

Celebrating The Life of

Mrs. Sandra Kershaw

Sunrise
November 30, 1953

Sunset
January 7, 2019



Service:

Tuesday, January 15, 2019 ~ 11:00 am

Saint James AME Church

588 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
Newark, NJ 07102

Rev. Ronald L. Slaughter, Officiating

Obituary

Born with the help of a midwife on November 30, 1953, in rural Jennings, Florida, Sandra (Henderson) Kershaw lived a life devoted to family, faith, and service until the Lord peacefully called her home on January 7, 2019. She was the youngest of 12 children born to “Poppa” Gordie and Theresa “Mama Jack” Henderson, earning her the affectionate nickname “Sandy Baby.” When she was three years old, her family moved to Newark, New Jersey, and she began that lifelong journey of learning, loving, and serving. She graduated from Barringer High School in 1971, then she successfully passed the civil service examination for typing and immediately began serving her community through a career spanning more than 30 years with the federal government. She worked in an administrative role with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and then in a secretarial position with the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA). While with the FDA, she advanced her career by completing a special program that allowed her to be promoted to an FDA Inspector. In order to complete this program, she completed courses at Kean University, Rutgers University, and Montclair State University.

Sandy brought the same dedication, and added a dose of passion and love, to her family, her church, and her Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. She married Kim Norman Kershaw on May 7, 1981, and for the next 37 years of marriage, Sandy and Kim woke up every day before dawn to study scripture and pray together. Sandy was raised and baptized in the faith at St. James A.M.E. Church in Newark, and she remained a vital part of her church family throughout her life. A Christian role model and prayer warrior, she served on Stewardess Board E, the co-ed Usher Board, as Class Leader #56, as a loan officer for the church Credit Union, and in many other capacities. Sandy was also a member of the L.O.V. (Lily of the Valley) Nation Tuesday night Bible study ministry and contributed powerful prayers. On June 28, 2014, Sandy was honored by the Precious Gems Ministry with a plaque recognizing her 50 years of dedicated service to St. James A.M.E.

Together, Sandy and Kim had three children: daughters Selena Rachel and Yolanda Sandra, and a son, Kim Marcus. They raised their children in the South Orange home they purchased in 1981. Sandy shared her love of the Lord with her family and beyond. She encouraged her family to participate in various activities in the church. She will be remembered for the support she offered to all she encountered, as well as for her decorating and hosting skills, her cooking (including lavish spreads and famous banana pudding), her generous shopping and gifting, her devotion to the Brooklyn Nets and New York Giants, and her love of travel, particularly to New Orleans. She showered her grandchildren and grand-puppy Maverick with affection, collected Afrocentric figurines, and advocated for animals through her support of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA).

Sandy leaves behind to mourn and to celebrate her life her devoted husband, Kim Norman, her children Selena R. Kershaw and son-in-law Hassan Wighams, Yolanda S. Kershaw, Kim M. Kershaw and daughter-in-law Tiffany Kershaw, three grandchildren: Viola J. Holmes, Mackenzie H. Kershaw-Wighams, Mecca L. Kershaw-Wighams, loving brother Jesse Henderson and sister-in-law Wonder, sisters DeLois Day and Margaret Jackson, and brother-in-law Roy Woodton, and a whole host of family members and friends. She is predeceased by her parents the late Gordie and Theresa Henderson, her siblings, the late Hazel Waters (Arthur), Daisy Parks (Brooks), Grace Pittman (Johnnie), Barbara Woodton, Charles Mack Henderson, Carl Henderson, and Joseph Henderson in the loving arms of the Lord.

Order of Service

Rev. Ronald L. Slaughter, Officiating

Musical Prelude*Bro. Kyle Smith*

Opening Hymn*"Amazing Grace"*

Prayer of Comfort

Scripture Readings:

Old Testament*Rev. Kim Irby*

New Testament*Rev. Theresa Andrews*

Solo

Resolution and Acknowledgements*Sis. Vesta Godwin Clark*

Remarks/Family Tribute*Kim M. Kershaw*

Yolanda S. Kershaw

Selena R. Kershaw

Solo

Eulogy*Rev. Garvey Ince*

Recessional.....*Clergy and Family*

Interment

Fairmount Cemetery

Newark, NJ

Repast

Immediately Following the Interment

Saint James AME Church

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Legacy of Love

*A wife, a mother, a grandma too,
This is the legacy we have from you.
You taught us love and how to fight,
You gave us strength, you gave us might.
A stronger person would be hard to find,
And in your heart, you were always kind.
You fought for us all in one way or another,
Not just as a wife not just as a mother.
For all of us you gave your best,
Now the time has come for you to rest.
So go in peace, you've earned your sleep,
Your love in our hearts, we'll eternally keep.*



Acknowledgement

The Kershaw family is thankful for your love, prayers and support. May God continue to bless all who love and were able to experience Sandra Kershaw's warmth. Sandra is now dancing in Heaven watching over all of us.

Professional Services by:
Whigham Funeral Home

580 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Newark, New Jersey 07102
973-622-6872

Carolyn Whigham, Director

