

*The Homecoming Celebration
Of
Cherie Marlana Holley*



**Sunrise
July 20, 1946**

**Sunset
January 12, 2021**

Saturday, January 23, 2021 - 4pm

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Rev. Lee Arrington, Officiating

Obituary

Cherie Marlena Holley was born on July 20, 1946 to Arthur Holley, Sr. and Josephine Lowery Holley in New York City. She lived on the Lower East Side of Manhattan for more than 68 years. She departed this earth at age 74 to be with the Lord on January 12, 2021 at approximately 11:38PM. She died peacefully at Mount Sinai Saint Luke's Hospital.

Cherie was a beloved elementary school teacher for more than 35 years. She had a positive, nurturing, uplifting, and inspiring impact on the many students she taught in the inner city elementary school system, primarily at P.S. 110.

Cherie's dedication to her profession encouraged her achievement in obtaining double Masters' degrees from City University of New York (CUNY), one in Early Childhood Education and the other in Child Psychology. She also received numerous certifications and citations for excellence in teaching various subjects and worked tirelessly in an effort to publish "How to Effectively Teach Children Math and Science". Her colleagues regularly share affirmations and accolades on her professionalism and devotion to her students, often declaring, "Cherie Earns her paycheck".

Cherie had many hobbies and special interests making her a well-rounded and sophisticated individual with stories and adventures she regularly shared with friends, family and co-workers. She holds a 3rd degree Black Belt in Kendo, the Japanese Martial Art of Sword fighting; and many times she would annihilate 6 foot tall men in Kendo matches. She loved the arts and annually attended Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre performances, regularly attended Opera's at the MET, and frequently attended Broadway and Off-Broadway plays. She planned numerous trips to museums, cultural events like the American Indian POW Wows and Amish Town visits, as well as, movie theatre and amusement park outings with her family. This instilled a love for the arts and provided learning experiences and entertainment for her beloved grandchildren, grandnieces and grandnephews.

Cherie also loved to travel and visited many different countries throughout her life such as, Japan, Mexico, Spain, and the UK. She also visited and fell in love with islands such as Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, the Virgin Islands, and Hawaii. Her many travels allowed her to collect memorabilia she proudly displayed in her home along with her vast book collection from prestigious authors of classic literature. She loved to read, and she instilled this love of reading in her daughters. She formed a monthly book club with various friends, colleagues, and family members creating a fun environment that encouraged sharing of ideas that often generated hilarious debates.

Cherie LIVED her life! She was a true matriarch, hosting Thanksgiving and Christmas gatherings annually, planning family trips to Orlando, Florida regularly, providing guidance and support whenever needed, and bestowing love and nurturing always.

Cherie is survived by: her beloved and devoted daughters, Ramona Walker of New York City and Tasha Holley (Anthony [Tone] Samuels, Sr.) of Bronx, NY; one brother, Calvin Delano Holley of New York, NY; five grandchildren, Ashton Christopher Solomons, Emmett Andre Holley, Annancia Cherie Samuels, Kenneth Anthony Samuels, Jr. and Morgan Grace Samuels; one great granddaughter, Equality Holley; niece, Kim Holley-Bain (Enoch); nephew, Lance Holley (Cynthia); grandniece, Tekina England; great grandniece, Alaya Thorpe; grandnephews, Evan Channing Holley and Aiden Roman Holley; and dear childhood sister friends, Yvonne Foster and Alice Jones.

Cherie is preceded in death by four brothers: Arthur Jr. (Piggy), Frederick, Tullman (Skippy), and Ernest.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Rev. Dr. Eric B. Turner

Scripture Readings

Prayer

Selection

Rev. Dr. Eric B. Turner

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Selection

“Agnus Dei”

Elizabeth Gibson

Eulogy

Rev. Lee Arrington

Committal

Rev. Lee Arrington

Viewing

Recessional

“Going Up Yonder”

Elizabeth Gibson



When Tomorrow Starts Without Me

— by David M. Romano

When tomorrow starts without me
And I'm not here to see
If the sun should rise and find your eyes
Are filled with tears for me
I wish so much you wouldn't cry
The way you did today
While thinking of the many things
We didn't get to say
I know how much you love me
As much as I love you
And each time you think of me
I know you'll miss me too
But when tomorrow starts without me
Please try to understand
That an angel came and called my name
And took me by the hand
And said my place was ready
In Heaven far above
And that I'd have to leave behind
All those I dearly love

But when I walked through Heaven's gate
I felt so much at home
When God looked down and smiled at me
From His great golden throne
He said this is eternity
And all I promised you
Today your life on earth is past
But here it starts anew
I promise no tomorrow
For today will always last
And since each day's the same way
There's no longing for the past
So when tomorrow starts without me
Don't think we're far apart
For every time you think of me
I'm right here in your heart

Acknowledgement

***The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour.
May God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.***

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