



Dr. Brenda J. Williams

January 16, 1944 - August 7, 2020

Dr. Brenda Joyce Williams, was born on January 16, 1944, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to the late Flossie Marie Bedford and Joseph Gordan. Upon the death of her late father, she moved to and grew up in Baltimore, Maryland, where her mother met and married James Ervin Boddie who was known as “dad” to Brenda and her older brother Joseph Gordan, Jr.

Brenda graduated from Dunbar High School in Baltimore at the young age of sixteen and earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Education at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 1966. She later earned her Master’s degree in Education at Western Oregon State College in 1975 and concluded her academic achievements with her Doctorate Degree in Education from Washington State University in 1980.

While attending the University of Maryland, Brenda found a love for and pledged Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated with the Alpha Omicron Chapter in the fall of 1964. She later accomplished the status of a Golden Soror and was recognized for over 50 years of service. Brenda was known by and often called ‘lil bits’ in college, where she also met and later married her first love Edmond Green.

Brenda and Ed traveled to Seattle, Washington where Brenda was employed as a Supervisor at Boeing Aircraft teaching Calculus to Engineers, and later

settled in Portland Oregon to work for the State of Oregon. Brenda extended her role as Educator, Soror and Professional to become the ever-attentive mother of Christy Marie Green. Brenda received spiritual counsel and sustained a strong relationship with the Lord through faithful memberships at many Baptist Churches as she moved throughout the country.

Upon completion of her Doctorate Brenda returned to education and was employed by Colorado State University, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, University of Arkansas Pine Bluff, and the University of Delaware where she ended her professional career. She was recognized by the Outstanding Women of America in 1974 and 1981, and was a trailblazer representing the first African American female in many of her professional endeavors and received several accolades throughout her illustrious career.

Brenda later settled in Delaware and met and married the final love of her life, W. Alfred Williams in September 13, 2014. Al and Brenda enjoyed a snow bird's life with residences in both Maryland and Florida. It was in Maryland on August 7, 2020, that her life's journey ended and she began her final role as an "Angel" where she joins her family and many friends, as well as, her sisters beyond the Ivy Wall.

Brenda's final and most loved role here on earth was that of being "Gamma" where she enjoyed four extensions of her beloved daughter Christy. As expected, she instilled hard work, education, and a relentless effort in pursuing their life goals. Gamma will always be remembered by her grandchildren as inspirational, elegant, kind and funny.

She will be remembered as an extraordinary, and accomplished women with overwhelming confidence which allowed her the grace to always speak her mind in presenting her points of view in any given situation. Brenda leaves a legacy as a seasoned craftsman in sewing, knitting, crocheting and cooking.

She was an accomplished gamesman, mastering bridge, pinnacle, bowling and a variety of computer games.

Brenda is survived by her loving husband W. Alfred Williams, daughter Christy Spradley, son in law Aaron Spradley, grandchildren, Jameel Worthy, Niyah Worthy, Sydney Spradley, Zoe Spradley, step-daughters Stephanie Williams, Dana Stroud and step-grandson Adam Abdul-Hadi, and a host of family and friends.

Cemetery Details

Private

Baltimore, MD

Previous Events

Wake

AUG 17. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

March Life Tribute Center, P.A. - Laurel
7601 Sandy Spring Road
Laurel, MD 20707
(301) 490-1550
<https://www.marchlifetributecenter.com>

Service

AUG 17. 12:00 PM (ET)

March Life Tribute Center, P.A. - Laurel
7601 Sandy Spring Road
Laurel, MD 20707
(301) 490-1550
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Tribute Wall



“ *To View the Webcast of the Funeral for Dr. Brenda J. Williams,
Please Click the Link below.*



March Funeral Homes - August 13, 2020 at 02:28 PM

RS

*Rest in Peace Godmother! Thank you for your love, comfort and caring. I cherish the memories we shared. Now is your time to rest and see enjoy the fruits of your labor!
Eternal love,
Robyn Redditt Owens*

Robyn Redditt Owens - Goddaughter & Sor - August 17, 2020 at 11:39 AM



“ *Dr. Brenda J. Williams*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM

MH

“ Today I learned of the passing of my beautiful friend, Brenda. I met Brenda while she lived in Delaware and had the wonderful honor of being the Officiant for her wedding to Al. We had not done a good job of keeping in touch but whenever I thought of her, I smiled. Now that smile will be coated with the sheen of tears. My love and prayers go out to Al, Christy and the rest of her family. You were her joy and she was your Warrior Queen! I know you will miss her dearly!

