



## Michele Andrea Armstrong

June 21, 1962 - September 6, 2022

### Legacy of Love

Rev. Michele A. Armstrong, age 60, of Sandston, Virginia gained her heavenly wings on September 6, 2022. She was born June 21, 1962, to the late Samuel D. Anderson Jr. (2017) and Delores D. Anderson (1992). She was preceded in death by her sisters Karolyn Anderson (1959), Dorian Anderson (2003), and brother Samuel Anderson III (2020).

Michele accepted Christ at an early age at Charity Baptist Church of Christ in Bronx, New York. She was raised in the Gospel of Jesus Christ by her God-Father Rev. Raymond L. Mickens, Retired Pastor of Faith Memorial Baptist Church, Bronx, New York. Michele attended Harry S. Truman High School where she was a proud cheerleader.

Michele was known for her love of music. As a little girl, she created and sung songs with her brother, Sandy, and cousin while visiting Virginia during the summer. That love that she and her brother shared for music followed them to their teen and young adult years. While attending Harry S. Truman High School, her brother and a few close friends created a group called Unlimited Touch where Michele was the singer. The members changed over the years, but in the 1980s Unlimited Touched became one of the most well-known bands out of New York City.

Prior to moving to Richmond VA, Michele was married to Keith Smith and of that union, they had one daughter, Karolyn Hagood.

Michele was employed at Virginia Commonwealth University (29 years) in several departments but she most recently served as the Business Administrator for the Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation.

Rev. Michele A. Armstrong was an Associate Minister and served as a disciple at First Calvary Baptist Church, Norfolk, VA where she sat under the leadership of Rev. D. Tyrone Brandon, Sr. She was licensed to preach the Gospel in December of 2010 as the first daughter of Mt. Hermon Baptist Church, Richmond, VA. Michele was a graduate of Virginia Union University, Samuel Dewitt Proctor School of Theology, Richmond, VA, where she earned her Masters in Divinity in May 2017. Rev. Armstrong committed her life to teaching and preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ everywhere she went. It was her desire to always walk in the will of God. Her mandate was: Psalm 34:1-3; I will bless the Lord at all times, His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the Lord; the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me, let us exalt his name together.

Michele previously served on the Board of Directors for the James Cleveland Gospel Music Workshop of America, (GMWA) Richmond VA Chapter. She recently served as the Assistant Chapter Representative and Business Manager of the Goochland VA and Vicinity Chapter of GMWA. Michele also served on the GMWA National Finance Team. She was totally committed to her music ministry with GMWA for more than 40+ years.

Michele joined the Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc., Iota Sigma Richmond Chapter Spring of 2018, where she was Ace of her line. In 2020, she then joined as an active member of Beta Lambda Sigma Chapter based in Raleigh,

NC.

She leaves to cherish her memories: her beloved husband of 29 years, Lewis Armstrong; daughter; Karolyn Hagood (Travis); son; Brian Armstrong; two grandchildren; Travis 'T.J.' Hagood Jr. and Quincy Deyo; two step-daughters, Rahshea James, and Ashley Armstrong; step-granddaughter; Genesis James; mother-in-law, Leola Armstrong; brother-in-law, James Armstrong Jr. (Delores); four nieces, Saniyaa Jonas Stephen, Samantha Anderson-Tinsley (Ronald), Fredericka Anderson (Jeff), and Jasmine Anderson; nephew, Darian Anderson; uncle, Douglas Anderson (Sarah), two aunts; Janie Edwards and Elaine Anderson, and a devoted family friend, Anthony McLean (Nell), all of whom she loved dearly, along with a host of cousins and friends.

