Knights of Honor

Fred Dampeer
Demetrius Dampier
Siere Jones-Willis
Antonie Willis
Carl Willis
Darryl "DJ" Willis, Jr.
DaShawn Willis
Jose Willis

Honorary Knights of Honor

Gregory " Uncle Buck" Dampeer
Howard Dampeer
Wilmon "Kitty" Dampeer
Mike Gardner
Don McCullum
Andrea Sterling
Bruce Willis
Dante Willis
David Willis

Acknowledgement

The family of Harriet Lorraine Willis would like to gratefully thank everyone for the prayers, calls, texts, visits, words of comfort, many acts of kindness, and most of all the LOVE, during our time of bereavement. When it seemed that our loss was too great to bear, we thank God that our family and friends have been near,

With heartfelt appreciation,
The Willis and Dampeer Family

Service
August 20, 2024
Visitation - 10 AM
Service - 11 AM
Holy Redeemer Institutional
Church of God in Christ
3500 West Mother Daniels Way
Milwaukee, WI 53209

Reception
1 to 4 PM
Women's Club of Wisconsin
813 East Kilbourn Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Interment
August 24, 20024 -11 AM
Greater Dry Ridge M.B.
Church Cemetery
110 Mount Zion Road
Mendenhall, MS 39114

Reception to Follow

Professional Services Entrusted to
Reid's New Golden
Gate Funeral Home
5665 North Teutonia Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53209
reidsgoldengate.com

Obituary Designed by Erica Tate

FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

CELEBRATE

The life & Legacy

FOREVER
IN OUR
HEARTS



HEAVENS
NEWEST
STAR

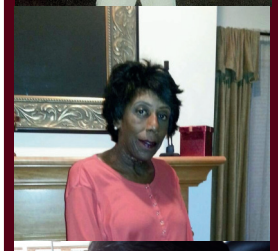
Harriet Lorraine
WILLIS

JULY 29. 1954 - AUGUST 10. 2024













Remembering *Lorraine*

Harriet Lorraine Willis was born on Thursday, July 29, 1954, in Chicago, Illinois, to Minnie Lee (Dampeer, Willis) Eames and Mike Willis. She was named after her aunt, Harriet Dampeer who passed away in 1949 at the age of 17 in Mendenhall, MS. As the eldest of her mother's eight children, and her father's eight + children, she was a guiding presence from the start.

Lorraine was raised in the household of her mother who was a hardworking, dedicated and entrepreneurial woman. When her mother headed off to work she would instruct her kids "Lorraine is in charge when I'm not at home and if you don't do what you're told, you have to deal with me." Her brother David - who shares the same birthday - one year apart - referred to her as the Head Chief and Bottle washer!

Around the age of nine, she was diagnosed with eczema - a skin condition she would live with for the rest of her life. As a child, her grandmother would put socks over her hands at night to keep her from scratching, as she would often wake up with blood soaked sheets.

Lorraine began her educational journey at Gregory Elementary School, later graduating from John Marshall High School both located in Chicago, IL. She pursued higher education at Mary Holmes College in Mississippi.

Throughout her life, Lorraine embraced various roles, working in restaurants, daycares, bartending, and serving as a reservation clerk for a transportation service. Her diverse experiences shaped her into a dynamic and compassionate individual.

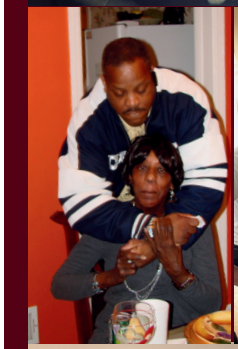
In 1980 her brother Darryl was killed in a vehicle accident which prompted her to relocate from Chicago to Milwaukee. In Milwaukee she joined several of her siblings and together they raised their children, watched her brother Kevin excel in baseball, traveled back and forth to Mississippi and always hosting get togethers at her house where people would rave over her dishes. She could take whatever












































was in the fridge/freezer and make gourmet meals. She could feed a village with what most folks would struggle to feed a household of 5.