Love,
Marsha' Horton

Marsha Horton - September 13, 2020 at 09:01 PM

GB

“ My deepest condolences to the family of Dr. Brenda Williams.



gloria better - August 18, 2020 at 11:07 AM

TH

“ Praying for you and your family Christy. Sending you all positive energy and lots of hugs.

XO.
Sisterly, Tara Harrison

Tara Harrison - August 17, 2020 at 02:20 PM

JW

“ Please accept my condolences in your loss. I considered Brenda as a good friend and I am going to miss her. Even though we spoke by phone with each other only a few times each year, we were in touch in Facebook. She loved her family dearly and always was so proud of her grandchildren. I will continue to pray for her family, that God will comfort you and give you peace as in Philippians 4:7.

Jewell Walker - August 17, 2020 at 01:49 PM

FP

“ Brenda and I met in Portland, Oregon more than 40 years ago and immediately became friends for life. I will miss her. My love and prayers go out to Al, Christie and the Grands.
from Freddye Petett

Freddye J Petett - August 17, 2020 at 01:06 PM

MB

“ Brenda is a beautiful heart, decent and warm person inside and out. I don't think she's ever met a stranger because she's the same to everyone and within a few minutes you feel that you've known her forever.
She's not physically with us, but Jesus said " I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me will have life even if they die."
We can be assured that her spirit lives on in her love for people and the examples she set.

Mary Buckley
(Retired - DEA)

mary buckley - August 17, 2020 at 11:39 AM

MM

“ *Met Brenda in 1994 at an ACBL tournament in Portland, Oregon. All of my remembrances of her have been joyful! Rest in peace, my step-sister (AKA)*

Mary E Moragne (DST)



MARY E MORAGNE - August 17, 2020 at 11:17 AM

AB

“ *A.B. & Cherry Blocker lit a candle in memory of Dr. Brenda J. Williams*



A.B. & Cherry Blocker - August 17, 2020 at 11:05 AM

A.

Al,

We hope you feel surrounded by the love of friends and family

A.B. - August 17, 2020 at 11:09 AM

JJ

“ *Julie, Jon, Julius & Jonna purchased the Share the Health for the family of Dr. Brenda J. Williams.*



Julie, Jon, Julius & Jonna - August 17, 2020 at 05:49 AM

AB

“ *My Dear Sweet Friend Brenda of more than 45 years; I send Blessings and Love to your daughter Christy, your Grands, Family and Friends. So glad my Great Grandson and friend J had a chance to sit at Auntie B's table for apple pie and ice cream. We shared so many memories and life experiences that will forever Bless me. My heart is full with memories we've shared. The Love will forever fill my heart. Go with God in Peace.*

*Your Sister/Friend,
Ann Gaston Branch*

Ann Gaston Branch - August 16, 2020 at 10:59 PM



“ *If it were not for bridge, I would not have been blessed to know Brenda. I smile whenever I think about her or hear her name. She always had me laughing when I was around her in her hotel room, at the bridge table or when I heard that strong easily heard voice in the Smithsonian African American Culture Museum. I knew there was only one person with that voice. Of course it was crowded and I didn't "see" her immediately. Thank you for sharing her spirit with us during bridge tournaments!*

She and I had talked about playing but I never was afforded the pleasure of laughing, smiling, and cracking smart aleck comments back for a full three plus hours. Rest in Heaven Brenda ... Grand Slammer according to us bridge enthusiasts.



Cheryl Ward - August 16, 2020 at 09:08 PM

DA

“ *Brenda and I met at an ABA National Game--Partnership Desk. She needed a partner and so did I. We played as partners for four days. What a delightful, sweet, pleasant source of energy--she truly shared with the world. How the world will miss her!! I will miss her, too!*
Much Love to her Blessed soul. --Doris Ayers

Doris Ayers - August 16, 2020 at 06:18 PM

MF

“ *Mollye Fortt lit a candle in memory of Dr. Brenda J. Williams*



Mollye Fortt - August 16, 2020 at 05:23 PM

MF

Brenda & I met at her husband's, Alfred's and my Hometown Reunion a few years ago. Brenda seemed to blend right in. We became friends. I will surely miss her.
My sympathy and Condolences to Alfred & family. I pray the Lord comfort and strengthen you and the family.

Mollye Fortt, Classmate '62

Mollye Fortt - August 16, 2020 at 05:53 PM



A joy to know. Will miss her beautiful smile and personality.

