

*In Loving Memory of*  
*Diana E. Willis*

Sunrise: August 8, 1975  
Sunset: December 29, 2022



**SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 2023 - 12:00 PM**

**Men & Women Of Valor**

347 6th Avenue • Newark, New Jersey

# *Obituary*

Diana E. Willis was born to the late Guillermo Rodriquez and Maria Diaz in Elizabeth, N.J. on August 8th, 1975 and departed this life on December 29th, 2022.

Diana always had an unquenchable thirst for knowledge and for the development of new tools and skills that would aid in her quest for personal growth. She would enthusiastically embrace every opportunity presented to her that would enhance her natural and spiritual capabilities. After working diligently to receive her GED, she was employed at several businesses and banks and then later became a Customer Service Representative for an insurance company. She spent many years utilizing her bilingual skills, her uncanny knack for numbers and her love of people to fulfill her longing to “just help people” in any way she could.

During the mid nineties, she gave her life to Christ and spent much of her time seeking a deeper relationship with God through prayer and the spoken word.

She met the love of her life, Jerry Minor-Willis in 1995, and they later married in 2000 and she became stepmother to their two daughters, Javonna and Tationna.

Diana answered the call as an evangelist in 2018, where she continued to tirelessly undergird and assist her husband in the ministry across several states, for many years. Their ministry was greatly enhanced by her musical artistry and anointed vocals that caused many to come to repentance and receive deliverance.

She served as a faithful and productive member of The Pastors League and The Ministry League since 2021, often utilizing her creative genius to enhance the various events and meetings she attended.

Although she had no biological children of her own, she became a mother and godmother to many children of varying ages, as well as adults who needed her special kind of “mothering.” As a matter of fact, on any given day or holiday you could find Evangelist Diana purchasing and delivering food to those who needed it the most.

She also loved cooking, driving, jewelry, butter, salmon, steak and pizza, but her passion was for children, learning, the color fuchsia and most of all, having her feet free and unfettered in a pair of sandals or flip flops.

She is predeceased by her father, Guillermo Rodriquez and her mother, Maria Diaz. She is survived by her husband, Jerry Minor-Willis of 23 yrs.; two stepdaughters, Tationna Kea and Javonna Short; sister, Lazara Fonseca; a brother, Jose Rodriquez; three cousins, Ben Gomez, Marisol Lovely and Ivonne Marie Gierwielanice; an aunt, Ada Gomez; a godmother, Ivonne Avarez; godchildren, Alicia, Aariah, Alissa McConneyhead, Jaden, Jordan, Joel, Noah, Nathan and Moriah Hills; a spiritual daughter, Quatera Thomas and a host of family and friends that will miss her dearly.

# Order of Service

Musical Interlude

Processional

Presider.....Apostle Sharen Butler-Butler

Opening Prayer.....Pastor Michael McClain

Old Testament Scripture.....Pastor Dawn J. Dennis

New Testament Scripture.....Asst. Pastor Juliann L. Kinney

Prayer of Comfort.....Pastor Sa'mira Muse-Slappy

Solo Selection.....Pastor Alicia Cooper

Reflections/Tributes (2 mins.).....Friends and Family

Solo Selection.....Guest

Obituary Reading.....Minister Athena Davis-Shaw

Prayer of Thanksgiving.....Asst. Pastor Katrina Hill

Solo Selection.....Pastor Alicia Cooper

Eulogy.....Pastor Ma'mi Carr

Final Viewing

Recessional

\*The repast will be held directly after  
the service in the church dining area.

*Interment*  
Evergreen Cemetery  
Hillside, New Jersey

# *If You Could See Me Now*

If you could see me now, you wouldn't shed a tear  
Though you may not understand why I'm no longer here  
Remember my spirit, that's the real me.  
I'm still very much alive, oh, if you could only see!  
I've beheld our Father's face. I've touched my Savior's hand.  
The angels all rejoiced as I entered the Promised Land.  
Beyond the gates of pearl, I walk on golden streets.  
I've touched the walls of jasper, dipped my foot in the crystal sea.  
The beauty is beyond words, nothing can compare.  
I've even seen your mansion; someday I will meet you there.  
Allow Jesus to be your guide, His word will show you the way.  
So, please, don't cry! We will meet again someday!

Patsy Stambaugh Deskins

## *Acknowledgement*

*The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, kindness and support shown to them during their hour of bereavement. May God continue to bless each of you. Special thanks to the awesome staff of Cottons Funeral Home, who because of their caring and empathetic presentation, made a very difficult task bearable.*

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### Professional Services Provided By

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

1025 Bergen Street  
Newark, NJ  
973-926-6400

**COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME**  
57 Clinton Avenue  
Jersey City, NJ  
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