



I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me



I took his hand when I heard Him call

I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day.
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I found that peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it up with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Oh, yes these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much.
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free!

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.*

Professional Services Provided By

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE
130 Main Street
Orange, NJ
973-675-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME
1025 Bergen Street
Newark, NJ
973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME
37 Clinton Avenue
Jersey City, NJ
201-433-1000



Celebrating the life of Debra Derrick

March 11, 1958 - March 11, 2021



THURSDAY, MARCH 25 2021 - 12:00 NOON

Greater Abyssinian Baptist Church

88 Lyons Avenue • Newark, New Jersey

Rev. Joshua Younger, Officiating

Joshua Nelson, Organist

www.honoraryyou.com

Obituary

There are things in life we cannot understand but we must trust in God and be guided by His hands. All who have God blessing can rest safely in His care for He promises safe passage on His wings of faith and prayer.

On March 11th 1958, Debra & Diane, her twin sister, was born to Madelyn Derrick and the late Jerome C. Simmons. But tragically on March 11th, 2021 Debra was called home to be with her twin sister Diane. Debra attended Newark Public Schools, 14th Avenue & West Side High School, she ran track and played in the band and later graduated in 1975. She later in life began a career as a manager at Kartzman bakery in Irvington, New Jersey. As time passed she changed over to the healthcare system and this was something that she was passionate about; it was her calling to help people. She worked as a CNA at Genesis healthcare for 10 years until she left to work at Beth Israel Hospital. She enjoyed taking care of people. But due to a knee injury, Debra had to retire from Beth Israel hospital in 2017. But still always made her way back to that

hospital. Debra was a beautiful person with a heart of gold who dedicated her life to her children, grandchildren, and family. She was the real (Big Mama), she left an impression on whoever came in contact with her.

Debra leaves to mourn: her mother Madelyn Derrick; (3) children Nakia Derrick O'Neal (Preceded in death son-in-law Rodney O'Neal), Shaquana Derrick (son-in-law Kasim Washington) & Micheal Derrick, Siblings Jerome Derrick, Jumar Derrick (sister-in-law Lisa Derrick) Chevelle Derrick, Ramona Derrick, Tashirah Derrick, 2 siblings preceded in death Diane Derrick and Christopher Derrick, (grandchildren Kenyon Keyon Natayah Laniyah Shakiyah and Na'Kiyah, 3 Great grandchildren and host of nieces & nephews and great nieces and nephews and also a loving friend who preceded into death (Micheal Gaddy). Debra was all about family & will be truly missed.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Reading

Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Selection

Remarks

(Two minutes each please)

Acknowledgements

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Recessional

Interment

Evergreen Cemetery
Hillside, New Jersey