Evelyn Adkins - August 17, 2020 at 12:33 PM



“ *LaVerne Matthews and Gerald (Jerry) B Walker Jr purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dr. Brenda J. Williams.*



LaVerne Matthews and Gerald (Jerry) B Walker Jr - August 16, 2020 at 03:13 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Dr. Brenda J. Williams.*



August 16, 2020 at 02:55 PM



“ *To Al and the family of Brenda Williams*

Thoughts of deep and sincere sympathy are with you at this time. May you find comfort in the memories that are yours to cherish always, and strength in the companionship of those who share your loss,



LaMoyne Taplin - August 16, 2020 at 02:11 PM

GW

“ Wonderful memories of our cruise together in January on Celebrity Edge celebrating our birthdays. You will be greatly missed. Love Gilder and Pete

Gilder Washington - August 16, 2020 at 10:54 AM

JU

“ Remembering when we first met on a cruise. We enjoyed having breakfast with you and that moment changed my uncles life. Rest well Brenda, you will be greatly missed by the Nelson family. Love Julie, Jon, Julius and Ms. Jonna too!



Julie - August 16, 2020 at 02:48 AM

CC

“ 8\15\20

To the family of Dr. Brenda Williams. I am just one of the many friends she had in the Bridge World. I met her in Portland, Oregon. She was so loving and patient with me a "Newby" in the Bridge world. She introduced me to her partner Brenda Green. I never met Dr. Williams when she did not have a smile on her face and something pleasing to say. I called she and her partner the (Two B's"). May you find comfort in knowing that she brought much pleasure to those who were fortunate enough to be in her presence. Much love from me to your family. Catherine Chiles, Columbia, S.C.

CATHERINE CHILES - August 15, 2020 at 09:59 PM

WJ

“ *Brenda was a partner, friend and a delight to be around. We spent several memorable times together. Her infectious smile and bubbling personality will be missed.*

Willa Johnson



Willa Johnson - August 15, 2020 at 08:29 PM

L(

“ *Love from the Other Brenda (Polk) purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Dr. Brenda J. Williams.*



Love from the Other Brenda (Polk) - August 15, 2020 at 03:40 PM



“ *Evelyn Adkins lit a candle in memory of Dr. Brenda J. Williams*



Evelyn Adkins - August 15, 2020 at 03:08 PM



Brenda lit up every room she entered. I will truly miss her and that dazzling smile.

Evelyn Adkins - August 15, 2020 at 03:09 PM

SP

“ *Brenda was my "Bridge" friend. I will truly miss her bubbling personality and smile. My condolences to her family.*

Sherry Polk

sherry polk - August 15, 2020 at 01:49 PM

TF

“ *The Reynolds Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dr. Brenda J. Williams.*



The Reynolds Family - August 15, 2020 at 11:40 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Brenda J. Williams.*



August 15, 2020 at 09:07 AM

CE

“ *Growing up and going to high school with Brenda's daughter Christy, I remember Brenda as a spunky, vibrant person and just loved being around her. She would light up a room and her sense of humor unflinching. For that I am lighting a candle for you now. ❤️*

caroline Eggerth(Henry) - August 14, 2020 at 08:53 AM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Brenda J. Williams.*



August 14, 2020 at 07:27 AM



“ *Charity Patton lit a candle in memory of Dr. Brenda J. Williams*



Charity Patton - August 13, 2020 at 08:50 PM



“ *TO the Family, Extending my heartfelt condolences to each of you. Brenda was a dear friend of mine in the bridge world and when she moved to Dover,De we were able to see each other more often. She will be sorely missed. May she RIP.With Deepest Sympathy, Charity*

Charity Patton - August 13, 2020 at 08:49 PM



“ *Melanie and The Batiste Family purchased the Sweet Solace Spray for the family of Dr. Brenda J. Williams.*



Melanie and The Batiste Family - August 13, 2020 at 05:49 PM



“ We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

March Funeral Homes - August 13, 2020 at 02:17 PM

EW

This fall, more than football is going to be missed in Tamarac. What a pleasure it was to have known Brenda.

earl williams - August 16, 2020 at 04:05 PM

AR

On behalf of my wife Raina and my son AJ, I would like to extend my sincere condolences to my friend Al and his family. I grief knowing how much Brenda meant to him and the might of this lost. During my Bible and spiritual reading this morning I was taken aback by the inspirational words that says, "Its important to remember that FAITH doesn't rescue us from all the trials and tribulations we face, but it will get us through it. So my brother Al and family, "Keep the faith and Keep Believing."

A. Rollins - August 17, 2020 at 10:33 AM