



Faustine "Tina" Coleman

September 4, 1948 - February 6, 2021

Faustine "Tina" Coleman

9/14/1948-2/6/2021

"Tina" as she was affectionately known was born in Brooklyn, New York on September 14, 1948 to Carl Coleman and Annie Ruth Christmas. Tina grew up in St. Albans, New York with her parents, her older brother Carl and younger sister Malinda. Tina was an excellent student and was one of a few kids who were bused out of St. Albans as part of desegregating the schools. Those who knew Tina knew of her civil rights activism in the 1960's and 1980's.

She worked at Waldbaum's supermarket at the age of 14 and was able to save enough money to purchase a new royal blue with white pinstripes across the nose, 1968 Chevy Camaro Rally Sport with hideaway head lights at the age of 17 which rumor had it she used to race up and down Merrick Blvd in Jamaica Queens. This car is not only a classic but a highly coveted vehicle, now and then. At the tender age of 16, she met her husband Donald Hobson, they married and Tina had her first child Tanya while still a teenager. She went to night school and obtained her GED. During that time, she sang doo wop with Donald and her best friends Bobbie and Dianne.

Tina was divorced by 19 and moved to Atlanta, Georgia where Tina gave birth

to Nisha. Tina worked at a number of jobs to support her 2 daughters. She eventually moved back to New York where she remained until her daughters went to college. Tina always wanted to continue her education and obtained a Hemodialysis Technician certification. However, still wanting to learn more, she then obtained her bachelor's degree in Behavioral Science. Let Tina tell it, she also obtained a law degree with her daughter Tanya due to the many hours she helped Tanya during law school with her studies.

She worked for many years in administration at Memorial Sloane Kettering Hospital where she retired in 2006. Tina eventually moved to North Carolina to care for her mother and then moved to Bel Air, Maryland where she made it her final destination.

She was an avid reader and prolific writer. She was fond of Robert Frost and quoted many of his poems verbatim. She obtained several awards for her writing skills. She was working on a memoir when she passed away. The following is an excerpt from her writings:

“If we are lucky, we get to make it to the magical number of 65. Going into our senior years is when it's time to eliminate the negatives and enjoy the positive features of our lives. At what point in our life do we pause and try to figure if we are doing it right? Should we laugh at what we did right or cry at what we did wrong. I say we should do both.”

Tina found her daughters and grandchildren to be her greatest

accomplishments and legacy. She founded a not-for-profit organization dedicated to serving the needs of senior citizens (Annie's Basket of Wishes) which was named after her mother Annie. Tina was the cool mom. Tanya and Nisha's friends formed their own friendship with Tina. Thus, Tina's friends were those she had from childhood plus the dozens of friends that were her daughters' friends.

She leaves behind her two daughters, Tanya Hobson-Williams (Rick Williams), Nisha Smithrick (Craig Smithrick), Grandchildren, Jaida, Jae-Len and Craig (CJ), her sister Malinda Champs and nephew Michael Coleman. Tina has bonus daughters Sophia Ponquinette, Tinaka Hobson and Gail Hobson and 6 bonus sons. Tina is preceded in death by her mother Annie Ruth Coleman her father Carl Coleman and brother Carl Roland Coleman, Jr.

"The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep" -Robert Frost, "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening"

Our hearts are broken. We miss and love you mommy!

Cemetery Details

Cedar Hill

5829 Ritchie Highway
Brooklyn, MD 21230

Previous Events

Graveside Service

FEB 12. 12:00 PM (ET)

Cedar Hill
5829 Ritchie Highway
Brooklyn, MD 21230

Tribute Wall



“ *Faustine "Tina" Coleman*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *There are so many stories to share of Aunt Tina from over the years, from spending the night at her house, to the infamous parties she used to throw Nisha..to the time she planned to take Nisha and I to a concert at a skating rink in Brooklyn in the 80s to see Mc Lyte. Nisha and I couldnt have been more than 12 or 13 but we just knew we were headed for fun. I dont think we were completely honest with Aunt Tina about where we were asking her to take us, but when she pulled up to the building, saw the crowd in front..she said "oh no" and then she crushed our plans! Nisha and I were so sad...I remember Aunt Tina explaining why she couldnt let us go, but as kids, it didn't make sense. Fast forward 30 years and now I am a mother. I think back to that day and truly appreciate and respect the way Aunt Tina handled the situation. She knew we didnt belong there and saved us from ourselves. She talked to us and not "at" us about jer decision..and thats rare..She and I used to get a kick out of reliving that story and would crack up at how crushed we were..but she would laugh and say "Well Im sorry but I couldnt let you all get out the car..I wasnt dealing with your mother". Haha... It was truly an epic night for all. I will miss her and all the good times we had..she was so loved by so many. May she rest in everlasting peace. Tia*

Tia Alexander - February 12, 2021 at 12:32 AM

RW

“ *What a Beautiful woman...embodiment of great character and qualities that are exemplary of a true Lady...caring, humble, lovingly- family oriented and ...I wish we had more time.*

In 2011, Tina became an important part of my life(and a link to my father's family). We shared long hours of great phone conversation enveloped with joyous laughter; and shared many family photos. Life will not be the same without her, despite we've only met face to face once in my adulthood. I feel so honored to have known her. I last conversed with Tina about a week ago...I'm so grateful - Ha- lle- lu-jah!

