

*Celebration of Life  
for*



*Trustee Carrie Louise Franklin  
July 3, 1948 - August 23, 2023*

***Services***

*Thursday, September 7, 2023*

*10:00 am - Visitation Hour*

*11:00 am - Homegoing Service*

***Union Baptist Church***

*31 Manhattan Avenue*

*White Plains, NY 10607*

*(914) 948-6439*

*[www.unionbaptistwp.org](http://www.unionbaptistwp.org)*

***Reverend Dr. Verlin D. Williams, Pastor***

***Officiating***



# Order of Service

## **Opening Prayer**

Reverend Dr. Verlin D. Williams

## **Musical Selection**

Hold to His Hand

## **Scripture Reading**

Old Testament - Reverend Cynthia Dorsey

New Testament - Reverend Michele Range Bowman

## **Prayer of Comfort**

Reverend Daphne Swinton

## **Musical Selection**

Because He Lives

## **Reflections**

Reverend Dr. Gregory Walker

Warrensville Road Community Baptist Church

Maple Heights, OH

## **Acknowledgements**

Leslie Wardell

## **Obituary Reading**

Africa Franklin

## **Granddaughters' Tribute**

Jordan, Africa and Vanessa Franklin

## **Remarks**

Kharmyn Williams

## **Musical Selection**

I'll Fly Away

## **Eulogy**

Reverend Dr. Verlin D. Williams

## **Recessional**

## **Obituary**

*Carrie Louise Roberson Franklin was born July 3rd, 1948, in Monroe, Louisiana, to the late Allen Roberson Sr. and Carrie Davis Roberson. She departed this earth August 23rd, 2023, surrounded by family.*

*Carrie's parents raised her in a loving Christian home, and she was baptized at Antioch Baptist Church in Monroe. While in High School, as Carrie sang with her friend's choir, she caught the eye of Jerry Franklin Sr. She would say "he thought he was so cool, but I didn't pay him no mind". Evidently, she did because she went on to marry him! From this union, three children were born: Jerry Jr., Darlene and Kevin.*

*Jerry and Carrie's early years brought them from Louisiana to White Plains, NY. Soon after arriving in NY, Carrie attended Westchester Community College, where she earned her Associate Degree. Carrie had a tenured career at Westchester County Medical Center as an Admissions Supervisor in the main hospital and the psychiatric unit. There, coworkers and patients affectionately referred to her as "the lady with the long nails". For over 35 years, she spent time mentoring and coaching young people – not only in work practices, but in personal matters as well. She would also offer comfort to families and patients, easing their fears by assuring them, "Baby, everything's gon' be alright". She always referred to herself as a nurturer – and that, indeed, was one of her God-given gifts.*

*Carrie joined Union Baptist Church in White Plains in the early 80's and was active in several ministries: Bible Study, Food Service, Missions, WINGS (Women IN God's Service), working with youth, and any other way the Lord led her to serve. Her greatest honor was her longstanding service as a Trustee. She took her responsibility seriously and she diligently worked to honor God by helping manage His tabernacle business.*

*Carrie's service to the Lord extended beyond the walls of Union Baptist. She was an "honorary member" of Warrensville Road Community Baptist Church in Maple Heights, OH. One of her most recent joys was reconnecting with her Carroll High School classmates for their virtual Class of '66 Thursday Night Bible Study group.*

*Carrie's first love was God, and her second love was her family. Carrie raised three children who grew to carry on her legacy of works, community support, and service. She loved her children with her whole heart, but somehow, there was extra for those grand-babies! Jordan Amirah, Africa Salim, and Vanessa Simone took her capacity for love to a new level! One would often hear her say "I thank God for my family... especially those little ones!"*

*Carrie answered to several names: Ma Dukes, Mom, Grandma Carrie, Mama Carrie, Mother Franklin, Miss Carrie, Sam. If you look up the definition of her name, you'll see that it means charity, generosity, strength, courage and independence. Also, those who bear the name have a powerful inner fortitude and an ability to overcome adversity. Whatever name you used, she'd want you, first and foremost, to call her a child of the most high God.*

