

As I sit in Heaven

As I sit in heaven
And watch you everyday,
I try to let you know with signs
I never went away.
I hear you when you're laughing,
And watch you as you sleep.
I even place my arms around you
To calm you as you weep.
I see you wish the days away,
Begging to heave me home.
So I try to send you signs
So you know you are not alone.
Don't feel guilty that you have
Life that was denied to me.
Heaven is truly beautiful,
Just you wait and see.
So live you life, laugh again,
Enjoy yourself, be free.
Then I know with
Every breath you take
You'll be taking one for me.



Davis Funeral Home
89 Walnut Avenue, Roxbury
654 Cummins Highway, Mattapan
617 427-0828 617 296-1755

A Celebration of the Life of

Shirley J. DeLoach

May 20, 1959 ~ November 07, 2023



MEMORIAL SERVICE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2023 at 11 AM

DAVIS FUNERAL HOME

89 Walnut Ave., Roxbury, MA 02119

Pastor Alicia Johnson, Officiating

Life Reflections

Shirley Inell DeLoach, was born in Boston on May 20, 1959, to the late Shirley Houston and Columbus DeLoach Jr. She was also predeceased by her devoted stepfather, Irving Houston and stepsister, April. She will be remembered and cherished forever by her loving sons Albert Ragster (Maura) and Tyler DeLoach and her grandchildren Kaela, Brian, Ariyah, Victoria, Ava, and Mason. She passed away peacefully on November 7, 2023, after a brave bout with cancer.

Irving and Shirley Houston raised Shirley in Newton, Massachusetts where she attended and graduated from Newton Country Day School of the Sacred Heart. As a child and adolescent, she enjoyed field hockey, painting and riding her bike with her family and friends. In elementary school, her cousin, Lauren, moved in with her family and the two grew up like sisters creating a lifelong bond.

Shirley spent over thirty years employed at Harvard Vanguard and Massachusetts General Hospital. She enjoyed her work, which gave her plenty of opportunities to be of service. She had a charitable and giving spirit and she often helped the homeless in Boston by giving them food and warm clothes.

Shirley had a kind soul. She was a woman of grace and beauty. Her laugh was both beautiful and contagious. She was a devoted daughter who spent many years taking care of her parents until their passing. Not only was she selfless but also smart, witty, and resilient. Even after her bleak diagnosis she lived life to its fullest attending her grandchildren's games, taking trips to the beach, and visiting with family and friends. She enjoyed shopping for her grandchildren, cooking, music and watching old shows. She spent a lot of her time with Tyler's father, Tommy, doing her favorite activities.

Shirley adored her sons. She showed them what it means to love unconditionally and how to manage life's challenges. Her spirit will live on through her children and grandchildren.

Those left with special memories include, Brother Donald Hatton, Stepsister Sharon Houston, Aunts Lois Jones (Robert), Antoinette Leoney, Karen Dade, Trudy Lowery (Jimmy), Uncles Lynwood McLean (Colleen), Raymond McLean and a host of loving cousins.

Order of Service



Procession

Invocation

Rev. Alicia Johnson

Scripture Readings

Old Testament:
Psalm 23

Lauren A. McLean-Britt
Cousin

New Testament:
John 14:1-6

Norman E. Britt III
Cousin

Prayer of Comfort

Min. Nancy Kelton Traylor

Musical Selection

"I'll Fly Away"

Darlene Wynn

Reflections

Albert Ragster Son
Tyler DeLoach Son
Lois Jones Aunt

Poem

Brian Ragster
Grandson

Poem

Kaela Goldstein Ragster
Granddaughter

Obituary Reading

Albert Ragster
Son

Musical Selection

"Going Up Yonder"

Darlene Wynn

Eulogy

Rev. Alicia Johnson

Closing Prayer

Rev. Alicia Johnson