

Homegoing Celebration for
Deborah Patrice Franklin

December 17, 1957
Sunrise

April 14, 2015
Sunset



Tuesday, April 21, 2015
Viewing: 9 a.m. | Service: 11 a.m.

New Image Community Baptist Church
1839 Alabama Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20020

Pastor Donald M. Garner

Obituary



Deborah Patrice Franklin was called home to be with God, on Tuesday, April 14, 2015. She departed this life suddenly, as she attended a meeting with her husband, Donald C. Franklin, and colleagues. Deborah was born on December 17, 1957, to the late Cerzell Nelson and the late James Turner, in Washington, DC. Deborah ("Suzie, to her husband, family, and life long friends) and Donald were together for 37 years and were united in holy matrimony on February 21, 1986. She was the mother of two beautiful children, Darice C. Franklin, born in 1986, and Derron C. Franklin, born in 1992.

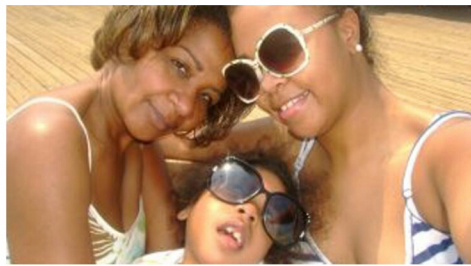
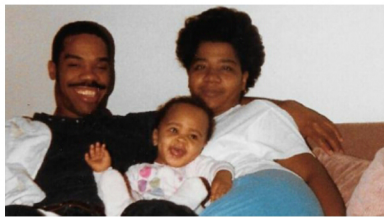
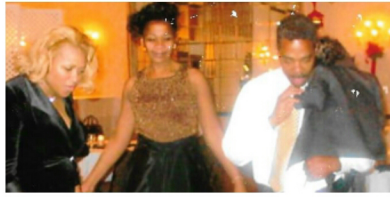
Deborah attended Turner Elementary, Johnson Middle, and Anacostia High School, where she graduated in 1977. She then attended the University of the District of Columbia and studied to become a Nurse, which led her to her eventual career as a Health Practitioner and licensed Phlebotomist. She worked at several hospitals throughout the Washington Metropolitan area, such as Fairfax and Sibley Hospitals and the American Red Cross. Her most recent employment was with St. John's Community Services, where she worked as a Direct Support Specialist caring for adults with special needs. This was a continuation of what Deborah had done in her private life, as the personal care giver for her son Derron, a child born with Cerebral Palsy. Her commitment and dedication to her son and those persons with special needs was her passion.

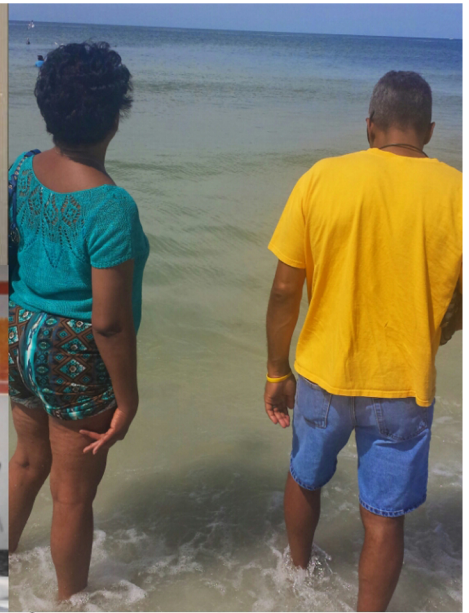
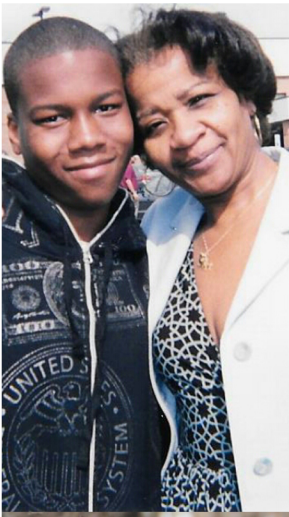
Outside of work, her enjoyment was dancing - praise, line, and hand dancing. She was an enthusiastic patron of the Arts. She loved to attend plays at Arena Stage, where she always knew how to obtain first class seats at discount prices. She loved ballet, especially anything that featured Misty Copeland, soloist with the American Ballet Theater. She had a love and a passion for riding horses. Deborah loved Gospel music. She also loved Country music, to the amusement of her family and friends.