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# Cemetery Details

## Oakwood Cemetery

3101 Nine Mile Road  
Richmond, VA 23223

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **15**. 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home -Laburnum Chapel  
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.  
Richmond, VA 23222

## Celebration of Life

SEP **16**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Wesley Memorial Methodist Church  
1720 Mechanicsville Turnpike  
Richmond, VA 23223

*Masks are required*

# Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

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**March Funeral Homes** - September 22, 2022 at 08:39 AM



“ *Michele Andrea Armstrong*

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October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



*I thought of you today while checking on the oysters. I thank you for your kindness each time I saw you. From clinical research to finance and music to ministry, I so admire all that you did to make this world a better place.*

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**lisa** - June 03, 2023 at 10:30 PM



“ *Michele, because of you we will always "Search to find the one" and will always hear "Music in the Street". Thank you for being there for me when I needed you the most.*

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**Mike Newsome** - September 21, 2022 at 04:25 PM



“ *I came to say goodbye today cuz. Everything was so beautiful. I know you know that they did it exactly like you wanted it to be. The church was on their feet. Nothing but great things spoken of who you are and how you impacted so many of us. I will never forget our NY days growing up... you will never be forgotten. I love you ❤️*

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**Val Anderson** - September 16, 2022 at 05:11 PM

IS

“ *Iantha Burgess Smiley lit a candle in memory of Michele Andrea Armstrong*



**Iantha Burgess Smiley** - September 16, 2022 at 10:35 AM

WC

“ *I sometimes visited with Rev. Michele Armstrong when she accompanied her husband, Randall, to Armstrong Family gatherings in North Carolina. I found her to be a very delightful spirit-filled woman of God.  
I send my condolences to Randall and the Armstrong family members. May God continue to strengthen you. Yours in Christ,  
Beatrice Colson*

**Willie Bea Colson** - September 16, 2022 at 08:38 AM

SS

“ *Shirley L Smith lit a candle in memory of Michele Andrea Armstrong*



**Shirley L Smith** - September 16, 2022 at 12:41 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



**Caprichia Spellman** - September 15, 2022 at 11:51 PM



*Rest, my dear Soror! Thank you for your life, strength, faith and friendship! Forever Anchored in SisterRHood, Rev. Caprichia Smith Spellman*

**Caprichia Spellman** - September 15, 2022 at 11:56 PM

LJ

*“ Michele will always be a dear friend and sister to me! I miss her deeply! She always had good advice and was supportive to those she knew and those she didn't know. She always used to ask me, "Do you want the biblical way or you want me to keep it real!" Her heart, her smile, and the person she was will never be forgotten! Rest in peace my dear friend and sister! Love you ladybug!*



**Laniece Jones** - September 15, 2022 at 08:27 PM

LJ

*“ Laniece Jones lit a candle in memory of Michele Andrea Armstrong*



**Laniece Jones** - September 15, 2022 at 07:55 PM

GH

“ To the family of Michele Anderson Armstrong. I was sorry to here about passing of my cousin. To the family I'm praying for each one of you. Just keep God and the faith. Love you family Cousin Gloria Wills Holmes



**Gloria Wills Holmes** - September 15, 2022 at 07:25 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michele Andrea Armstrong.



September 15, 2022 at 12:11 PM



Cassandra Wyatt

“ Cassandra Wyatt lit a candle in memory of Michele Andrea Armstrong



**Cassandra Wyatt** - September 15, 2022 at 10:50 AM



Cassandra Wyatt

“ Cassandra Wyatt sent a virtual gift in memory of Michele Andrea Armstrong



**Cassandra Wyatt** - September 15, 2022 at 10:45 AM

RE

“ *Rena' Edwards lit a candle in memory of Michele Andrea Armstrong*



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**Rena' Edwards** - September 15, 2022 at 10:38 AM

RJ

“ *Ricky L Johnson lit a candle in memory of Michele Andrea Armstrong*



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**Ricky L Johnson** - September 15, 2022 at 05:20 AM

CH

*To The Family of Rev. Michele Armstrong  
Heartfelt condolences to you may God continue to bless each of you.  
Constance Hooker and Family*

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**Constance C Hooker** - September 15, 2022 at 10:31 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Michele Andrea Armstrong.*



