



Corrine S. Williams

December 25, 1949 - February 10, 2014

Corrine S. Williams , affectionately called “Christmas” was born on December 25, 1949 to the union of Reverend Dr. G.C. Simpson, Sr. and Beatrice (Bea) Cash Simpson of Memphis, Tennessee. They were joined in holy matrimony on August 9, 1942 in Jericho, Arkansas. Corrine was the youngest of four children: one sister, Gloria Marie Nesby, two brothers, Rev. Grover Cleveland Simpson Jr. (Jessie); Franklin Delano Simpson (deceased). Corrine’s mother, Beatrice Cash Simpson preceded her in death on October 27, 1974 making her father, Rev. Simpson Sr. a widower. Shortly thereafter, Reverend Simpson Sr. married Ruth Blake Simpson in 1975, who brought her own children to that union: Harold Blake of Marked Tree, Arkansas (deceased), and Crystal Blake Carter (Timothy) of Cleveland, Ohio. Corrine made her transition to be home with the Lord on Monday, February 10, 2014 in Saginaw, Michigan.

Corrine S. Williams is survived by her children: one son, Alaric Bertram Simpson ,one daughter, Felecia Lenee Williams, both of Pasadena, California; and one daughter, Frances Olaria Smith of Memphis, Tennessee. Two granddaughters, Chrisheana Corrine and Oteisha Danielle. She is the Aunt to Lawrence McGaughy, Jr., Lambert and Tonya McGaughy, Curtis and Patricia Smith, all residing in Georgia; Philana Johnson of Houston, Texas; Orlando and Sciara Simpson of West Memphis, Arkansas, Tamika and James Morganfield of Memphis, Tennessee, a bonus niece and nephew, Ebony Blake and Harrison Gonzales of Cleveland, Ohio, and a host of grand and

great nieces and nephews. She also leaves behind two goddaughters: Monique Riley of Saginaw, MI, and Mallory Williams of Toledo, Ohio. She is also survived by her aunt Naomi R. Cash and an honorable mention to her beloved cousins, Frances, Linda (deceased), Naomi R. Jr., Christa, Pauline, Ira, Alice, Ardelia, Doris, Willie Mae, Dorothy, Robert, Troy, and other family members and close friends.

Corrine, in her lifetime married and divorced twice: first, to Otis D. Smith of Memphis, Tennessee; and second, to Louis A. Williams of Detroit, Michigan.

Corrine confessed her belief in Christ at the young age of 7 years during a Revival Service at the St. Thomas Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee under the leadership of Rev. E. D. Johnson. She recalls that her father, an Associate Minister at St. Thomas M. B. Church, thought that she was too young to join church; although, he had allowed her brother to do so during the same week of Revival. Corrine, had a “strong will” and a “strong mind” even at the young age of seven years. Therefore, she was baptized in the “muddy waters” along with her friends at the First Baptist Church in Joiner, Arkansas where her father, Dr. Rev. G.C. Simpson Sr. was the Pastor.

She joined the Freewill Baptist Church in Saginaw, Michigan when she relocated there in 1989; and was adopted by the Reverend James L. Dorsey and family. Corrine worships with all denominations, as she takes the best of the different religious beliefs in order to apply the principles to her daily life.

Corrine has received numerous Awards and/or Certificates as President of the Black Associates in State Employment; the Saginaw African American; and Minority Business Association and the Tri-City Chapter of the Association of Black Social Workers, Inc. She has received several honors as an Assistant Payments Worker and Manager for the Department of Human Services, aka, the Family Independence Agency, aka, Department of Social Services where she was employed for over thirty-two years. Accordingly, she has been

honored as a Scholar in both High School and College.

Having been raised in the South, Corrine spent more than 40 years being a “Civil Rights Activist”. She was one of four African American females to integrate West Memphis Senior High in West Memphis, Arkansas from Wonder High School in the Second Semester of her Junior Year in 1966. Prior to relocating to West Memphis, Arkansas from Memphis, Tennessee with her parents, Reverend and Mrs. G.C. Simpson Sr. , Corrine attended Leath Elementary School and Porter Junior High School. As a result, of her diverse background, Corrine continues to promote Diversity as a Consultant, Professional Speaker and Writer.

Corrine has faced numerous challenges over the years in her personal life, with her health, and her job. She was blessed to have such wonderful friends in her life, such as, Odellia Gooden, Heidi Norfleet, Margaret Brown, Gwen Porterfield, Tina Browning, Marilyn Daniels, Debra Donahue, Ralph Johnson, M. Louise Johnston, Lynn Kryzaniak, Lela Lindsey, Linda Mawdssley, Shirley A. Norman, Carlos Ortiz, Roy C. Patton, Jessie Mae Purifoy, Pernell Rogers, Frances Stewart, Willette White, her mentees, Heidi Norfleet and Tracey Fountain, Yolanda Young, and the Westmorelands, who were there when she needed them. Corrine has prayed over “empty” plates when there was “no food” in the house to make a meal. She would recite Psalms 23, “The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want...” as her Mother taught her to do. She has faced, “acts of discrimination” during her childhood, as well as her adulthood. As it is written in the Scripture, “ Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning”. Psalms 30:5. Corrine states that she has “Still Got Joy”, after all that she has been through. Corrine S. Williams wants all of you to know that, “she never could have made it without you”.

