

Pieces of MOMMY'S World

Every word, a memory. Every memory, a piece of her.

INSTRUCTIONS: Find and circle all 25 words.
Words can go in any direction.

W	G	E	E	I	R	I	I	J	M	I	P	T	H	E	L	K	E	B	S
E	Y	T	M	S	S	A	V	S	I	O	N	S	C	N	C	K	R	A	K
G	V	I	P	G	T	O	D	G	I	A	B	U	C	U	E	A	I	E	N
E	E	V	O	O	A	A	O	E	C	N	B	A	D	L	D	U	E	O	E
U	R	M	E	E	C	D	G	B	D	E	B	G	L	F	A	P	Q	P	L
U	S	D	T	E	S	N	E	D	E	B	R	K	O	E	G	N	S	L	S
T	D	R	T	G	A	H	E	T	U	G	E	R	D	O	M	E	A	N	V
Z	E	T	O	O	C	U	A	K	N	L	D	A	D	I	I	X	X	I	M
T	F	T	I	A	B	L	R	I	L	E	R	F	U	L	G	G	R	E	P
N	I	K	C	E	O	E	L	N	S	T	I	G	F	T	A	G	L	D	D
T	D	E	F	C	W	B	H	H	E	R	V	R	U	V	I	O	N	T	O
W	Y	B	O	E	G	A	I	H	S	E	E	S	O	N	D	F	E	A	T
J	H	H	I	N	N	O	N	T	D	T	R	G	I	Y	J	E	U	B	F
T	C	M	I	N	N	S	H	F	T	I	I	A	W	S	L	O	E	L	B
A	T	L	F	E	L	G	D	U	T	H	N	I	C	Q	Y	I	O	S	E
S	B	E	A	U	I	E	B	A	I	W	N	O	Y	Y	I	B	M	I	E
U	D	E	C	L	A	I	L	O	L	S	D	S	M	T	A	I	A	A	D
R	X	N	R	G	T	W	K	O	T	R	O	M	E	M	T	D	V	B	F
E	I	U	W	D	S	L	A	A	E	H	O	I	A	H	F	L	E	G	O
C	O	P	N	E	I	I	R	Q	A	M	I	M	D	D	E	E	Z	L	R

1. MELODY
2. WINSTAR
3. DUCK
4. BUTTERFLIES
5. GOD'S GOT IT
6. BLING BLING
7. DESHION
8. CHOCOLATE
9. KELL KELL
10. BABY SIS
11. MAMA B
12. MOMMY
13. WHITE
14. BRADFORD
15. SMITH
16. VIRGINIA
17. FAMILY ORIENTED
18. CACHE
19. OUR LIGHT
20. PEACE
21. KEEP GOD FIRST
22. MELA
23. DAYCARE
24. RED RIVER INN
25. BEAUTIFUL

A SWEET SYMPHONY LIVES ON

Melody
DESHION
Bradford-White

FIRST BREATH

April 17, 1970

FINAL CADENCE

August 29, 2026

A life that sang love.

A *heart that gave much.*

A song that will never fade.

CHURCH OF THE LIVING GOD

C.W.F.F. TEMPLE #219
FREDERICK, OKLAHOMA

SERVICE

SEPTEMBER 18, 2026
11:00 A.M. CST

Her Harmony

WILL ECHO IN OUR HEARTS FOREVER.

A Sweet The Life of

A Life Told in Notes, Verses,

1970 — THE FIRST NOTE

On April 17, 1970, **Melody Deshion Bradford-White** was born in Altus, Oklahoma, to **Virginia Buckner** and **Jerry Bradford**. She would later be adopted and lovingly raised by her daddy, **Gary Smith**.

The baby girl among one sister and four brothers, **Melody** grew up surrounded by family. Her faith began early at Church of the Living God, C.W.F.F. Temple #219, where she grew up and was baptized.

1988 — FINDING HER RHYTHM

Melody graduated from Altus High School in 1988. During that time, she was already working alongside her mother at her mother's home daycare, caring for children and developing the nurturing spirit that would become such an important part of her life. Those years helped shape something that would become a lasting part of **Melody's** life—the way she cared for children, made room for them, and loved them as though there was always space for one more.

1991 — HER GREATEST VERSE

On November 8, 1991, **Melody** welcomed her one and only child, **Latisha**, lovingly known as “Chocolate Mama.”

But **Melody's** mothering heart never stopped with the child she gave birth to. She helped raise her nephew **Garrison Jones** for 21 years and poured that same nurturing spirit into countless others.

Among them were the children who came through her daycare and young people who became family, including **Latisha's** best friends **Francis “Fran Fran” Hudson**, **Savoya Bell**, and **Ashantai Mack**, as well as her goddaughter **Brooklinn Trevino**.