She experienced a brain aneurysm in her early forty's that would significantly change her life. She worked hard to re-learn the basics, speaking, walking, etc. Her daughter La Toya, left the Army and moved back home to become her caregiver and to help raise her siblings which included a cousin/brother Jose and alongside her aunts and uncles - loved and prayed Lorraine to recovery.

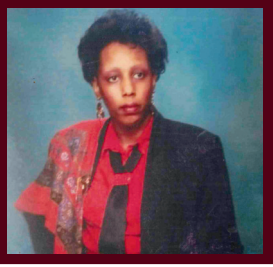
After she recovered from the aneurysm, her skin condition continued to worsen. While battling other life issues and later in life was diagnosed with Congestive Heart Failure. As her health declined in her later years, her granddaughter Amara (Molly) lovingly took on the role of head caregiver.

Lorraine departed this life on Saturday, August 10, 2024, surrounded by her loving family. She was a devoted daughter, sister, mother, and grandmother, known for her nurturing nature, which included helping her mother raise her siblings with a blend of discipline and affection. Her home was a place of warmth and joy, where she delighted in entertaining guests with her famous dishes.

Lorraine's legacy of love and dedication lives on through her family and friends. Her final words include Molly saying "this is so sad" and Lorraine responding "sad for yall." Her final words: "I LOVE ALL OF YALL" she closed her eyes and transitioned.

She is preceded in death by her mother, Minnie Eames; father, Mike Willis; stepmother, Emma "Big Mama" Willis; daughter, Sandra Willis; great-granddaughter, Kalani Beamon; and brothers Kelvin Willis, Thomas Willis, Darryl Willis, and Anthony Gardner.

·Lorraine is survived by her children, La Toya Sykes and Carl Willis; her grandchildren, Amara Willis, Brianna Willis, Carl Willis Jr., Kiara Willis, Lacara Willis, Lemesha Graceson, and Jeremiah Harris; her great-grandchild, Deshawn Kimbrough Jr.; and her siblings, Bertha Hartwell, Betty Miles, Bruce (Phyllis) Willis, David (Diane) Willis, Gloria Gardner, Jeanette Gardner, Linda Satterfield, Luvette Provine, Mike Gardner, Walter (Regina) Gardner, and Willie Gardner.


Order of Service

Officiating Pastor .....Pastor John Daniels III
Old Mount Zion New Jerusalem
Milwaukee, WI

Prayer & Script.....District Missionary Erickajoy Daniels

Musical Selection.....

Obituary Reading.....Michelle Bryant

Acknowledgements.....LaKeshia Myers

Remarks.....Family & Friends

Tribute to Mother.....La Toya Sykes

Eulogy.....Pastor Phil Hanyard
Hampton Avenue Church of Christ
Milwaukee, WI

Recessional.....Funeral Directors of Reid's New
Golden Gate Funeral Home







Remembering *Lorraine*

You've become a part of my daily routine. You were so strong. I'm still in disbelief that your gone. You taught me so much and always been the best grandmother anyone could ask for. Life without you will never be the same. I will never forget our long talks and outings. I love you always and forever. – Molly





My oldest sibling, my dearest sis, Lorraine. I have known you for 66 years. You have been my second "Mom". You have helped raise me, molded me, and been a big inspiration to me. I remember you once told me "Linda you don't know everything", she was right, I am still learning. Miss you Lolo.
– Love your little sis, Linda

Auntie Lorraine, my true ride or die!
Love you Tee Tee
– Jose





To my best friend that taught me everything, I know you're not here physically but you will always be with us in spirit we love and miss you Nannie. - Keke



He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away. - 1 Revelation 21:4

Love you *Mama*





You are simply the best. You birthed three children, added on a bonus son Jose' and daughter Annette and raised a village. You have fought a courageous fight and have earned your wings. Rest well momma. Tell Sandra we miss her very much.
-Carl & La Toya









The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want; he makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters; He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I 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 my enemies; Thou anointest my head with oil, my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever. - Psalm 23































