

In loving memory of



Certulia Brice

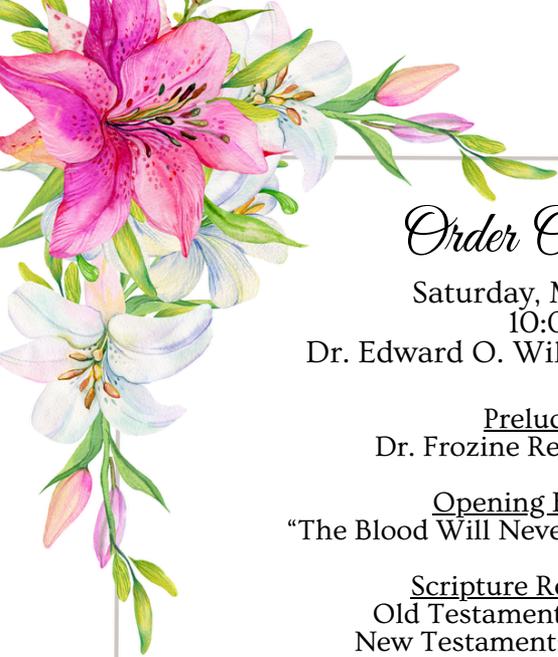
SEPTEMBER 1, 1938 - MAY 3, 2025

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2025

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
1 FISHER COURT
WHITE PLAINS, NY 10601

REV. DR. EDWARD O. WILLIAMSON,
OFFICIATING





Order Of Service

Saturday, May 10, 2025
10:00 am

Dr. Edward O. Williamson, Officiating

Prelude

Dr. Frozine Reece-Smith

Opening Hymn

“The Blood Will Never Lose its Power”