Family hour will take place at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, February 17, 2014 at the

Evans & Browne's Funeral Home, 441 North Jefferson Avenue, with the funeral commencing at 11:00 a.m. Rev Mildred Dorsey-Bell will officiate. Friends may call at the funeral home on Sunday from 3:00 until 7:00 p.m.

A family hour will take place at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 22, 2014 at St. John Missionary Baptist Church, 602 Elm Street, in Marked Tree, AR, with the funeral service commencing at 11:00 a.m. Interment will take place in Arkansas. Arkansas arrangements entrusted to Anthony Funeral Home-North, 200 N. 13th Street, West Memphis, AR 72301. (866) 466-5829.

Tribute Wall



“ Evans & Browne's Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Corrine S. Williams



Browne's Mortuary - February 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Evans & Browne's Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Corrine S. Williams



Browne's Mortuary - February 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GJ

“ To the family, I met Corrine more than a decade ago as a member of the NABSW. We met and became friend immediately. She provided inspiration to me during the many dark days of my life throughout the years of our friendship. I am quite sure she provided inspiration to many. It is my desire to inspire the family's look to God during this period of mourning, and cherish the great legacy she has left. Be strong because that's what she would want. My prayers and love is with you and she will be missed by all.

Gretchen Jwiltz - February 19, 2014 at 10:20 PM



“ *Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Corrine S. Williams.*



February 18, 2014 at 04:14 PM



“ *To the family of Corrine S. Williams, except my condolence for your loss. May the true God always be with you all. May he comfort you and heal your wounds and may you find comfort in knowing that God will soon swallow up death, Isaiah 25:8. He also promises to wipe tears from all faces, along with no more pain, mourning, or outcries. Revelations 21:4*

Bobbie B - February 18, 2014 at 08:33 AM

AN

“MS. CORRINE S. WILLIAMS (aka DivaCSW)
A TRUE CHAMPION AND ADVOCATE FOR
THE PEOPLE, AND...“MY PERFECT
FRIEND”



While employed with the State of Michigan I had the great honor and pleasure to meet a young lady who was indeed, a Champion and Advocate for the People and who would become my life-long “Perfect Friend”... Ms. Corrine S. Williams. In recounting the past 30 plus years, Ms. Corrine could best be described as the exact embodiment of what I would consider to be “The Perfect Friend” to myself and indeed, countless others. Just to mention a few of the many ways she positively impacted so many lives, let me begin by saying Ms. Corrine, in my humble opinion, was an excellent role model as a matriarch, daughter, sister, friend, co-worker, manager, mentor, spiritual advisor, confidant, tireless crusader for justice for the people, and so much more.

To many of us Ms. Corrine was our Angel right here on Earth. A few highlights would be that:

1. Ms. Corrine was the awesome mother of 3 wonderful and gifted children and 2 grandchildren.

2. Ms. Corrine was Champion of just causes to countless co-workers, friends, friends of friends, and associates, throughout her lifetime.

3. Ms. Corrine would anticipate the needs of others and often, she personally fulfilled such needs without being asked. Whatever needed to be done to make the person whole again, she could make it happen.

Example: In 1985, when I was the victim of an auto accident, she was the first to show up at my apartment, all the way out in Belleville, MI, with bags of groceries and words of comfort for me and my young daughter.

4. Most of all, when someone was falsely accused or abused by the big bad wolves of the world, Ms. Corrine would come to the rescue and champion their cause. She applied her God-given gift of that wonderful and brilliant mind, long-term detailed and precise memory; and her talent to write; incorporating learned skills from what she liked to call Daniel University School of Law. And the rest, as you know, is history...or as we often liked to say...HERstory.

5. Most of all, a Perfect Friend rejoices in the good times and comforts in the sad times. Thanks to Ms. Corrine the good times far outweighed the sad times because of her personal touch of caring interventions.

6. These are just a few examples of why I consider Ms. Corrine to be the embodiment of "The Perfect Friend".

Needless to say, there is so much more, but I know we are supposed to be brief. The actual accounting of the many ways she positively impacted my life and countless others, has filled volumes, literally.

Though her voice has been silenced for future conversations, I am so very happy that I have a multitude of SAVED voice mails from my dear friend that will allow me the opportunity to still hear her begin each greeting with..."Hi Sweetie" and proceed to give the date and time of each call. It's so ironic that I just cleared my voice mails several days ago, and chose NOT to delete ANY of Corrine's voice mails despite the fact that some date back over a year. This is comforting for me.

