



A Celebration of the Life & Legacy of

Rita Virginia Williams

Sunrise

February 29, 1964

Sunset

July 2, 2019

Service

Saturday, July 13, 2019 • 11:00 a.m.

Jackson Memorial AME Zion Church

60 Peninsula Boulevard • Hempstead, New York 11550

Rev. Keith I. Harris, Minister, Officiating

Order of Service

Processional.....Family and Clergy

Prayer of Comfort.....Rev. Keith I. Harris

Selection

Scripture Reading.....Gerry Flowers

Acknowledgements.....Felicia Yearwood

Obituary.....Robin Church

Selection

Tributes & Remarks.....*(2 minutes please)*

Words of Comfort.....Rev. Keith I. Harris

Benediction.....Rev. Keith I. Harris

Recessional.....Family and Clergy

Resting Place

Rockville Cemetery
45 Merrick Road
Lynbrook, NY 11563

Repast Invitation

Immediately after interment in the
lower level fellowship hall

Reflections of Life

Rita Virginia Williams was born on February 29, 1964 in Edenton, NC. Rita was lovingly raised by her mother Mary C. Gentry and her spouse the late Llewellyn Gentry, along with her father the late James W. Blount and his spouse Ernestine Blount.

Rita grew up in Hempstead, NY where she attended and graduated from Hempstead High School in 1982. She attended Berkley College and later gained employment at Freeport High School. Rita met and married the love of her life Pernell Williams in December 1995. During their union together they raised and loved 3 children, Barry, Sharita and Courtney. Rita loved her children with everything in her heart. For them she would squeeze a hundred dollars out of a penny to ensure that each one was provided for.

Rita enjoyed celebrating life with her family and friends. She was an avid baker and fantastic cook. She enjoyed making cakes and pies for all. Rita's passion for life would turn any small gathering into a grand celebration. Rita spent most of her time adoring her 3 grandchildren. She lived and breathed for them and made sure that they knew she loved them. Rita also loved her dog Jerry; he followed her around and always seemed to know when she wasn't feeling well. Jerry is still walking around the house looking for her.

Rita was called "Radio" by her loving sisters. The bond that Radio shared with her sisters was one of a kind and memories of days filled with laughter, tears, cooking, good food and strong drinks will remain with each of them forever. They were inseparable and when one showed up, the others were surely soon to come. Rita loved and adored her brother-in-law "Collie", who she would often threaten people by saying "don't let me get my brother on you".

All who had the good fortune to know Rita would surely say that she was a free spirit, whose angelic wings came way too soon. Rita left a lasting imprint on the lives of all who had the pleasure of knowing her. Rita's beautiful smile and infectious and optimistic outlook on life will live on forever in her family.

Rita's legacy will continue on with her husband, Pernell; 3 children, Barry (fiancée Tiffany), Sharita and Courtney; her mothers, Mary C. Gentry and Ernestine Blount; her sisters, Mary Ann (JP), Angela, Teresa (Patrick), Carolyn and Sylvia (Carlton); her sisters by other mothers, Annette, Robin and Stephanie; her adopted son, Sam; her grandchildren, Jahmik, Liyah and Mckenzie; her loving nieces and nephews, Keisha, Jay, Brandon, Shana, Tanesia, Resean, Derrick, Daemon, Azaria, Patrick (Keyanna), Shakira (Michael), Shatina, C.J., James, Tiquana, Marcus and Argyle; a host of great nieces, great nephews and cousins; her in-laws, Mama Jean, Harold, Marie and Charles; her aunts and uncles who helped raise her, Dorothy Blount, Herman (Shirleen) Drew, Aundrea Drew, Beatrice Stanley, Bishop and Brenda Stallings; her aunts, Geraldine, Doris and MaryAnn; her uncles, Howard and Alfred, and a host of other relatives and friends.

Fear not for she will be not be alone. Waiting to welcome Rita into the afterlife are her two fathers, James Blount and Llewellyn Gentry; her brother, Wendell and her brother-in-law, Melvin.



A Sister's Tribute

The ones you love so dearly always seem to be taken so quickly. Rita you leave a huge empty void behind in our hearts. Oh, how we miss chatting with you just to hear your voice and say "I love you".

We are writing this tribute in tears knowing we won't be able to do so again until the day God calls us home.

You were the champion for the family. You always made sure everyone was okay with unselfish love, always caring and giving. Every Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, Christmas, Birthday or other special occasion, you gave unselfishly of your love.

*But we are so thankful, for God promises in 1 Corinthians 15:52;
"In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump:
for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be
raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."*

*Rita Luv, Radio, sleep in Jesus. We love you and will forever miss you,
but we will ALWAYS remember you.*

Your loving sisters,

Mary Ann, Angela, Teresa, Carolyn, Sylvia, Annette, Robin & Stephanie.



Footprints

One night a woman had a dream. She dreamed she was walking along the beach with the LORD. Across the sky flashed scenes from her life. For each scene, she noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; one belonged to her, and the other to the LORD.

When the last scene of her life flashed before her, she looked back at the footprints in the sand. She noticed that many times along the path of her life there was only one set of footprints. She also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in her life.

This really bothered her and she questioned the LORD about it. "LORD, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me."

The LORD replied, "My precious, precious child, I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

Statement From The Family

As difficult as it is to express our grief in words, the family would like to thank each and every one for their prayers, support and kindness during this most difficult time.

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abarrettfuneralservice.com