*Preceding Carrie in death were her parents: Allen Roberson Sr., Carrie Davis Roberson; her son Jerry Franklin Jr.; her siblings: Allen Roberson Jr., Alberta Shephard (nee Roberson), Arlene Bryant (nee Roberson); her husband Jerry Franklin Sr.; and her sister-friend, Geneva Priest.*

*Carrie's life will be honored by: daughter, Darlene Franklin (Maple Heights, OH); son, Kevin Franklin (Decatur, GA); baby sister, Mary Roberson (Kent, WA); Granddaughters, Jordan Franklin (Yonkers, NY), Africa Franklin (Staten Island, NY), and Vanessa Franklin (White Plains, NY); Daughter-in-Love, Aronda Bryant-Franklin (White Plains, NY); goddaughter, Janiece Priest (Greenburgh, NY); sister-friends, Lorraine Canady (Charleston, SC) and Bonnie Riley (White Plains, NY); along with a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, family, spiritual sons & daughters, and friends.*

*Each time Carrie departed from family, she would close with "Be sweet, and I love you". Let us all rejoice with the angels by saying: Rest easy, Mother – job well done. Be sweet, and we love you.*

## ***You Know You Were Raised in Carrie's House If...***

*You're shuttled out the door every day with a hug and: "y'all be sweet and I love you"*

*Everyone else has been picked up from their after school activity and you're still waiting outside*

*Your mom is the one at the sporting event waving a love-filled, homemade banner yelling: "that's my baby"*

*Your mom is the one at the academic awards ceremony taking pictures and whispering to the person next to her: "that's my baby"*

*Every conversation turns into a discussion about Jordan*

*You've been out in public and had your face cleaned with "mama spit"*

*The best times spent are riding in an air conditioned car, simply because it's too hot to sit at home*

*You spent a portion of your summers at Mr. Wooten's corner store in Monroe*

*You get up with plenty of time to get to church to sit anywhere you want, yet there's never enough time to put lotion on your hands and face*

*You grew up knowing you had to be in White Plains by 9:00 when the stores open*

*You take a standardized test and you have to bring along a whole box of #2 pencils*

*You see Carrie's glasses in the bathroom, living room, bedroom and dining room*

*Although the glasses are around, you still need to read the directions to her*

*The name brand of all of your school supplies was "The County of Westchester"*

*You are very familiar with the floral print housedresses*

*You're told "y'all gon' only remember the bad stuff", but when all is said and done, there truly isn't a whole lot of bad stuff to remember.*



# ***You'll Also Know You Were Raised in Carrie's House If You Are Familiar with the Following Phrases ...***

*I thank God for my family ... especially those little ones*

*HEY!!! I'm on the phone!!*

*A-IIGHT!! Y'all don't make me come back there!*

*UMPH, Umph, Umph*

*Somebody find my toes! I must have lost them in these greens!*

*Get Out My Head!*

*Hello Carrie?? Are you there?? It's Lorraine*

*Did Lorraine call?*

*I just asked God to let me see y'all to your 18th Birthdays*

*Y'all bet stop playin' the dozen. Y'all gon' miss me when I'm gone*

*Girl/Boy g'wone way from here!*

*I'm living for Carrie and the Good Lord now*

*They owe it to our forefathers*

*He look like his breath stink*

*If I tell you a mosquito can pull a wagon ... hitch it up!*

*Uh ... Jerry ... Uh ... Kevin ... Uh ... Brother ... - translation- one a y'all*

*Uh ... Mary ... Uh ... Mishonne ... Uh ... Mama ... - translation - (see above)*

