# A Celebration Of Love For Dawn Patrice Leadbetter

Sunrise October 30, 1968 Sunset May 22, 2021



Wednesday, June 2, 2021 • 11:00 a.m.

### Whigham Funeral Home

580 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. • Newark, New Jersey *Rev. Rakeem Thomas, Officiating* 

### Reflection of Life

**Dawn Leadbetter** was born in Newark New Jersey to Deborah Leadbetter Robinson and the late Marion Williams on October 30, 1968, but was raised and cherished lovingly since the age of 2 years old by Wiley Jerome Robinson.

Dawn began her education in the Newark Public School System, but completed her education overseas in Europe. Dawn's father Wiley Robinson joined the military where his family accompanied him in traveling to Shape Belgium.

That's when all the wonderful and great things began to happen. Dawn started the 10th grade thru 12th grade and graduated from Shape American High School at Shape Belgium with honors. While living in Europe she traveled extensively to places most people only dream of. She would travel with her family to Paris France quite frequently. Dawn also traveled to Germany, Holland, Amsterdam and the Netherlands; and all through Belgium. She even visited Van Gogh House the artist. Living there almost 9 years she became very familiar with the customs of the people. Their way of living and the wonderful cuisine of different foods and even spoke a little french. Dawn and her family loved taking trips to see places. Going to see the famous art museum in Paris France, Musée du Louvre where famous artwork is hanging like the Mona Lisa painting. Also actually seeing and stepping onto the Eiffel Tower in Paris was so majestic.

Visiting the original chocolate Godiva factory was heaven with the sweet smell of chocolate in the air. Dawn was amazed when she actually visited the "Anne Frank House" in Amsterdam. She had read the diary of Ann Frank life, but to actually visit where Ann Frank had lived in hiding for over 2 years with her family during World War II was amazing to her. That was Dawn. She loved to read and was very smart and very knowledgable. She always loved education. After graduating from high school she attended City Colleges of Chicago and earned her Associates Degree in Psychology. During that time Dawn also worked at the Military Post Exchange as a sales associate and cashier. On weekends she would DJ at the International Club on the Military base where the soldiers and their family would come for entertainment. She was well known and loved by everyone.

Dawn had a beautiful voice and can sing. Every year for the Black History shows she would always be asked to sing. Music, Dawn had a vast knowledge of that too. Growing up in a family of music lovers, she was a lover of all genre of music, from Jazz, R&B, Blues, Rock, Pop, Gospel and even some Classical music. Yes, Dawn was a very intelligent person. For all my life I've known Dawn to be a people person. Whatever assistance was needed, she was your go to person. Dawn was always the type to put others before her own well-being. There are not enough words that can describe how much of a good person she was. One thing for sure, she loved to cook. She's like a walking cookbook, any dish you crave she was able to prepare food with nothing but love. Dawn was a good listener. She had a way with words that can calm anyone down.

Then came the time for Dawn to return to the United States at Fort Bragg, NC. It was nice there and Dawn met wonderful people there as well. Anywhere she went people were drawn to her. She had that magnetic personality. The time came when her father Wiley decided to leave the Military and the family returned to Newark, NJ.

It's no secret to those that knew and loved Dawn, that coming back home she experienced a totally different lifestyle. She struggled with addiction. She fought for years with it. Coming back home and seeing how things had changed so much, and becoming vulnerable to everything it became overwhelming. Dawn had her challenges in life and through her recovery she chose God to guide her. She's been clean now for 8 years and very proud of it. Despite all her challenges she continue to invest in her education. Dawn attended and completed Nursing courses at NCC and received her certificate for Nursing and Phlebotomy. During the course of her studies she was blessed with a beautiful daughter by the name of Yakuro Leadbetter.

Within the last year and half Dawn became very sick with inflamed Pancreatitis and type 2 Diabetes. She fought so hard but it was too much for her.

On May 22, 2021 the angels came and took Dawn to be with her family in Heaven. Her Grandfather Henry Leadbetter, Grandmother Emily Leadbetter and her Uncle Henry (Sunny) Leadbetter Jr.

She leaves to cherish her memories her parents Wiley and Deborah Robinson, Daughter Yakuro Leadbetter, Uncle Jerome Leadbetter, Sisters Ebony Robinson-Toone, Jasmine Y Robinson, Brother-in-law Troy Toone, Niece Essence T. Toone, Aunt Carol Lewis, Cousin Nakia Leadbetter-Bertie. She is the God-daughter of Edna Huff Larry. Along with a host of relatives and friends.

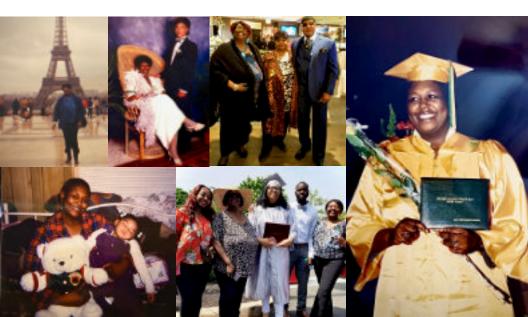
### Order of Service

#### Final Farewell

The Viewing (8:45-9:45)

Musical Prelude	Organist- Joshua Nelson
Prayer of Comfort	
Scripture Readings Old Testament New Testament	
Soloist	Sue Sue Montogomery
Musical Selection By	
Soloist	Sue Sue Montogomery
Life story and Eulogy	Wiley and Deborah Robinson
Poem	Valarie Bank-Jones
Benediction	Rev. Rakeem Thomas

#### **Interment** Fairmount Cemetery Newark, New Jersey



### Come To Me

God saw she was getting tired And a cure was not to be So He gently closed those loving eyes And whispered "Come to me" The days of toil and nights of pain The weary hours have passed The patient gentle worn out frame Has found sweet rest at last. Day and night we stood by her And saw her in pain, Anxiously awaiting her cure But our waiting was in vain. God who knoweth all things best Eased her suffering, gave her rest She is gone but not forgotten, Never will our memories fade Sweetest thoughts of her will ever linger Round the place where she rests.

Hoknowledgements

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to their family during this hour of bereavement.

May God Bless and Keep You!

Professional Services by:

## Whigham Funeral Home

580 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Newark, New Jersey 07102 973-622-6872 Carolyn Whigham, Director



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