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September 14, 2022 at 09:05 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Michele Andrea Armstrong.*



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September 14, 2022 at 06:51 PM



“ *My condolences and prayers to the family during this transitional season.*

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**AJeffrey LaValley** - September 13, 2022 at 03:51 PM



“ *I remember me and my sister Michelle Franklin was on the fundraising committee for our church ( St Paul Community Baptist Church) in Baltimore Md. we were struggling with getting some gospel groups for the fundraiser because everybody wanted so much money to perform. So we reached out to our brother ( Anthony Mclean) in Virginia. He said let me call Michelle, she said don't worry about this, I got them. Next thing you know we had the (GMWA) Richmond VA Chapter agreeing to do the concert. They came to Baltimore and had everyone on their feet. This was the best gospel concert our church has had to this day!!!  
R.I.P. Michelle you will truly be missed!*

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**Leroy McLean** - September 13, 2022 at 03:10 PM

KL

“ I am so deeply sorry for your loss. Michele was a bright spot at VCU. She and her beautiful smile will be missed.

*Karen Lamb  
University Controller's Office*

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**Karen P. Lamb** - September 13, 2022 at 03:02 PM

AF

“ From meeting in a hair salon on a rainy Friday to becoming SisterFriends riding 95 to the Bronx, I couldn't have found a better and caring friend as I did in my "Chelles". My condolences and love to the family and always cherish the moments you had



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**Angela Foster** - September 13, 2022 at 02:48 PM

SR

“ I knew Michelle for quite some time before I had the opportunity to work with her directly. What a blessing she was! My life was better because she was in it. My condolences to her family and friends.

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**Susan Robb** - September 13, 2022 at 10:50 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Michele Andrea Armstrong.



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September 13, 2022 at 10:45 AM



“ Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of Michele Andrea Armstrong.



September 12, 2022 at 07:23 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michele Andrea Armstrong.



September 12, 2022 at 07:12 PM



“ Extending our heartfelt sympathy to Lewis and the entire Armstrong family in the passing of Michele. You are in our thoughts and prayers. May God bless you during this difficult time.



Clinton & Priscilla Vincent - September 12, 2022 at 06:52 PM



May God's peace be with each of you! To the husband, children and family members of Rev. Michele Armstrong, you have my sincere and deepest condolences. I will forever remember Michele as we sang in the "Whosoever Will Choir" at STVU during Saturday morning chapel services. She is now singing, teaching and preaching somewhere around God's throne! Rest in Eternal Peace, My Sister! 🙏🙏❤️🙏🙏

Love & Blessings,  
Rev. Glorietta Jones

Rev. Glorietta Jones - September 13, 2022 at 12:20 AM

MS

“ *Mary Strawderman lit a candle in memory of Michele Andrea Armstrong*



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**Mary Strawderman** - September 12, 2022 at 05:25 PM

YO

“ *You Lee Kim (in VCU OVPRI) purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Michele Andrea Armstrong.*



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**You Lee Kim (in VCU OVPRI)** - September 12, 2022 at 03:57 PM

NH

“ *I would like to send my prayers, condolences, and sympathy to her entire family. It was a great pleasure working with Michele at VCU. She was a beautiful soul, full of love and faith. Now she is ascended to heaven, away from us, but closer to God. I am truly sorry for your loss. She will be missed and she will never be forgotten, may her soul rest in peace.*

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**Nichole Haywood** - September 12, 2022 at 02:09 PM

LK

“ I feel so grateful to have known Michele. Our paths crossed here and there over the years at VCU, but I will never forget the first time I really sat and talked to her when we finally ended up in the same department. She had such great, practical advice and guidance. She was a calming force, yet a FORCE for sure! I admire how Michele always stood on her principles and her faith. I marvel at her strength and refusal to give in to the trials in her life. I learned so many things from Michele, and I will carry her in my heart always. Prayers for peace to the family and all who loved her.