*Hit that switch for me - translation - turn the light on / off*

*Put some draw on that doe / windoe- translation- close the door / window*

*I'ont know, Baby. Just pray and ask God to lead and guide you*

## ***A Sister's Love***

*I am very saddened by the loss of my beloved sister. I know that she is with God, and that she is at peace. Nevertheless, this leaves a big hole in my heart and a void in my life that will take time to heal. She was one of my best friends (along with my other sisters), my confidant, my protector, and my big sister. That's a lot of people to lose at one time.*

*Over the years, I have heard the story of when my parents brought me home from the hospital after I was born. Our Mother laid me down so that she could get settled in. When she turned around, Carrie (who was about 4 days shy of her 6th birthday) was holding me. My Mother said, "Oh God! CARRIE LOUISE, PLEASE DON'T DROP MY BABY"!! Carrie said, "I won't hurt her Mama. I LOVE her". And she DID love me. All of my life, she loved, protected, and looked out for me. She never once dropped me.*

*Carrie had a very kind, caring, generous, and loving nature. She had a deep compassion for people, especially for children. When she loved, she loved with her whole heart, loyalty and devotion. If she called you friend, then she truly loved you because she did not use the word lightly. She loved her family with a passion.*

*I am very blessed and honored to have known her my whole life. We had a spiritual bond, as well as a sisterly bond. I was blessed to be able to witness to her on different occasions, and share with her what God had put on my heart to share. She was also able to share things with me that God would put on her heart to reveal to me.*

*I am grateful that I got to spend time with her on her last trip to Seattle. Carrie was my last living sibling, and I will miss her so much. My love for all of my siblings ran deep. I feel selfish at times, because I desperately wanted them to stay, but I knew that they had to leave. They had to go home.*

*I love you so much my dear sister, and I miss you!*

***Mary E. Roberson***







## ***A Mother's Crown***

*Heaven lit up with a mighty presence, as the Angels all looked down.  
Today the Lord was placing the jewels into my mother's crown.  
He held up a golden crown, as my darling mother looked on.  
He said in His gentle voice, 'I will now explain each one.'*

*'The first gem,' He said, 'is a Ruby, and it's for endurance alone,  
for all the nights you waited up for your children to come home.'  
For all the nights by their bedside, you stayed till the fever went down.  
For nursing every little wound, I add this ruby to your crown.'*

*'An emerald, I'll place by the ruby, for leading your child in the right way.  
For teaching them the lessons, that made them who they are today.'  
For always being right there, through all life's important events.  
I give you a sapphire stone, for the time and love you spent.'*

*For untying the strings that held them, when they grew up and left home.  
I give you this one for courage.' Then the Lord added a garnet stone.  
'I'll place a stone of amethyst,' He said. 'For all the times you spent on your knees,  
when you asked if I'd take care of your children, and then for having faith in Me.'*

*I have a pearl for every little sacrifice that you made without them knowing.  
For all the times you went without, to keep them happy, healthy and growing.'  
'And last of all I have a diamond, the greatest one of all,  
for sharing unconditional love whether they were big or small.'*

*It was your love that helped them grow, feeling safe and happy and proud  
A love so strong and pure, it could shift the darkest cloud.'  
After the Lord placed the last jewel in, He said, 'Your crown is now complete,  
You've earned your place in Heaven With your children at your feet.'*

## ***Pallbearers***

*Kevin Franklin - Armond Williams - Lee Jones - Will Comer - Christopher Carter - Joey Burnett*

## ***Acknowledgement of Appreciation***

*The family of Sister Carrie Louise Franklin wishes to express their deep appreciation and sincere thanks  
for your prayers, consoling gestures and thoughts of love. May God bless you always.*

## ***Arrangements Entrusted To:***

*Lee's Funeral Home, LLC  
160 Fisher Avenue, White Plains, NY 10606  
(914)-949-0372  
[www.leesfuneralhome.com](http://www.leesfuneralhome.com)*

## ***Interment***

*White Plains Rural Cemetery, White Plains, NY*