

In Loving Memory of
Velda Oletta Applewhaite

Sunrise
November 14, 1944

Sunset
July 18, 2021



Home Going Service
Friday, July 30, 2021 • 11:00 a.m.

ROY L. GILMORE'S FUNERAL HOME, INC.

191-02 Linden Blvd. • St. Albans, New York 11412

Pastor Joseph Deisre, Officiating

Order of Service

Opening Reflection Song.....“You Never Fail” - Judah Precious

Opening Sentences.....Velda Who She Was? Family Connection

First Lesson.....“Psalm 23” - Zaylin Brown

Eulogy..... Carol Applewhaite Marshall

Second Lesson“Isaiah 41:9-10” - Haskell Brown

Hymn..... “It Is Well With My Soul”

The Sermon..... Pastor Joseph Desire

Hymn.....“Marching To Zoin”

Exit Song.....“You Never Fail” - Judah Precious (Instrumental)

Interment
Rockville Cemetery
Rockville Centre, New York

Eulogy

Velda Oletta Applewhaite also known as “**Lolita Kellman**” was born on the island of Barbados on November 14th, 1944, to the late Carmeta and Eustace Small. From childhood, “Lolita” as her family nicknamed her was a responsible girl as was the expectation of the oldest girl child. This responsibility included cooking popular Bajan dishes during school vacation in the Sugar Cane Crop season. She would then walk to the Cane fields and take her parents a warm lunch so that they may continue with their labor. I remember Mommy telling us about being around 10 years climbing a bunch in front of the stove, Cou cou...she was eager and had always begged her Mum to let her do it and that she could manage. Mum would initially say “Girl this isn’t play” but she persisted and one day Mum showed her and from that day for the next 65 years my mommy was cooking up a storm. Lolita also helped with her younger siblings and other household chores. She cooked meals and loved to see her family gathered, happy and fed. My Mom migrated to the USA in 1980. She worked two full time jobs for at least fifteen years in her thirty year career in Healthcare. As we became of age with employment, she resorted to one full time night shift job. She loved her work geriatric nursing. Each elderly patient she treated with respect as is the culture she was raised in. Often clothing the forgotten ones out of her own pocket. She was loving, caring, resilient, stoic, family oriented; a true example of the baby boomer generation. She positioned me. She said “You’re going to be a nurse. Hillcrest High School has a LPN program and when you graduate high school, you got to start.” That start made me continue in the nursing profession and in different roles that enabled care and advocacy for her in her time of need. She was a fighter. She fought hard. She would tell us to be strong often laughing at us her adult children and saying my children ain’t strong. Mommy set examples of strength to make us strong. When my younger brother was murdered at age 18 years, Mommy was sad and hurt but she didn’t lose her cool. Yes, she grieved but she had strength and perseverance for days. She moved us from that neighborhood and eventually that loss and grief would be a lesson we all knew and stayed focused in never wanting her to lose any more of us. When her own mom died, Lolita had a formula to cry but be strong and say “God is in control.” On July 18th, 2021 I called the hospital but at the same time her doctor was calling me. Before any conversation came across from the caller...I said inquisitively is my mom dead. It was an answer no child grown or little wants to hear. I was immediately weakened by it and mustered the strength to tell my siblings. Then I said to my younger sister lets go see her she’s alone, but everyone was overwhelmed with grief. I feared the scene and confirmation that she had graduated to Heaven. I drove to the hospital where I work which had now become the last place, she was alive. I stopped by the ED where I work, and my work family consoled and accompanied me on a long walk up to her room. They were concerned that I drove there alone but it was mommy’s strength and sense of responsibility, and they flanked me. When we entered the room, Mommy looked at peace and beautiful. She is now absent in the body but present with the Lord and in our hearts, minds and souls. It still hurts. Now as we, her children, family and friends, are forced into this school of stoicism call life without Velda asking you ok? To drop a joke and make us smile but always we remember her favorite saying God is in control.

Velda Who Was She? Family Connections

Aged 76 years, late of St. Albans, Queens, NY, USA. Also known as Lolita Kellman formerly of Mayer's Corner, Sugar Hill, St. Joseph, Barbados entered into rest on July 18th, 2021.

Daughter of the late Carmeta and Eustace Small.

Mother of Michelle Jones (Barbados National Assistance Board, formerly of CAH), Anthony Applewhaite, Carol Applewhaite Marshall, Sharon Applewhaite Brown and the late Mark Gregoria Applewhaite.

Wife of Winston Applewhaite.

Grand mother of Ryan Kellman, Nathan Marshall, Zaylin and Zania Brown.

Sister of Glendine Harmon (Barbados Port INC), Yvette Margaret Vaughn, the late Athedson, Emerson, Vorell Kellman Small.

Sister-in-Law of Rudy Vaughn, Carl Harmon, Gloria, Vincent, Clarence and Edwin Applewhaite. Mother-in-law of Joseph Marshall (Formerly of ICBL) and Haskell Brown (USA).

Aunt of Rudy Vaughn Jr and Richard Vaughn. Great Aunt of Jeremiah and Isaiah Vaughn.

Cousin of Lionel Leacock, Norma Kellman, Winston "Tot" Gamble and many more.

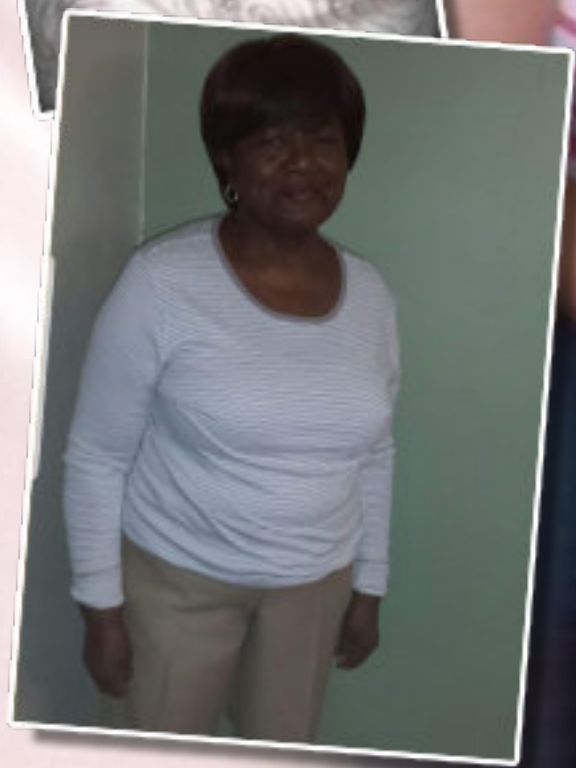
Friend of Corine Cumberbatch, Peggy Fowler and St, Ann's Anglican Church family.

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Isaiah 41: 9-10

Thou whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, and called thee from the chief men thereof, and said unto thee, Thou art my servant; I have chosen thee, and not cast thee away. Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.







Acknowledgements & Thank You's

Special thanks to the Brown and Vaughn Families , Jamila Duncan, Anita Leak, Asia Russ, Sadiquah Brown. Maygiene Gauthiere. Forever grateful to Mercy Medical Center Emergency Department, Care Coordination, Dr. Chaudhry (MMC), Dr Sadia Riaz (Northwell Health). Dear Mommy, Nanny, Sister, Mother-in-Law, Wife and Friend We love you and you are forever in our hearts.

Professional Services Provided By:

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