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Lydia K. - September 12, 2022 at 08:57 AM

RM

“ I was a Tenant in Her Family's basement apt in 1977. In 1978, I got born again, Holy Ghost, totally changed. I didn't think about Who was watching Me thru My transition but 5 years ago at "Valley Day", Michele shared with Me how My change impacted Her Life to seek Ministry. How She inspired Me! She continued to grow without boundaries, nothing could stop Her and nothing did. I Honor and Celebrate Her Life and Memory. What a Jewel in the Crown of Life. God Continuous Blessings to Her Family.

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Renee A. Britton Mitchell - September 12, 2022 at 08:19 AM

GW

“ To the Armstrong Family, our family is seeking God for your comfort at this time. The loss of a loved one is never easy but knowing that our God is faithful, and He saw that Michele needed to be with Him. She doesn't need to suffer anymore; she is at peace. Gwen Willis-Harrison and family.



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**Gwendolyn Willis-harrison** - September 11, 2022 at 09:59 PM

RG

“ Michele you were such a blessing to many to include myself as no one was a stranger. Through that journey you beat the odds to never let it take over; yet continuously giving the Lord all Glory and instead just to live through it. You were faithful unto the Lord until the very end. Well done my Sister. Raven Givens

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**Raven Givens** - September 11, 2022 at 03:16 PM

AW

“ Michele, it was an honor and a privilege to meet you, serve with you, and become friends. You and your infectious smile will be truly missed. Rest well my friend. #VUU4Life - An'Jou C. White

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**An'Jou C. White** - September 11, 2022 at 03:04 PM

CA

“ Michele May You Rest In Peace. You will definitely be missed.

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**Cindy Allen** - September 11, 2022 at 10:53 AM

CA

“ *Cindy Allen lit a candle in memory of Michele Andrea Armstrong*



**Cindy Allen** - September 11, 2022 at 10:52 AM

BR

“ *Condolences from the Saunders family (Brenda, Chelsea and Eddie III).*



**Brenda** - September 11, 2022 at 09:15 AM

SR

“ *3 files added to the album Michele Armstrong*



**Saher Randhawa** - September 11, 2022 at 04:06 AM

SR

“ *Michele, you will be missed. It was a honor to have had the privilege to have served with you on VCU Staff Senate. Your dedication and energy lit up an entire room and will never be forgotten. Thank you for all you've done. Wishing you peace and harmony on the other side and forever.*



**Saher Randhawa** - September 11, 2022 at 03:59 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Michele Andrea Armstrong.*



September 10, 2022 at 08:40 PM



“ *Tee Christian lit a candle in memory of Michele Andrea Armstrong*



**Tee Christian** - September 09, 2022 at 10:12 PM



“ *The bond we shared will never be broken. The memories will live forever. You'll forever be in our hearts 💕. We've lost a friend but heaven has gained an Angel. Sleep in eternal peace my friend 🙏*

**Dave Peart** - September 09, 2022 at 09:43 PM



“ *Kaen Bishop lit a candle in memory of Michele Andrea Armstrong*



**Kaen Bishop** - September 09, 2022 at 08:28 PM

KB

“ We go all the back to the brownies...may you rest well, you fought well just like a warrior..you will be missed 🙏

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**Kaen Bishop** - September 09, 2022 at 08:27 PM

GC

“ Gloria & Clyde Crawley lit a candle in memory of Michele Armstrong



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**Gloria Crawley** - September 09, 2022 at 07:52 PM

DS

“ Michele you will be missed ... P.S.111 to Truman high school... my condolences 🌸 to the family and friends... you fought a good fight now it's time to rest we will always love you 😍



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**Deadra Swilley** - September 09, 2022 at 03:46 PM

BK

“ Brenda Keel lit a candle in memory of Michele Andrea Armstrong



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**Brenda Keel** - September 09, 2022 at 02:22 PM

DB

“ Rest well my Beautiful Sister, you have been an inspiration to me from the first day we met. You will be missed by so many



Dr. Rebecca Branch-Griffin - September 09, 2022 at 10:20 AM

ST

“ Michelle, we met in elementary school and you always had that infectious smile that I will always remember.



