

*Celebrating
the Life
of*

Bernice Rogers

Sunrise
March 18, 1954

Sunset
June 14, 2020

Friday, June 26, 2020 - 5:00 pm

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

1406 Pitkin Avenue • Brooklyn, NY 11233

Elder Billy Potts, Officiating

Obituary

On June 14, 2020 at 1:10pm God came to collect his Precious flower **Bernice “Niecey” Rogers** to be with him and join his army of angels. Bernice “Niecey” was born on March 18, 1954 to the late Cora Pearl Shelton at St. John Hospital in Brooklyn, NY. Niecey was the first girl of nine blessings to Cora Pearl Shelton, the late Charles was the eldest, and she was later joined by her siblings: the late Harold, Larry, Anthony, Patricia, and nephew Charles (Man).

Niecey was educated in Brooklyn, NY and later received her degree in Psychology from The College of New Rochelle, where she advocated for every adult to achieve their college education. Niecey worked at Brooklyn Developmental Center (BDC) for 32 years where she decided to retire in 2015. Niecey had such a passion for her clients and never hesitated to bring them home and make them a part of the family. She advocated for the them and made sure they were treated fairly and humane.

Niecey was blessed with three beautiful children of her own: Lakisha Monic Rogers, Kinda Tyesh Rogers, and Lurnell Jerval Nottingham. Niecey loved being a mother to her own children and to her clients. She had a special place in her heart for them specifically Steven and Shantia. But her children was her everything, she got so much joy out of knowing she raised three individuals independent and responsible enough to one day take care of her. She never hesitated to discuss her pride and joys when speaking of them, whether they finished their education, traveled the world or was present day in and out for her to make sure she was good. Lurnell her Ricky to her Lucy was a real mother/son connection. She bragged about her daily meals and plethora of vitamins, and supplements Lurnell made her consume to sustain her health. She always said I have my own holistic doctor onsite. Kinda her middle girl was a staple on her phone morning noon and night. She enjoyed nothing more than to hear about Kinda successes and onward and upward mobility so she knew she was doing mighty fine in North Carolina. Like any mother assurance of her children near or far is needed. She was proud to watch her eldest fearlessly travel the world and enjoy life. She would always say “when are you going to sit down; you’re like the energizer bunny.” But that was another way for her to say I’m proud of you. Her grand-baby boy Colby Wells was everything to her. Their bond was priceless and unbreakable; the hours on FaceTime, the talks about his travel plans and her helping financing them of course (smile), and the discussions about her coming back to Maryland... they were a team for sure. Team Grandma! And her one and only Granddaughter Atiyanah Fernandez whom may have lived far away most of her life, but was present in the heart to Niecey as she would say “Ati sure pushed out a baby (Jamari) with these big beautiful eyes” as that was her trait. Niecey was so loved, that she had honorary Sisters and daughters Deanna, Linda, Trena, Iris, Shelia, Cheryl, Mia, Kichelle, JoyAnne and Saprina. She built her own relationship & bond and spoke for hours on the phone with some of them, and they were there for her when she needed them without asking; she didn’t hesitate to open her heart or door to them. Her relationship with Lois “Mary Deloris” was special because she knew no matter what she could talk and vent without judgement and follow up with something funny or just too real to say and Aunt Lois would crack up laughing and say “that damn Niecey; your mother been like this all her life.” She loved each of them with no conditions and embraced their nicknames for her Ma, B-Girl, Momma-B and Bernice with a smile and probably a few curse words if she have to tell them about themselves. All out of Love.

Niecey was a true Big sister as she continued to make sure her siblings were alright after picking up the torch from her mother. There was nothing she wouldn’t do for Lolo, Gina, and Sina, after she give her unsolicited advice with a few choice words. They all knew their Big Sis was not

going to sugar coat anything, but if she could make all their dreams come true and nightmares disappear she would. Lolo she carried your hurt of losing your son and always commended how you were strong, Gina she knew you were good and always said “That damn Georgina (Gina) don’t answer no phone” but would light up when you came to just sit at the kitchen table and hum and talk with her. And baby sis Hassina (Sina) although she would repeatedly say “Yo old ass ain’t no baby no more baby, stop the bullshit” she still made sure you were good. Niecey loved her family and never wasted a moment to talk to her nieces and nephews to advise them without meddling too deep. There was no information too small or too big she wouldn’t share: available job, real estate assistance, or basic life skills. It was like she was a walking advertisement for NHS. If you spoke about buying a house, she would make sure you knew all the things available to you to prevent any mishaps, because she wanted everyone to WIN!! She loved to look good, speak her mind with no malicious intent, and have a good time. Music was a lifeline for her; at a young age all the children on the block was introduced to The Songstress “Anita Baker”, Luther Vandross, Maxwell, Kenny Rogers, and Mister Magic to name a few. Her album and CD collection is massive. There wasn’t a Saturday we weren’t entertained with the speaker in the window and all the greatest old school music blasting. Noise ordinance wasn’t a problem all the 49 years she lived on Somers Street, but recently after enjoying her loud tunes and the “new neighbors” wasn’t aware of the wrath of Niecey.....she said “oh hell Shit done changed”.

