

*Celebration of Life
For*



*Cywendolyn Rance
Willis*

OUR GIFT
August 19, 1955

GOD'S GIFT
February 18, 2022

A close-up photograph of pink cherry blossoms with yellow centers, serving as a decorative header for the text.

Journey of Life

On February 18th, 2022, God called **Gwendolyn Ranee Willis** home, a native Houstonian and long-time resident of Studewood Heights. A few months ago, Gwen had a fall which compromised her mobility and led to her decline. Her failing health resulted in several hospitalizations and eventually an admission to a skilled nursing facility, where she peacefully transpired. Gwen would not want us to be sad, we are here to joyfully celebrate her homegoing today.

Born on August 19th, 1955, to the late George Willis and Arthur Rae Willis, Gwen was reared with Christian teachings. She was baptized at Greater New Hope Baptist Church under the late H.L. Price. But later became a member of Holy Bible Way Baptist Church. She spent her childhood in Studewood Heights and spent many summers down in Wharton, Texas. Gwen attended Houston, ISD schools: Pleasantville Elementary School, McReynolds Middle School, and Phillis Wheatley High School, class of 1973. She enrolled at Texas Southern University (Houston, Texas) in September of 1973. After two years of studies, she went on to work full-time at MD Anderson Cancer Hospital in the Medical Center for 35 years. Gwen loved her job, made many friendships there and built a long-lasting career, from which she retired. If you knew Gwen, you knew her favorite thing was to hit the road and head to the Casino. Gwen loved to play the slot machines!! She and her Casino buddy, Stephen Vann enjoyed going to Coushatta Casino in Louisiana and Naskila Casino in Livingston, Texas.

Though, she never had any siblings, she and her God-sister, Linda Adams were thick as thieves. They were true sisters in every sense of the word. From holding each other's secrets to beating people together at the Spade's table. They were also members of the Bell County Gunslingers Riding Club. They went on many Trail Rides together over the years but more importantly, they helped their club raise money for scholarships to award to students in the Houston and surrounding areas. They did everything together over the years and remained a constant in each other's lives until Gwen took her last breath.

Gwen leaves her cherished son, Michael Ray Willis; in the care of her Godsister, Linda Adams and her husband J.C. Adams. They were instrumental in caring for Gwen in her final months and unselfishly provided for Michael then and now. To cherish her memory are her special cousins, Janath Whitfield, Steve Whitfield, Craig McWashington, Kevin Greene, Kia Greene, Shirley Granger, Crystal Granger and Marva Smith; godsons, Dorian Carter, Lonnie and Robert Brown; other relatives and a host friends and one who were like family.

In Memoriam: Father George Willis and Mother Arthur Rae.

Celebrating Her Spirit

Thursday, 3rd day of March, 2022
Eleven O'clock in the Morning

McCoy and Harrison Funeral Home Chapel
4918 Martin Luther King Blvd. • Houston, Texas 77021
Reverend Tyrone Davis, Officiating

Processional.....Clergy and Family

Scripture Readings:

Old Testament (Ecclesiastes 41:1-13).....Janath Whitfield

New Testament (John 14:1-6).....Candace Joseph

Prayer.....Family and Friends

"The Lord's Prayer (in unison)"

Musical Selection....."I Won't Complain"

Special Remarks.....Linda Adams (*God-sister*)

Expressions.....Family and Friends

(Two Minutes Please)

Song....."Open My Heart"

Reading of the Obituary.....(*Read Silently*)

Message of Comfort.....Rev. Tyrone Davis

Staff Minister at Harvest Point Fellowship Church, Pearland, TX

Funeral Directors in Charge

Recessional.....Ministers and Family

"Going Up Yonder"

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO MY MOTHER

Mama you have been a constant strength in my life. You loved me so, took great care of me, and made sure I never went without. You taught me so many things about getting through my daily life, and I thank you. I will love and miss you forever, Mama.

- Love, Michael Ray -

Active Pallbearers

Steve Whitfield J.C. Adams
Lonnie Brown

Honorary Pallbearers

Michael Willis Stephan Vann
Dorian Carter Robert Brown
Kevin Greene



Our Sincerest Gratitude...

The family of Gwendolyn Ranee Willis acknowledges with sincere appreciation, the many comforting messages, floral tributes and other expressions of kindness evidenced at this time in thought or deed. Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair, perhaps you sent a floral piece, if so, we saw it there. Perhaps you spoke the kindest words that any friend could say, perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts, we thank you so much whatever the part. Your kindness will never be forgotten.

- The Family

And She Shall Rest at...

Houston Memorial Gardens
2426 Cullen Blvd. • Pearland, Texas 77581

Guided With Love by:

McCoy and Harrison Funeral Home
"A Family Serving Families Since 1926"
4918 Martin Luther King Blvd. • Houston, Texas 77021
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