Deborah joined New Image Community Baptist Church in 1971, and accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior. As she grew in the Church, her understanding of the bible, and her love for Christ strengthened her. The values learned from home and church were the twin pillars of her life, enabling her to grow from childhood to adulthood with values that would sustain and guide her through every adversity. She loved to sing and joined various choirs, women's praise dance teams, Secret Sisters, and a committee member of the 50th Anniversary Celebration at New Image. She was also a praise dancer in various ministries, in and outside of her church.

Deborah had a special knack for connecting with people. She accepted people just as they were and loved them for that. She had the ability to motivate, inspire, and give love while teaching others how to show love. She taught her family and friends the importance of prayer, forgiveness, patience and understanding. She was a woman of great faith, who fasted and prayed for any situation or person in need.

Deborah was the youngest of eleven siblings. Gone on before her are her parents, Cerzell Nelson and James Turner, and also her beloved son, Derron C. Franklin. She leaves behind to cherish her wonderful memories, her loving and devoted husband, Donald C. Franklin; her one and only daughter, Darice C. Franklin, her sisters, Joyce Butler, Rev. Theresa Brown (Morris), and Lolita Green (Charles); brother, Lamont Nelson, Sr. (Cassandra) and a host of nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, god-children and friends.





Order of Celebration

Elder Harvey E. Reedy, Presiding

Opening Hymn

New Image Community Baptist Church Choir

Scripture Readings

Jim Coltharp

Falls Church Anglican Church

Old Testament-Psalm 23

New Testament- Philippians 4:4-9

Prayer of Comfort

Bishop William A. Brown,
Metropolitan Outreach Ministry
Fort Washington, MD

Musical Selection

Cherea Rice, Sheikel Boggs, and David Hammett

Acknowledgements

Danielle Owens

Expressions of Love-(2 minutes)

Cheryl Iverson

Lolita Green

Peggy Joe Watson

Darice C. Franklin

Musical Selection

Jodi Albright

Lee Memorial AME Church

Obituary : *Read Silently*

Special Tribute to Deborah Franklin

Helping Hands Community Dance Ministry

Musical Selection

New Image Community Baptist Church Choir

Eulogy

Pastor Donald M. Garner,
New Image Community Baptist Church

Benediction / Recessional

Interment

Fort Lincoln Cemetery, Brentwood, MD

Blowing Kisses To My Angel

*God blessed me with a Mother
who was patient, kind, and true;
no other friend in all the world,
will ever be quite like you.
For all your loving kindness, and selfless sacrifices day-by-day
with gratitude and love especially today...
I'm blowing kisses to Heaven
to my sweet angel and the woman I adore.
No daughter in this whole wide world
could love her mother more.
I am so blessed and so thankful
that God gave this precious Mother to me.
As I look upon her picture,
sweet memories I recall,
of a face so full of sunshine,
and a smile for one and all.
Now she is at peace in paradise
with her father up above...
So every time I think of her or feel her presence near,
I'll blow kisses to Heaven
to my mother, my friend, my angel...
Well done God's good and faithful servant.
I will miss you and love you forever and always*

-Darice

Pall Bearers

Jarell Campbell
Derek Osborne
Alfred Belton, Jr.

Dariush Rice
Robert Jackson
James Taylor, II

Floral Bearers
Family & Friends

Acknowledgements

The family of the late Deborah P. Franklin wishes to express their sincerest thanks and appreciation to everyone for their acts of kindness, support and prayers demonstrated during our time of bereavement.

Special Thanks:

To Laretta and Keith Miles, words cannot express our gratitude for being here for our family in our time of need. To Gus Randolph, thank you for your dedication and timely help when we needed you most.

Repast Will Immediately Follow The Interment at New Image Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

Services Entrusted to:

McGuire Funeral Services, Inc., Washington, DC