As Niecey children progressed to adulthood and had children of their own, she proudly accepted the role of grandmother, and auntie to all the young men that would make sure to get her packages delivered or run to the store 20 times a day for her (smile) to get lotto tickets so they were nicknamed her “Runners” she cared for them and never hesitated to talk to them about life and doing what’s right. Doobie, Kashawn, Derrick, Denzel and Alex just know she appreciated you a lot. We will all miss this amazing woman from who we got our wisdom; but she will live in our hearts and her spirit will forever join us on her Stoop for a good ole laugh, sly comment, or the next lottery numbers. She is definitely our angel.

Bernice Rogers was preceded in death by: her loving grandmother, Nellie Ann Rogers, loving mother, Cora Pearl Shelton, four brothers, China, Harold, Larry, Anthony, sister, Patricia, one brother-in-law, Christopher Ramos; two aunts, Geneva Monk, Cecilia Rogers and two uncles, Waverly and Alfred Rogers.

Bernice Rogers leaves to cherish her loving memory: two daughters, eldest Lakisha “Monic” Rogers, Kinda Tyesh Rogers (Baby Girl), and her one and only son and baby boy, Larnell Jerval Nottingham; three sisters, Angela, Georgina and Hassina; one sister-in-law, Alfreda Rogers, Matriarch Earnestein Fisher and Rachel Kirby; two grandchildren, Colby and Atiyanah; one great grandson, Jamari, a host of nieces and nephews; Mardes, Tashina, Saquana, Denean, Tahanee, Ayanna, Gia, Levelle, Corey, Larry Jr. (Poppa), Quindell, Fabian, Kashawn, Stephen, Kareem; host of great nieces and nephews Ivan, Dario, Shanykequa, Antonio, Elizabeth, Jose, Craig, Rondelle, Brandon, Chyna, Dashawn, Cody, Alexis, Tatiana, Zania, Tiyanna, Zian, Dameek, Makayla, Taniyah, Zariya, Makai, Chantel, Aziaha, Ayden, Nehemiah, Sinai, Carnell, Daquan and a plethora of cousins Rina, Terrance, Ben Junior, Lorraine, Anthony, Rody, Shody, Monae, She She, Larry, Terrance, Tussan, but one who was super special and meant the world to her because he was her shield, traveling buddy and would just come to sit and talk with her Bernard Rogers. Bernard you must know that cousin Niecey loved you so much and wanted the best for you. Cousin Ray Ray, Harold, and Bonnie her phone buddies and so many other family members and numerous friends.

Lovingly Submitted
The Family

Order of Service

Organ Prelude

Processional

Scripture Reading

Loretta Jordan

Prayers of Comfort

Loretta Jordan

Solo

Anthony Jordan

Obituary

Loretta Jordan

Acknowledge of Condolences

Loretta Jordan

Remarks

2 Minutes Please

Eulogy

Billy Potts (God Brother)

The Final Viewing

Funeral Director

Solo

Anthony Jordan

The Recessional

The Family will be traveling to Rosedale Cemetery, Linden, NJ immediately following the funeral and won't return until approximately 2:00pm. The family would love for you to join them upon their return at the house to celebrate the life of their beloved Niecey.

A Message from her Children

Real & Raw!

Some people say keep it real, but my mom kept it REAL REAL!! Some of the things she let come out of her mouth, I use to say OMG Ma!! Her response "Shittttt somebody gotta say it, it's the truth and the truth hurts sometimes". My mom was always boisterous. She never allowed you to be unclear or wonder what she was thinking or feeling. She'll lend her ear, but just know you will get her opinion with no judgement. Which is why her quiet transition eats at my my inner core. Our days were not complete if we didn't call each other several times, and calling didn't always mean talking. Just to hear her voice, energy, and breaths allowed me to listen for any signs she wasn't well. I guess her jovial demeanor was absent of any clues that she would leave me this soon.

My mom was my EVERYTHING; I watched her eagerness to grow, determination to make us whole, passion for her work with the Mentally ill, the joy in her face when she shared knowledge with others; all to reach a level of success and not be able to enjoy it. There's not too many things we can be sure about these days, But the one Thing I know for certain is My Mother Loved US. Her humble beginnings were never a reflection of what she wanted for us, and nothing made her more proud than to watch us sore. So if her goal was to leave a mark, she didn't hesitate just look at me. My tears don't hold guilt, my heart hurt because I fooled myself to believe I'd have her so much longer, and she quietly left with no warning (imagine Niecey and being quiet in the same sentence). I hope I made her proud to speak my name.

Ma, I will miss our Real, Raw and candid conversations. All I ask is that you watch over me, Kinda, Laurnell, Colby, and Aytianh. Please stay in my dreams this way I get to see you and know in your own words "God Got Me".

I Love you Ma...

