

A portrait of a Black woman with her hair pulled back, wearing a white short-sleeved shirt. She is looking slightly to the side with a gentle smile. The background of the entire image is a vibrant, flowing fabric in shades of pink and purple, with a large bouquet of pink and white roses at the bottom.

# *Celebrating the Life of* *Debra Matthews*

**May 5, 1957**

**February 15, 2024**

*Celebration of Life*  
*Thursday, February 29, 2024- 3:00pm*

**T. Carrillo Funeral Service LLC**  
4363 Bronx Blvd  
Bronx, New York 10466

# Obituary

Debra Ann Matthews, born in the Bronx, NY in 1957, was a beloved woman who left a lasting impression on all who knew her. As the oldest of five siblings, Debra never married but shared a special bond with Keith Hanely and their daughter, Paulette Hanely.

Growing up, Debra attended high school in Charleston, South Carolina, where she graduated with honors in 1973 from Fort Johnson High School. Her wisdom and intelligence shone brightly even in her youth, setting her apart as a remarkable individual.

Known affectionately as 'Little Debbie,' Debra was not only a caring sister and mother but also a nurturing grandmother to her grandson, Christopher also known as her "Stinka". She took immense pride in shaping Christopher's childhood and supporting her daughter, Paulette, as she pursued her dreams of becoming a nurse. In fact, she used to love letting everyone know how she taught her grandson how to ride a bike at the age of 3 years old. Her words exactly "I taught Chris how to ride a bike with no training wheels at the age of 3 years old. Man, it was impressive... nobody grandkids was riding their bike at 3 years old but my grandbaby was."

Despite her passing on February 14th, Debra's legacy lives on in the hearts of those she touched. Her kind, compassionate spirit and unwavering support continue to impact the lives of many, leaving behind a beacon of love and warmth that will never fade. Our deepest sympathies go out to her family and friends during this difficult time.

Debra leaves to mourn her one and only daughter Paulette Hanely, her grandson Christopher Scott, great-grandson Jelani Scott, her only sister Kim Matthews, her three brothers Herbert Matthews, Terry Matthews, and David Matthews, and a army of relatives of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and beautiful friends. Though she is no longer with us, Debra's love will always be cherished and remembered by those whose lives she touched.

**" Well Baby, Everything Is Gonna Be Alright "**

# Order of Service

Opening Prayer

Scripture Reading:

Old Testament

New Testament

Selection

Obituary

Reflections

Selection

Eulogy

Committal

Benediction

Final Viewing

As Directed By T. Carrillo Funeral Service

Recessional

**CREMATION**

Woodlawn Crematory  
Bronx, New York

# *John 14:2*

*In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.*



## *Acknowledgment*

The family wishes to thank all of you for your prayers, messages of comfort and the many other acts of kindness shown during our hour of bereavement. May God continue to bless you in a very special way.



*T. Carrillo*  
FUNERAL SERVICE, LLC

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