

Honoring the Life, Legacy and Memory of



Vernettt Michelle Bludson-Francis

Alpha

February 18, 1951

Omega

December 18, 2013

Service

Sunday, December 29, 2013 - 4:00 p.m.

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Rev. Owen Williams, Officiating

Pastor of St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church

Jamaica, NY

Obituary

Vernett Michelle Bludson-Francis, was born on February 18, 1951 to the late William Bludson and Alfreda Peace Bludson in New York City. The family lived in Brooklyn, NY for a short time, before moving to the Marble Hill section of the Bronx where Vernett spent most of her childhood and received her early education.

After graduating from Roosevelt High School, Vernett went to college with a determination to succeed and SUCCEED SHE DID. Vernett attended New York University Stern School of Business, and quickly became a proud graduate with a Bachelor of Science and a Master's Degree in Business and Public Relations.

After graduating, Vernett landed a prestigious job as Vice-President of the minority vendors at Citicorp and was the recipient of numerous accolades. With determination and talent she would earn the Harlem YMCA American Dreamers Award and Black Achievers Award. She would serve on the Harlem YMCA Board of Managers for a full term of seven years. She was a member of the National Urban Affairs Council, the Coalition of 100 Black Women as well as many other civic, social and professional organizations. In her role at Citibank as Director of National Minority Vendor Program she was instrumental in helping many businesses get established. She was subsequently promoted to Vice President and with her dynamic leadership the program increased from 20 to 255 minority vendors. After the Citibank years, Vernett became a Vice President at CTI Metropolitan Staffing Agency. At CTI Vernett was a diligent worker loved by clients and co-workers. Many there considered her their mentor. She remained at CTI until her demise.

Vernett was married to Robert Francis on August 15, 1981. **Michelle** was quite compatible with her husband Robert, Sr., as they were two people who loved to tell stories and loved to laugh. Six years later this union was blessed with one son, Robert Jr., the apple of her eye and her "Boo-Boo".

Vernett was baptized as a child and again on November 17, 2013 at St. Marks Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. Owen Williams.

Vernett Michelle Bludson Francis was a true friend to many of us. Many of her neighbors and friends called her by her middle name Michelle. The nickname Peanut was given to her by her big brother, Richie. She had an almost magical influence/attraction when you met her. It was hard to not like her, as she kept you entertained with true stories about herself, life in general and any other subject that surfaced in a conversation. You couldn't help but be drawn to her because everything she said made sense to those of us listening. She was able to laugh at herself and found the humor in anything. If you were feeling down, being around her and listening to her lifted your spirits.

Vernett was known for her quick-witted sharp tongue and keen sense of humor. Everyone knew when Peanut walked in to get ready to laugh at some of her many funny stories, often hearing her say "if you like it, I love it". She enjoyed nothing more than telling stories and talking about her, "Boo Boo" (Robert, Jr.), marriage to her husband Robert, Sr., and the summers she and her brother spent with their grandparents in North Carolina.

Vernett was baptized as a child and again on November 17, 2013 at St. Marks Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. Owen Williams. Vernett departed this earth on December 18, 2013. She will be deeply missed by so many. Vernett is predeceased by her husband, Robert Francis Sr., Father, William Bludson and nephew, James Bludson.

Her memory will forever be cherished by: her son, Robert Jr.; mother, Alfreda Bludson; brother, Richard Bludson; nephews, Vernon, Richard, Donnell and Jamel; niece, Latoya; and a host of other relatives and lifelong friends.

Order of Service

Hymn.....“Blessed Assurance”

Scriptures:

Old Testament - 23rd Psalm

New Testament - John 14:1-6

Prayer.....Elder Debora Williams
St. Marks Missionary Baptist Church • Jamaica, NY

Solo or selection.....“Precious Lord”
St. Marks Missionary Baptist Church

Reading of Obituary.....Anthony Bludson

Solo or Selection.....“His Eye Is On The Sparrow”
St. Marks Missionary Baptist Church

Reflections Family & Friends..... (2 mins please)

Eulogy.....Rev. Owen Williams
Pastor of St. Marks Missionary Baptist Church • Jamaica, NY

Final Disposition

Oxford Hills Crematory
Chester, New York

There Will Be A Light In The Sky

*There will be a light in the sky
From the palace on high
When I come to the end of my journey
Sweet relief from all care
Will be waiting for me there
When I come to the end of my journey.
When the long day is ended
The journey is over
I shall enter that blessed above,
For the Savior I love
Will be waiting for me
When I come to my journey's end.*

A Note of Thanks from the Family

We are appreciative to all of you for your love and support and realize that you wanted to do more, but we are still grateful for your willingness and countless ways you showed Vernett that you cared. The Bludson-Francis clan, including Myrtle English, would like to extend a special thank you to the excellent team at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital, under the supervision of Dr. Yoomi Lee.

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