So let me conclude by simply saying to CORRINE S. WILLIAMS, a TRUE CHAMPION AND ADVOCATE FOR THE PEOPLE, AND..."MY PERFECT FRIEND" and first graduate of what she affectionately named Daniel University, School of Law...thank you for all you've done and the countless time and effort you've given throughout your brief 64 years here among us; that has helped and will continue to help make our world a better place because YOU were here, My Perfect Friend. It was indeed, THE BEST OF TIMES. You are truly awesome and one of a kind. Remember always, the love and respect and awesome think-tank sessions we shared and enjoyed, Sweetie. You were my Angel right here on earth who

departed way to soon, in my humble opinion. Now, I am blessed to have you as my own personal Angel in Heaven. Enjoy your heavenly home, rest well in peace. MOD

AngelSandre - February 17, 2014 at 05:30 AM



“ *Celestial Love was purchased for the family of Corrine S. Williams.*



February 16, 2014 at 10:46 PM



“ *Nichelle Alderson lit a candle in memory of Corrine S. Williams*



Nichelle Alderson - February 16, 2014 at 09:52 PM



“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



MOD - February 16, 2014 at 04:24 PM

JM

“Joyce Murdock-Barlow lit a candle in memory of Corrine S. Williams



Joyce Murdock-Barlow - February 16, 2014 at 03:20 PM

FC

“Corrine was a good friend to me. It was because of her that I married my husband. She sang at our wedding. she was always there when I needed someone to talk to. I always loved it when she would send me a postcard from one of the many places she was vacationing at. She was a dear and sweet person. We send our love and condolences to her family. Fatima and Ronald Cooper

Fatima and Ronald Cooper - February 16, 2014 at 02:49 PM

CH

“Charlotte lit a candle in memory of Corrine S. Williams



Charlotte - February 16, 2014 at 01:05 AM

CH

Such a strong, caring lady, with a big smile and deep wisdom. She touched everyone she met.

Charlotte - February 16, 2014 at 01:10 AM

LB

“ *Lynne Biehl lit a candle in memory of Corrine S. Williams*



Lynne Biehl - February 15, 2014 at 10:48 PM

DD

“ *Dana Daughtery lit a candle in memory of Corrine S. Williams*



dana daughtery - February 15, 2014 at 09:09 PM

 Leah Cevoli

“ *Leah Cevoli lit a candle in memory of Corrine S. Williams*



Leah Cevoli - February 15, 2014 at 08:59 PM

CT

“ *I had the pleasure of working under Corrine and then working side by side with her. She always gave good advice and taught me many things about our job. We were also able to share on a personal level. My prayers are with her family during this very difficult time.*

Cynthia Tipton

Cynthia Tipton - February 15, 2014 at 07:10 PM



“ Alberta Palmer lit a candle in memory of Corrine S. Williams



Alberta Palmer - February 15, 2014 at 02:52 PM

AN

“ Corrine was a great friend who kept it real. She loved life and was full of a loving and kind spirit.. She had a way of motivating and helping people realize their full potential. There will be a significant void in the life of those who were close to Corrine.



Angie Young
Houston, Texas

Angue - February 15, 2014 at 09:25 AM

KS

“ Corrine was my supervisor at the Department of Human Services- Pierson Rd and she was also my friend. I loved her spirit and love for life! She will truly be missed and my thoughts and prayers are with her children and family.

Trust in the Lord God with all thine heart and lean not to thine own understanding; In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy path; Proverbs 3: 5-6

Karen Spiller

Karen Spiller - February 14, 2014 at 02:32 PM

SL

“ *Sylvesta & Nicole Liggins lit a candle in memory of Corrine S. Williams*



Sylvesta & Nicole Liggins - February 14, 2014 at 01:16 PM

GS

“ *Gloria F. Smith lit a candle in memory of Corrine S. Williams*



Gloria F. Smith - February 14, 2014 at 01:14 PM

TW

“ *Tee Weems lit a candle in memory of Corrine S. Williams*



Tee Weems - February 14, 2014 at 12:22 PM

CA

“ *Corrine was my supervisor at the Department of Human Services-Pierson Rd office in Genesee county and my close friend. The life lessons she taught me will be with me always and her unwavering friendship will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers are with all her family and friends in this time of sorrow and great loss. With love, my friend.*



Christine Ashkar - February 13, 2014 at 07:31 PM

JA

“ Please accept my condolences. I worked with Corrine at the Pierson Road office of the Genesee County Department of Social Services.

John Atkinson - February 13, 2014 at 06:36 PM

MD

“ Marquetta Davis lit a candle in memory of Corrine S. Williams



Marquetta Davis - February 13, 2014 at 11:50 AM

MS

“ Min. Thomas & Helen Speed lit a candle in memory of Corrine S. Williams



Min. Thomas & Helen Speed - February 13, 2014 at 10:37 AM

JS

So sorry to hear of Corrine's passing. We met at Handley School where our daughters attended school. She will be sadly missed. Deepest condolences to the family.

Joyce Skillman - February 14, 2014 at 10:40 PM