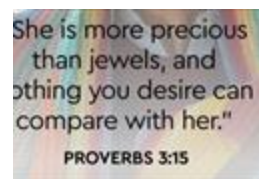
Lord , I pray that you Bless my friend everlasting to everlasting - Bless her in, Bless her eternity in the Kingdom where you have prepared a place for her and a wonderfully exalted new chapter of Life-Amen, Amen

Peace & Blessings

Rosalyn Williams - February 11, 2021 at 09:20 PM

NS

“ *From Dianne Glass:*



Nisha Smithrick - February 11, 2021 at 08:57 PM

SC

“ *The Long Walk Home* by Shannon S. Christmas
For Tina Coleman

*Beams of sun and moon oscillate,
Shining on Earth's warring state.
Despite the refrains
Of man-made hate,
The mind remains
In a Loving state.
The limbs march on, wading
Through the jangle of the asphalt's jungle.
Through the clang,
With love, they clamber,
Seeking silence in an open chamber.
The light follows,
Erasing borders, embracing horizons.
Walls fall.
Bridges rise.
Symphonies replace all sighs,
Calming an endless sea
Of cloudless skies.
The long-marching limbs become wings.
Our angel of justice flies and sings.*

Shannon Christmas - February 11, 2021 at 06:21 PM

TA

“ I miss and love you mommy! You are the reason that I have accomplished what I have. I would not have been able to do it without you. I will make sure that your legacy continues and that your grandkids continue the traditions and goals you set for us. I hope you are OK and that I will receive some measure of comfort knowing you are no longer in pain and are watching over me. I think of you constantly and you've left a great impact on my life. The tears won't stop and there is a void in my life now that you are gone. I pray that the talks we have will manifest in some way. Perhaps the note you wrote sums it up, "Life is but a Dream." Love you forever.
Tanya

Tanya - February 11, 2021 at 02:50 PM

NS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Nisha Smithrick - February 11, 2021 at 11:07 AM

NS

“ From Bobbie Zimmerman Lewis:

Tina Coleman and I have been friends for over 60 years. We met when we were 13 years old. We went through high school together, had our first jobs together, went on our first dates together. We were walking together the day it was announced that Martin Luther King Jr. had been shot. We marched with the Black Panthers, went to Motown shows and were groupies to the Temptations. I was in Tina's wedding and she was in mine. We raised our children together, we shared and learned many parenting experiences along the way.

Tina and I laughed together, cried together and shared life's ups and downs together. We were by each other's side in the deaths of our parents and siblings. We celebrated together in the weddings of our children and the births of our grandchildren.

To Tanya, my god daughter and NeeNee.....I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak with your mother about a week before she passed. It was a beautiful moment and a fitting way to say goodbye to our earthly friendship.

Your mother may have fussed and at times seemed to be controlling (smile). She only wanted the best, the very best for you. And both of you made her extremely proud.

Tina loved and lived life. Her departure leaves a void on this earth. She was a loyal, true friend to me. Something not many people are blessed to experience. I thank God for her being in my life. Tina will forever be alive in my heart.

*Respectfully submitted,
Bobbie Zimmerman Lewis*

Nisha Smithrick - February 11, 2021 at 11:07 AM

BL

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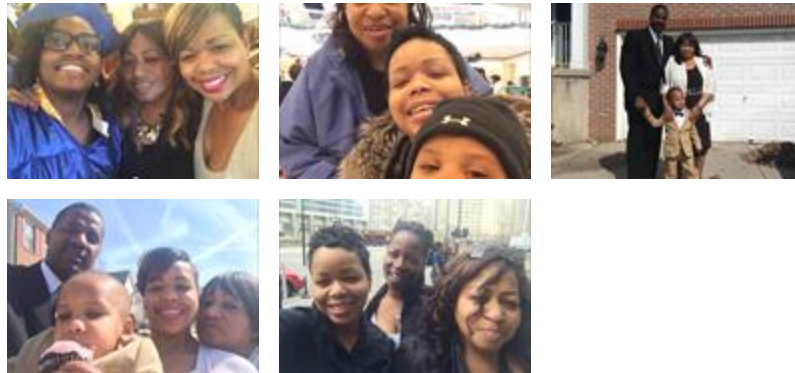
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*Respectfully submitted,
Bobbie Zimmerman Lewis*

Bobbie Zimmerman Lewis - February 11, 2021 at 10:59 AM

NS

“ 65 files added to the album *Memories Album*



Nisha Smithrick - February 11, 2021 at 10:15 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of *Faustine "Tina" Coleman*.



February 11, 2021 at 09:48 AM



“ *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 - February 10, 2021 at 04:07 PM



RIP Cz. 🙏 Out 2 the family. U will 🐝 missed. Thanks 4 letting me purchase that 1968 Rally Sport 😊. ✓✓✓

Robert Jr. - February 11, 2021 at 01:23 PM