stories to carry us on. You never shielded us from the truth, always let us know what it is, allowed us to make mistakes, and always encouraged us to put our trust in the Lord. Your constant prayers for us are the reason we are who we are today. Although we know you are watching over us in heaven we will continue to do what you instilled in us which is to hold hands and stick together.

We love you Ma!

*Your Loving Children,
Ambra, Gregory, and Kaylyn*



Acknowledgement

*The family of **Shirleyann** wishes to express their deep appreciation for all your acts of kindness shown to them during their hour of bereavement*



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