

*Celebrating
The Life of
Celeste K. Brown-Butler*



***Sunrise**
August 29, 1959*

***Sunset**
December 18, 2012*

Service

Sunday, December 23, 2012 - 4:00 p.m.

ROY L. GILMORE'S FUNERAL HOME, INC.

191-02 Linden Blvd.
St. Albans, New York 11412

Obituary

In the beginning, God brought forth a beautiful baby girl, **Celeste Kimberly Brown** was born in Queens General Hospital, on August 29, 1959 the second born child from Helen and Nathaniel Brown. Celeste was known to be a high spirited and cheerful daughter.

At the age of sixteen, Celeste attended Hillcrest High School and later completed her studies at Job Corps of America, in Mercede, Texas. As a teenager, Celeste choose the self-explanatory nickname of “Diamond”. Celeste being naturally creative learned to do hair, make-up, and sew often times creating outfits for friends and family as unique as she was. On April 4, 1984 she gave birth to her first born child, Shakeerah Artrese Brown and three years later on January 24, 1988, she gave birth to a bouncing baby boy, Jeffery Sean Brown. She was a hard worker, often working two jobs to provide a comfortable life and education for her children. Celeste later worked for Cerebral Palsy as a Direct Support Professional Caregiver for over twenty years. At her job she was known for being an advocate for the underdog, often times speaking up for people who normally would not speak up for themselves.

In the year 1995, Celeste’s older sister, Natalie, coincidently introduced Celeste to her future Husband, Claude Butler. Conversations would later turn into a meeting and on July 6, 1996 they began their whirlwind romance. Claude and Celeste were not only a couple but best friends, celebrating the good times but also supporting each other through the difficult times as well. Claude affectionately called Celeste his “BOOGA” (booger) and Celeste would call Claude her “Ba” (baby). Their love for one another proved to be unconditional and on February 12, 2005 they would join each other in holy matrimony. Claude raised her two children as his own and as a loving father; he provided an excellent example as a male role model.

Celeste was a devout Christian and she began attending Greater Allen A.M.E in 1996. She became a member and was later baptized. She used her faith and Christian values to guide her through life and instilled a strong moral compass to her children and loved ones. Her three major Christian values being faith, prayer and praise were instrumental in her battle against breast cancer dating back since her first diagnoses at the age of thirty-two.

Her cancer was thought to have gone under remission, but in 2004 after three misdiagnoses it was finally determined she had stage four breast cancer. The cancer spread to her lungs and later to her bones and brain. For almost eight years Celeste endured weekly chemo-therapy treatments in order to keep the disease at bay. Celeste was often the comedian and inspiration to the other patients receiving chemo therapy, inspiring them to fight and keep the faith as she had been beating the odds year after year. Though she was diagnosed with a terminal illness she lived life to the fullest. Celeste enjoyed traveling, planning parties and events, the silent sufferer never complained and continued to work despite the war within her body. She had several stays in the hospital due to the side effects of her prolonged chemo therapy. In December 2011, she would have a brain surgery and being the natural fighter that she was she continued to work after her recovery. Celeste was always courageous and brave and never complained about her pain.

On December 18, 2012, Celeste Brown-Butler’s journey finally came to an end as she succumbed to her illness. Her legacy is survived through: her loving husband, Claude Jesse Butler; her mother, Helen Brown; her sister, Natalie Brown; her children, Shakeerah Artese Brown and Jeffrey Sean Brown; her grand-daughter, Eden Valor-Celeste Williams; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection.....Nikki West-TBA

Scriptures

Prayer of Consolation

Selection.....MS. Peaches-TBA

Obituary Read.....Tyresha Linnen

Tribute.....The Photo Tribute (Appox 10 Minutes)
Asia Johnson - A Poem To My Mother

Selection.....Nikki West-TBA

Eulogy

Viewing

Benediction

Recessional

Final Disposition

Fresh Pond Crematory
Middle Village, New York

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

Acknowledgements

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to their family during this hour of bereavement.

May God Bless and Keep You!

Professional Services Provided By:

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