Scripture Readings

Old Testament: Psalm 91

New Testament: John 14:1-8

Prayer of Comfort

Pulpit

Musical Selection

Louis H. Wade French Choir

Acknowledgements

Barbara Andralliski

Reflections

Sparte Odera

Reading of the Obituary

Shani Tromp-Brice & Leonard Tromp

Musical Selection

Dr. Frozine Reece-Smith

Eulogy

Dr. Edward O. Williamson, Pastor

Final Instructions

Lee's Funeral Home Director

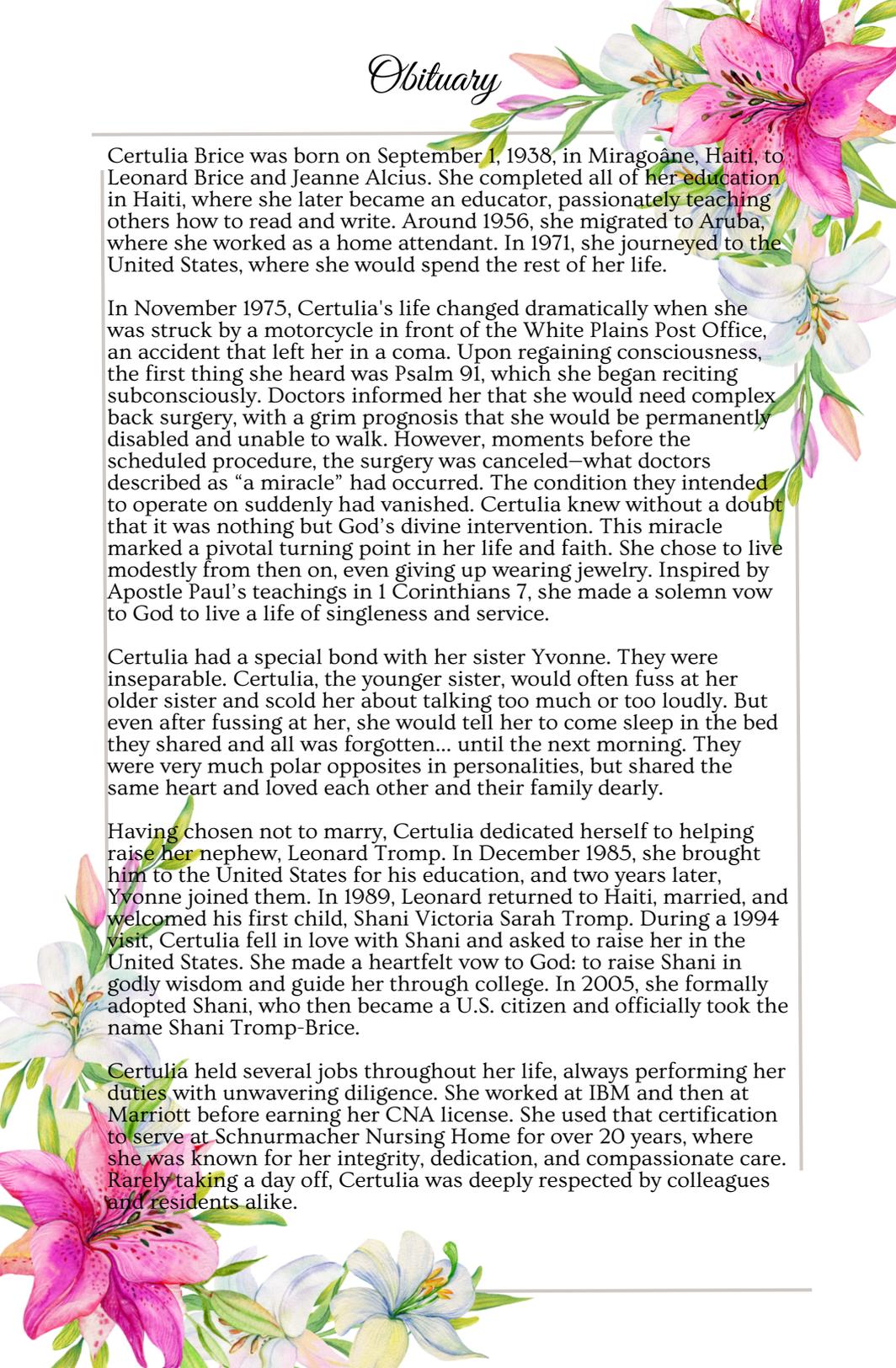
Benediction & Recessional

Interment

White Plains Rural Cemetery
167 North Broadway, White Plains



Obituary



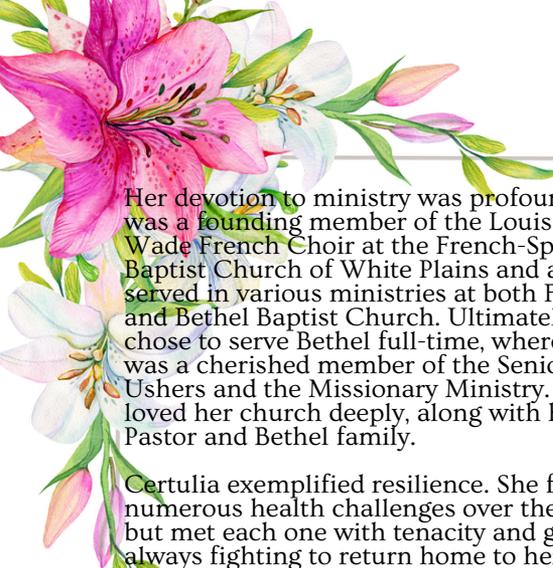
Certulia Brice was born on September 1, 1938, in Miragoâne, Haiti, to Leonard Brice and Jeanne Alcuis. She completed all of her education in Haiti, where she later became an educator, passionately teaching others how to read and write. Around 1956, she migrated to Aruba, where she worked as a home attendant. In 1971, she journeyed to the United States, where she would spend the rest of her life.

In November 1975, Certulia's life changed dramatically when she was struck by a motorcycle in front of the White Plains Post Office, an accident that left her in a coma. Upon regaining consciousness, the first thing she heard was Psalm 91, which she began reciting subconsciously. Doctors informed her that she would need complex back surgery, with a grim prognosis that she would be permanently disabled and unable to walk. However, moments before the scheduled procedure, the surgery was canceled—what doctors described as “a miracle” had occurred. The condition they intended to operate on suddenly had vanished. Certulia knew without a doubt that it was nothing but God’s divine intervention. This miracle marked a pivotal turning point in her life and faith. She chose to live modestly from then on, even giving up wearing jewelry. Inspired by Apostle Paul’s teachings in 1 Corinthians 7, she made a solemn vow to God to live a life of singleness and service.

Certulia had a special bond with her sister Yvonne. They were inseparable. Certulia, the younger sister, would often fuss at her older sister and scold her about talking too much or too loudly. But even after fussing at her, she would tell her to come sleep in the bed they shared and all was forgotten... until the next morning. They were very much polar opposites in personalities, but shared the same heart and loved each other and their family dearly.

Having chosen not to marry, Certulia dedicated herself to helping raise her nephew, Leonard Tromp. In December 1985, she brought him to the United States for his education, and two years later, Yvonne joined them. In 1989, Leonard returned to Haiti, married, and welcomed his first child, Shani Victoria Sarah Tromp. During a 1994 visit, Certulia fell in love with Shani and asked to raise her in the United States. She made a heartfelt vow to God: to raise Shani in godly wisdom and guide her through college. In 2005, she formally adopted Shani, who then became a U.S. citizen and officially took the name Shani Tromp-Brice.

Certulia held several jobs throughout her life, always performing her duties with unwavering diligence. She worked at IBM and then at Marriott before earning her CNA license. She used that certification to serve at Schnurmacher Nursing Home for over 20 years, where she was known for her integrity, dedication, and compassionate care. Rarely taking a day off, Certulia was deeply respected by colleagues and residents alike.



Her devotion to ministry was profound. She was a founding member of the Louis H. Wade French Choir at the French-Speaking Baptist Church of White Plains and actively served in various ministries at both FSBC and Bethel Baptist Church. Ultimately, she chose to serve Bethel full-time, where she was a cherished member of the Senior Ushers and the Missionary Ministry. She loved her church deeply, along with her Pastor and Bethel family.

Certulia exemplified resilience. She faced numerous health challenges over the years but met each one with tenacity and grace, always fighting to return home to her beloved sister and daughter. Despite her physical struggles, she remained a radiant presence and took pride in her role as the matriarch of her family.



On May 3, 2025, God called Certulia home. She fought courageously to the end and transitioned peacefully, with her daughter Shani holding her hand as one of her favorite hymns, Love Lifted Me, played softly.

Certulia is predeceased by her parents, Leonard Brice and Jeanne Alcius and her sisters, Anita and Charila Brice. She is survived by her sister, Yvonne Brice (White Plains, NY); her daughter, Shani Tromp-Brice (Manhattan, NY); her nephew and spiritual son, Leonard Tromp (Colombia); and her great-nephews Rasheed Tromp (Miami, FL), Francois Tromp (Colombia), and Jaylan Tromp (Colombia). She also leaves behind a host of cousins, nieces, nephews, 11 godchildren, and many dear friends. She will be deeply and immensely missed.



Professional Services

Lee's Funeral Home
160 Fisher Avenue
White Plains, NY 10606
<https://LeesFuneralHome.com>