Stephanie - September 09, 2022 at 10:19 AM

DR

“ Douglas Riley lit a candle in memory of Michele Andrea Armstrong



Douglas Riley - September 09, 2022 at 08:27 AM

LH

“ Leslie Howell lit a candle in memory of Michele Andrea Armstrong



Leslie Howell - September 09, 2022 at 04:26 AM

LH

“ Michele

*I am so happy to have had you as a best friend growing up. Blessed to have you as my Soror. You will be forever REMEMBERED. SLEEP IN PEACE my Sister...*



Leslie Howell - September 09, 2022 at 04:25 AM

DL

“ We didn't get the chance to see u again at my family reunions or Valley Day like we usually meet up. Which is mostly due to Covid. Much condolences to the family. Much luv & may u sleep in peace!!!❤️❤️🙏🙏☐☐



Derek & Tanya Lemon - September 09, 2022 at 02:58 AM

DJ

“ Deacon Ricky L. Johnson lit a candle in memory of Michele Andrea Armstrong



Deacon Ricky L. Johnson - September 09, 2022 at 12:28 AM

DJ

“ *Deacon Ricky L. Johnson lit a candle in memory of Michele Andrea Armstrong*



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**Deacon Ricky L. Johnson** - September 09, 2022 at 12:26 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michele Andrea Armstrong.*



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September 08, 2022 at 09:00 PM

CF

“ *Michele, you were the best sister, never a sister-in-law, always a beloved sister. Gone way too soon, dearly loved and cherished.*

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**Carla Fagan** - September 08, 2022 at 08:48 PM

RK

“ *To our beautiful Soror with the huge smile, your light will be missed.*

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**Robyn King** - September 08, 2022 at 07:51 PM

LS

“ *The conversations, the laughs, the what the worlds we shared will be with me. Your faith and strength through your journey will be remembered. God's blessings and peace be with the family.*

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**Loletha Smith** - September 08, 2022 at 07:19 PM

GI

*My Condolences to the Armstrong family God has called home one of his Angels. Michelle enjoy your rest 🙏🙏🙏🌹*

**gilbert ingram** - September 08, 2022 at 07:32 PM

DC

*My God Sister who has always been my Sister, Love always from your Big Brother Dwayne Chambers. I will miss you!!!! I will look out for Louis !*

**Dwayne Chambers** - September 09, 2022 at 04:50 PM

TH

*“ Michele what a beautiful and strong lady you were. Take your rest and you will be missed.*

**Teresa Anthony- Hopkins** - September 08, 2022 at 06:25 PM

KA

*“ I have lost a sister but gained another guardian to watch over me. I will always remember all the good times, the tearful times and the secrets we shared. The celebrations and the memorials. You were there for it all. We were there together. I will see you again Sis.*

**Kim Allen** - September 08, 2022 at 05:26 PM

KA

“ 4 files added to the album Michele Armstrong



Kim Allen - September 08, 2022 at 05:19 PM

M1

“ Mr&Mrs John F. Pollard 111 lit a candle in memory of Michele Andrea Armstrong



Mr&Mrs John F. Pollard 111 - September 08, 2022 at 04:34 PM

DA

“ Michele, there are no words right now. Your bright spirit will forever be with us. You were such a joy...always made me life. You were more than my cousin...you are my friend. Love you always!!!  
Denean

Denean Anderson - September 08, 2022 at 02:25 PM

DA

“ *Denean Anderson lit a candle in memory of Michele Andrea Armstrong*



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**Denean Anderson** - September 08, 2022 at 02:23 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.*

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**March Funeral Homes** - September 08, 2022 at 01:12 PM