Lakisha "Monic" Rogers - Eldest Daughter

Ma,
Those special memories of you will always bring a smile to my face. If only I could have you back for just a little while longer. Then we could sit and talk again for hours, (just like we used to do). Those moments always meant so much to me. We bumped heads at times because we were just alike. The fact you're no longer here will forever cause me pain. But you're forever in my heart and that will never change.

Whenever I am missing you, I will also remember how fortunate I was to have you as my mom. You were tougher on me because I was a little tougher to raise. I wouldn't trade those moments for the world. I truly never learned what the words "I missed you" were until I reached for your hand and you couldn't reach back... I don't know how I am gonna deal with not speaking to you everyday and hearing you say "HEY MY BABY GIRL! HOW WAS YOUR DAY?" A good punch line or 12 or Just sitting listening to one another watch tv for hours. Just those silent moments on the phone are going to tear me up not having anymore.. Just knowing you were on the other end was all I needed to end my day.

Looking back, I know I see why you built me to be Ford Tough you knew that one day

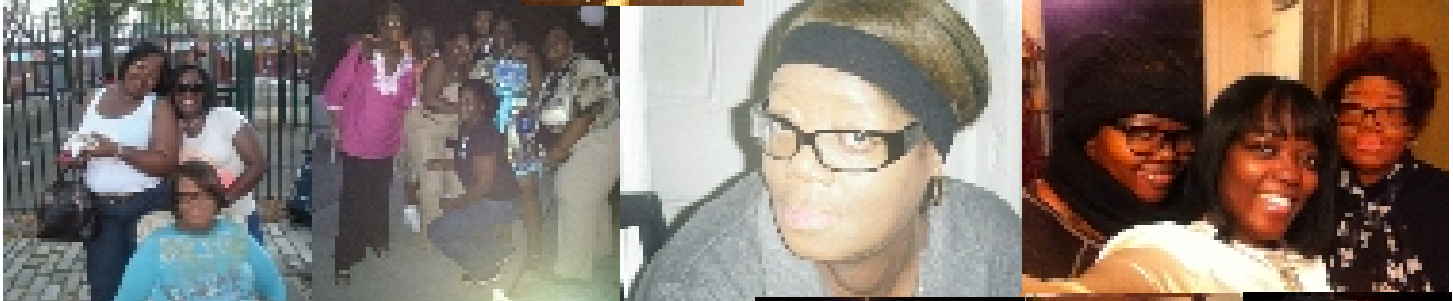
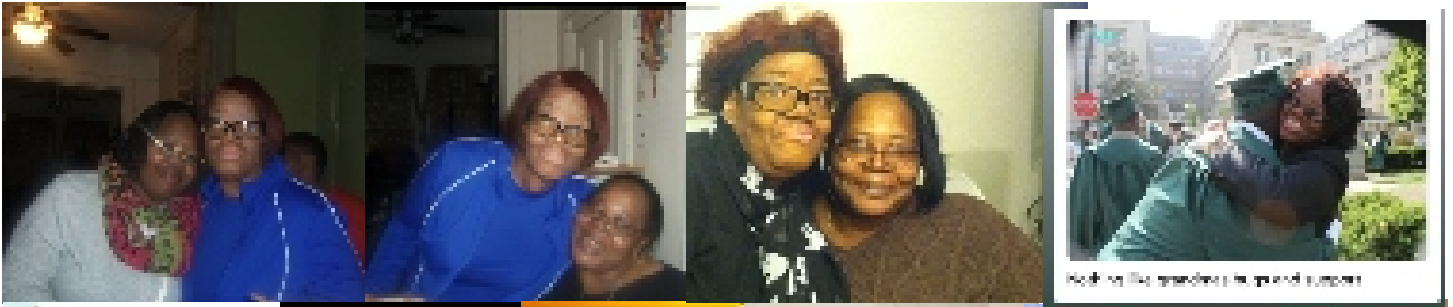
I would need the strength to bear you not being here.

I love and miss you and that pain of you not being here for any of those moments anymore will never stop.

I'm glad we made you proud Ma.

Love you Eternally. Your "BABY GIRL" Kinda





Writings of Bernice Rogers

I have survived long enough to understand we must focus our thought on the light of our Father. I've finally understood that our existence is destructible without it. I'm speaking to all who are aware of this power. I will not tell you that I'm holy than thou. But I want you to understand that this is my great start.

I realized that until everyone search their heart with sincere love we have a problem. I'm positive about the healing of the world. Wouldn't it be great to just enjoy kindness from one another. Search your inner soul. Why should it be unequal to so many. Love is very potent and we truly should grasp more of it. Just imagine for one moment; when is the last time you did something nice for someone, a kind word, a simple smile, or just hello. Please try and shine forward with joy. Let's start from here to change the future. Thank You Lord .

Written by Bernice Rogers - 1994

Acknowledgement

The family of Bernice "Niecey Rogers" wishes to express their heartfelt appreciation for the many acts of kindness and expressions of sympathy, which provide strength and comfort during their time of bereavement. Formal acknowledgements will be extended at a later date.

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