



*Celebration of Life*

*Carmen Francois*

January 26, 1942 - November 22, 2020

Friday, December 4, 2020 - 4:00 p.m.

**Maranatha Baptist Church**  
112-42 Springfield Blvd, Queens Village, NY 11429

# Obituary

**Carmen Williams Francois** was born on January 26, 1942, in St. Andrews, Grenada. She was the daughter of the late Paul Thomas and Catherine Helen Williams. As a teenager, Carmen, her mother and six siblings migrated to Trinidad and Tobago. In order to further her education, Carmen enrolled in Holy Name Convent in Port of Spain, Trinidad where she studied to become a nun. At the age of 17, Carmen was drawn by an intense desire to help, serve, and care for others. She moved to England where there was a desperate need for nurses, there she pursued a nursing career at the Huddersfield School of Nursing.

At the age of 19, Carmen married the love of her life, Kenrick Francois. They enjoyed traveling the world together, but after being in England for 10 years they decided to explore career options in the United States. In 1968, Carmen followed her heart, and moved to the U.S.. she began working at Queens Hospital Center as a staff RN in their Emergency Room. With a thirst for knowledge and a drive to succeed, Carmen joined the Army Reserves in order to further her education. She obtained her B.S. in Nursing from Long Island University and an M.S. in Health Service Administration from Central Michigan University.

Carmen worked tirelessly for over 30 years as a dedicated professional dispensing caring comfort and compassion to all that came her way. She always chose kindness, believing in loving others the way her precious Lord and Savior asked us to love—unconditionally and without reservation. Carmen's heart didn't just open to her friends, neighbors, and patients, she yielded her heart to her family. Giving and helping family members in any way that she could. Whether through sponsorship to get their papers, starting a new life, or giving them a safe haven, a place to stay until they landed on their feet. Her home was always open to all. Carmen was the family's cheering squad all by herself. She believed dreams were meant to be reached for and if she could give you a loving shove, she gladly would.

Carmen believed in giving back to the community and supported various charitable organizations. She walked every year for Susan B. Komen Breast Cancer Association. She was an advocate for black women's health. She was a proud member of the illustrious Nursing Sorority - Theta Chi Chapter, Inc. of Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc.

On, Sunday, November 22, 2020, God called Carmen to her heavenly home, granting her robe and crown telling her story of how she made it. Carmen Williams Francois, was 78 when she departed this earth peacefully, at her home in Jamaica, Queens. In her final days, Carmen was determined to maintain her faith and independence, despite her long battle with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS). Carmen touched the lives of her family and friends with her sweet smile and generosity. She treasured each day, living by the notion, "God gave us this life because, he trusted that we were strong enough to live it." And if God could trust her with this life, then she was going to live it with a praise on her lips, faith in her heart, and gladness, even through her darkest moments, trusting that trouble would not last always.

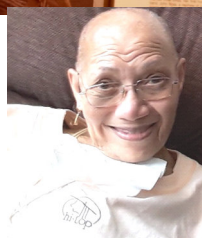
Carmen leaves to treasure her fondest memories her daughter Irene Francois, granddaughter Nikala Gibson, her former husband, Kenrick Francois, one sister, Gertrude Andrews, and a host of nieces and nephews, relatives and friends.

# Order of Service

Prayer.....	Veronica Barnette
Selection.....	Victoria Gibson
Scripture Reading.....	Taniquah Moore
Tribute.....	Nikala Gibson
Selection.....	Trustee White
Obituary.....	Taniquah Moore
Tributes/Reflections	
A Message of Comfort.....	Prophet Shepherd
Selection.....	Trustee White
Benediction	



*Interment*  
All Souls Crematory  
Queens, New York



## THE BROKEN CHAIN

We didn't know that morning that God was going to call your name. In life we loved you dearly; in death we do the same. It broke our hearts to lose you, you did not go alone. For part of us went with you the day God called you home. You left us peaceful memories, your love is still our guide. And though we cannot see you, you are always at our side. Our family chain is broken, and nothing seems the same. But as God call us one by one, the chain will link again.

**The Family**

## THE MASTER CALLED

I'm sorry I had to leave you, my loved ones, oh so dear. But you see, the Master called me, his voice very clear! I had made my reservation a heaven bound ticket for one, and I knew that He would call me when He felt my work was done.

I know that your hearts are heavy because I have gone away, but when the Master called me, I knew that I could not stay. Yes, I'm sorry I had to leave you my loved ones, oh so dear, but, you see, the Master called me and, now I'm resting here.

Yes, I've crossed on over to glory and to you all I say just stay in the hands of Jesus and we'll meet again someday.

## *To My Dearest Family*

Some things I'd like to say, but first of all to let you know that I arrived okay I'm writing this from Heaven where I dwell with God above where there's no more tears or sadness there is just eternal love Please do not be unhappy just because I'm out of sight remember that I'm with you every morning, noon and night That day I had to leave you when my life on Earth was through God picked me up and hugged me and He said I welcome you It's good to have you back again you were missed while you were gone as for your dearest family they'll be here later on I need you here so badly as part of My big plan there's so much that we have to do to help our mortal man Then God gave me a list of things He wished for me to do and foremost on that list of mine is to watch and care for you And I will be beside you every day and week and year and when you're sad I'm standing there to wipe away the tear And when you lie in bed at night the days chores put to flight God and I are closest to you in the middle of the night When you think of my life on Earth and all those loving years because you're only human they are bound to bring you tears But do not be afraid to cry it does relieve the pain remember there would be no flowers unless there was some rain I wish that I could tell you of all that God has planned but if I were to tell you you wouldn't understand But one thing is for certain though my life on Earth is o're I am closer to you now than I ever was before And to my very many friends trust God knows what is best I'm still not far away from you I'm just beyond the crest There are rocky roads ahead of you and many hills to climb but together we can do it taking one day at a time It was always my philosophy and I'd like it for you too that as you give unto the World so the World will give to you If you can help somebody who is in sorrow or in pain then you can say to God at night my day was not in vain And now I am contented that my life it was worthwhile knowing as I passed along the way I made somebody smile So if you meet somebody who is down and feeling low just lend a hand to pick him up as on your way you go When you are walking down the street and you've got me on your mind I'm walking in your footsteps only half a step behind And when you feel the gentle breeze or the wind upon your face that's me giving you a great big hug or just a soft embrace And when it's time for you to go from that body to be free remember you're not going you are coming here to me And I will always love you from that land way up above Will be in touch again soon

P.S. God sends His Love

**Author Unknown**

## *Acknowledgement*

The family would like to thank relatives and friends for their kindness, support and prayers during this time.

E.L. George Funeral Services for efficient arrangements  
Maranatha Baptist Church (Pastor A'Kim Beecham)

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Professional Services Provided By:

*E.L. George Funeral Services*

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