Itiya Knight shared a special bond with **Melody**, growing to love and regard her as a second mother. Through heartfelt talks, time spent together, and a relationship uniquely their own, their connection grew far beyond friendship or the workplace.

The bond that **Melody** shared with **Cousin Tammerler** was one of deep love and mutual respect. They continued to show up, love on, and be there for one another through the many seasons of life.

1994 — LOVE JOINS THE SONG

In 1994, **Melody** met the man who would become her husband and companion through 31 years of life together. That man is **Charles White Jr.** Together, they experienced the things that make up a real life—not simply the milestones worthy of photographs, but ordinary mornings, changing seasons, growing families, celebrations, hardships, laughter, and all the days in between.

2000 — A PLACE OF HER OWN

In 2000, **Melody** started her own home daycare, where her daughter, nieces, and nephews affectionately named it **Mella Yella Youngas Daycare Center**—and yes, there is a theme song. LOL. Turning years of caring for children into a place of her own, she continued operating her daycare until 2015.

2015 — A NEW RHYTHM

In 2015, **Melody** began working at Air Force Base Lodging — Red River Inn on Altus Air Force Base. She started as a housekeeper and advanced to housekeeping manager, remaining there until her passing in 2026—nearly 11 years of service.

And even outside of work, **Melody's** hands rarely rested. She did hair and braided on the side. Her hands were always working, creating, cleaning, cooking, tending her plants, fixing, helping, and caring.

Symphony: Melody

and the Beautiful In-Between

THE BEAUTIFUL IN-BETWEEN

Because some of the most important parts of a life don't have a year attached. **Melody** loved word searches and games on her phone. She loved having her nails done and styling her own hair—especially her ponytails. And don't forget the black spray! She couldn't stand for those silver hairs to show. LOL.

She enjoyed trips to the casino, shopping, wearing her special Bulldog Friday shirts at work, decorating her office for the holidays, keeping a clean home, growing and tending her plants, braiding hair, and all the ordinary things that brought her joy.

She treasured time with her daughter and daughter-in-law, family reunions, birthdays, gatherings, and simply being around the people she loved. **Melody** and her girls also made their trips to the cemetery, decorating her mother's resting place for holidays and changing seasons.

Melody loved through food, too—but she never needed an announcement or applause for it. She prepared plates for people she cared about, including the cab company and family her mother had embraced on the west side. Her family often helped carry and deliver those plates.

If **Melody** knew somebody needed to eat, she fed them. That was enough.

Although **Roberta “Grandma” Brady-Lee** and **Robert “Papa” Lee** came into **Melody's** life through **Latisha's** paternal family, the love they shared with **Melody** became a relationship entirely its own. They embraced and loved **Melody** as one of their daughters, and she loved them as family in every way that mattered. Their bond extended far beyond the connection that first brought them together.

FAITH — A SONG SHE CARRIED

Melody's faith was planted at Church of the Living God, C.W.F.F. Temple #219, where she grew up and was baptized, and it remained a foundation throughout her life. Later, she became an active member of **Spirit of the Lord Equipping Center**, where she sang in the choir.

She didn't need to stand in the center for her presence to be felt. Her voice joined others, and she never needed the world to look at what she was doing. She simply showed up and added something beautiful.

2026 — LIVING EVERY NOTE

During her final year, **Melody** was living, loving, and showing up. She traveled where love called her—family reunions, birthdays, gatherings, time with her daughter and daughter-in-law, laughing, celebrating, and visiting.

And perhaps, in one of her final acts as the extraordinary mother she had always been, **Melody** prepared her baby girl for a moment no daughter could ever truly be ready for. There had been signs along the way—quiet moments that did not make complete sense then, but could not be ignored.

Mother and daughter had spent a lifetime caring for one another, paying attention to one another, and loving one another deeply. So when the time came, as unbearable as the pain was, there was also an understanding: **Melody** was at peace. She was ready to take her rest.

On August 29, 2026, at the age of 56, **Melody** reached her Final Cadence.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ✦ Too many children loved. | ✦ Too many songs sung. |
| ✦ Too many plates carried. | ✦ Too many people cared for. |
| ✦ Too many strands braided. | ✦ Too many lives touched quietly. |
| ✦ Too many plants tended. | ✦ And far too much love left behind. |
| ✦ Too many rooms cleaned. | |

THE HARMONY SHE LEAVES BEHIND

Melody's harmony continues through her beloved baby girl **Latisha “Chocolate Mama” Bradford** and daughter-in-law **Kellye Gipson**; her brothers **Billy Bradford**, **Jerry Bradford**, **James Bradford** and wife **Star Bradford**, and **Gary Smith**; and her sister **Waria Bond**.

Her family extends through more than 20 nieces and nephews, just as many great-nieces and great-nephews, and an extended family far too large to name individually but never too large to hold a place in her life.

