

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Sheila Ortiz

NOVEMBER 9, 1958 - NOVEMBER 18, 2022

Program

SONG 140: LIFE WITHOUT END -AT LAST!

SPECIAL MOMENTS: PICTURE PRESENTATION

OPENING PRAYER: CRAIG LAWSON

MEMORIAL TALK: STEVE ROACH

SONG 124: EVER LOYAL

CLOSING PRAYER: CARL TAYLOR

In Loving memory of our mother, grandmother, sister, and friend Sheila Ortiz, who passed away on November 18, 2022, after her battle with multiple myeloma. During her final days, she was surrounded by those she loved.

Sheila was born in Huntsville, Alabama, on November 9, 1958, to Thomas and Camille Bailey. Shortly after, they moved to Boston, MA where Sheila was raised. Shelia graduated from Newton South High School and later continued a career in Early Childhood Education. She supported the family business as a head teacher at two of Camille's daycare centers. Sheila married Angel Ortiz and then had her only daughter, Chiffawn.

Sheila was a loving, kind, caring, and giving person who always put the needs of her family before her own. She was thoughtful and generous and made sure that her family and friends had what they needed. She was just that person who would be there no questions asked.

Sheila was also hilarious. When you think of Sheila, you think of someone who had such a wonderful sense of humor. I am sure we all have our "Sheila" stories of moments when she made us laugh until we cried. Her laugh was so contagious and bougie at the same time (y'all know)...

She had the perfect balance of being compassionate, down to earth, and a diva at the same time. Who does that – Sheila Ortiz. She was always put together. Whether she was going to the store, visiting a friend or attending a function – you always knew Sheila was going to come out all the way together. There was no other way.

Most important, Sheila loved Jehovah. She was a woman of strong faith. She never missed her conventions or assemblies and was always ready to study with her friends and family for spiritual support. She made Jehovah her way of life and was faithfulright down to the very end. She was able to pass on her spiritual inheritance to her daughter. Sheila and Chiffawn had such an unbreakable bond because they were able to serve Jehovah "shoulder to shoulder".

Her second greatest love, indeed, was her daughter Chiffawn, aka "Fawn". Sheila loved herself some Fawn - with everything she had. She was always there for Chiffawn, listened and loved without judgment and would show up for her without questions asked. She was fiercely protective of her "girl" (ya'll know). She loved Damon and believed in him. Sheila loved her granddaughters, Diamon and Cheyenne and had a way of loving and keeping them in line like they were her daughters. Sheila didn't play. She loved hard and would discipline just the same way - we loved that about her. And her last pride and joy, her boisterous granddaughter Akira. She enjoyed taking care of her when she was still healthy enough to do so. And we cannot leave out Lexi, Sheila's beloved dog who was by her side to the very end.

Sheila was that way with everyone that came into her life. She was always there for us. She adopted those who were her friends, and she chose them as her family. You could meet Sheila for the first time, and she would make you feel like you belonged to her and with her. She took people in – into her heart and into her life and never let go of you. Sheila had such a big heart and she loved spending time with those she loved.

A look into mother and daughter's real conversation a week before Sheila went to sleep in death:

Chiffawn: *"Mom, are you looking forward to building your house in the new world, in paradise?*

Sheila: *"I'm not building no house! I am going to sit on the beach, under my mango tree, and pick and eat mangos!!"*

...translation – someone else would build the house for her. That is the Sheila we know and love.

So fitting is ***Micah 4:4 "They will sit, each one under his vine and under his fig tree, And no one will make them afraid, For the mouth of Jehovah of armies has spoken it."***

We cannot wait to welcome our mother, grandmother, sister and friend back in the new world under her mango tree on the beach. We will miss laughing with you, studying with you, hanging out with you, shopping with you, chatting with you, and sipping some wine with you. We will miss you. But will never stop loving you.

The family would like to thank all of those who supported Sheila, especially during the last week of her life. We thank: Heather, Rachel, Tiara, Natalie, Stephanie, Karrie, Angela, Alana, Roslin, Elizabeth, Roxanne, Maxine, Taunda, Donna, Tracey, Theresa, Marlowe, Charles, Leah and Sarcha. And those who planned to be there for Sheila before she passed, Lisa and others. We thank all of you - some we may have missed but please know we love and appreciate you. Lastly, we thank all of the elders in the Taunton and Brockton Central Congregations – we thank you.

We are so appreciative of our loving family who was able to be present and support, Angel, Damon, Sabrina, Diamon, Nelson, Cheyenne, Phillip, Cameron and Caitlin. And those family members who supported us from a far.

We thank all of you for your calls and cards, your texts and emails. We thank you for supporting us in all the ways you have shown us love before and after her passing.

Agape

Chiffawn & Damon Johnson

Nelson & Diamon Rodriguez ✦ Philip, Cheyenne & Akira Lafond