She also leaves behind treasured friendships, including **Cordia**, **Dana**, **Kathy**, **Wanda**, **Joyce**, **Lois “LoLo,” Lisa “LiLi,”** and **Mr. Collins**. Some walked beside her until her Final Cadence. Others became memories she carried with her along the way. But each held a place within **Melody's** story. And there are countless others. Only in her absence has the full reach of **Melody's** presence begun revealing itself—in the stories being told, the memories being shared, and the love pouring from a grieving community. It is a sadly beautiful discovery of just how far her light reached.

Melody never needed the world to know every good thing she did. Now, the lives she touched are telling the story for her.

THE FINAL MOVEMENT

1. THE PRELUDE — PROCESSIONAL

Spiritual Leaders • Funeral Directors • The Family She Made

2. A SONG OF CELEBRATION — MUSICAL SELECTION

Church of the Living God Choir

3. WORDS OF FAITH — SCRIPTURE READING

(Old and New Testament)

Apostle Robert Jackson

4. PRAYER OF COMFORT

Apostle Robert Jackson

5. BETWEEN MOMMY & ME

Latisha “Chocolate Mama” Bradford

6. A SONG FOR MELODY — SOLO

Bridgett Gildon

7. EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE — RESOLUTIONS

Diane Tatum

8. NOTES FROM THE HEART — REMARKS

1. Waria Bond
2. Tammerler Harris-Campbell
3. Charles White Jr.
4. Mr. Robert Collins
5. Savoya Bell
6. Francis Hudson
7. Roberta “Grandma” Brady-Lee

9. A MELODY OF REMEMBRANCE — MUSICAL SELECTION

Church of the Living God Choir

10. HER LIFE, HER LEGACY — EULOGY

Elder Michael Green

11. A SYMPHONY OF MEMORIES

Video Tribute

12. UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN

Parting View

13. THE FINAL CADENCE — RECESSIONAL

Spiritual Leaders • Funeral Directors • The Family She Made

WITH HEARTS Full of Gratitude

CARRYING HER WITH LOVE — PALLBEARERS —

Garrionn Jones • Donald Duke Jr.
Donald Duke • Robert Collins
Carl “White Boy” Nichols
Clarence “Lil’ Man” West

CARRYING HER IN SPIRIT — HONORARY PALLBEARERS —

Charles White Jr. • Billy “Red” Bradford
Jerry Bradford • Robert “Papa” Lee
Michael “Cippi” Cipriano
Clarence “Uncle” Williams

HER GARDEN OF LOVE — FLOWER BEARERS —

Francis Hudson • Ashantai Mack • Savoya Bell
Kathy Duke • Jade Duke • Lisa “LiLi” Scott
Tamia “MiMi” Neal

HER GARDEN IN SPIRIT — HONORARY FLOWER BEARERS —

Tammerler Harris-Campbell • Mae Jackson
Itiya Knight • Wanda • Lois “LoLo” Jones
Roberta “Grandma” Brady-Lee
Kathryn “Molly” Cipriano • Carita

HER PLACE OF REST

Altus Cemetery
1900 N. Main St.
Altus, Oklahoma 73521

GATHERED IN LOVE

Spirit of the Lord Equipping Center
1120 W. Wingfield St.
Altus, Oklahoma 73522

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The family would like to thank the following for their love, support and service:
**Kincannon Funeral Home • AAFB Red River Inn • Church of the Living God •
Spirit of the Lord Equipping Center**
and everyone who sent cards, flowers, food, calls, text messages,
visited, or lifted us in prayer.

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A special expression of gratitude is extended to *Dr. Carol Sherman*
for the extraordinary care, compassion, and accessibility she gave Melody.
Thank you for answering when she needed you, caring for her beyond the walls
of an examination room, and always doing what you could to help.
Our family will forever be grateful for the way you cared for our Melody.

And to Kellye—there are some bonds that do not require explanation because
love has already given them a name. Long before life brought you and Latisha to where
you are today, you were already part of Melody’s world. She has always considered
you her daughter. What grew between the two of you was not something created by
circumstance; it was a bond built over years of love, trust, laughter, care, and simply
doing life together.

Thank you for showing up in the little things and the big things—for the routines
that became traditions, the meals and trips, the laughter and inside jokes, and for caring
for Mama whenever she needed you. And perhaps one of the greatest gifts you gave her
was peace in knowing that the person she treasured most in this world—*her baby*—
was safe, loved, and cared for with you. She trusted you with Latisha, and there may
have been no greater expression of her trust than that.

The relationship you and Mama built was beautiful, genuine, and entirely your own.
Thank you for loving Mama, for caring for her, and for allowing her to love you as
one of her own. What the two of you shared began long before these final years,
and the love you built will remain long after them. You will always be her “*Kell Kell.*”