



Shirley Erwin

December 16, 1956 - May 25, 2015

Our beloved, Shirley Renee' Erwin, was born on December 16, 1956, to Bessie Rogers and the late Charles Watson, in Baltimore, Maryland. she went home to be with her Lord and Savior on May 25, 2015, with her children by her side. On that day, she was greeted at heaven's gates by her loving and nurturing maternal grandparents, Leroy and Laura Rogers, her cousin, Alisa Toles (Lee-Lee), her aunt, Barbara Rogers (Bobbie), her nephew, Lamonte Sherman, and several other family members.

Shirley was educated in the Baltimore City Public School System. With the help of her grandparents, Papa and Ninnie, she became spiritually grounded at Cornerstone Baptist Church. As a young adult, she worked for Brown's Supermarket and South Baltimore General Hospital, in Baltimore. In 1979, she married Arthur Erwin, and from this union, four children were born.

Shirley learned early on that a sound education was the key to transcending to greater heights. With her children in mind, she relentlessly began her pursuit. In 1986, Shirley earned her Associate of Arts degree in General Studies from the former Community College of Baltimore. From there, she realized her gift and passion, and moved on to Coppin State College (now University), earning her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education 1-6 & Middle School & Psychology in 1991. While at Coppin, she was honored as a Ronald E. McNair Scholar for demonstrating strong academic potential;

consistently made the Dean's List; received departmental honors in Elementary Education; appeared in several editions of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges; was recognized by the National Alumni Association of Coppin State College for outstanding character, leadership, and discipline; and was voted into the office of Senior Class President by her peers, who expressed their gratitude through an award for service and support. She further expanded her education by returning to Coppin State University and obtained, with high honors, her Master of Science degree in Adult and Continuing Education, Administration, and Supervision in 2004. Coppin's Graduate Division recognized Shirley for outstanding and dedicated community service. She returned to school, yet again, and was only four classes away from receiving her Doctorate in Educational Psychology with certification in School Leadership, in proud anticipation of becoming Dr. Erwin.

In 1991, Shirley was graced with a career that was her calling rather than a chore; she was charged with raising well-rounded, intelligent human beings. She proudly accepted the awesome responsibility of being a significant fixture in the lives of many children. Shirley's 22 years of teaching included her shaping minds at almost every level. Her professional experiences have been with Baltimore City Public Schools, Baltimore County Public Schools, Community College of Baltimore County, and Harford Community College. She was most fulfilled when she served misunderstood and misguided youth. She was more than a teacher. She fed, clothed, mentored, encouraged, counseled, and above all, prepared her students for life. While she carried a genuine love for all of her students, her greatest impact was made during her time at Pimlico Middle.

Shirley retired in December 2013, and her purpose was absolutely fulfilled. She will forever be remembered for her unmatched prowess as an Educator. While in retirement, she began branding Erwin Enterprise & Company". In the

early stages of its development, she managed her sons' entrepreneurial endeavors at Anago Cleaning Services (Darell) and Core Elite Fitness (Donte'), and was instrumental in showcasing "The Phoenix Experience" for one of her adopted daughters, Gennifer Robinson.

Shirley had a knack for writing, speaking, planning, decorating, dressing to a tee with her expensive taste, hosting the best cookouts, pulling things off without a hitch, and was simply a maestro for making it all happen. You could always count on her to be on the dance floor as the life of the party with her daughters. she loved culture and attended as many plays and musical performances as possible. She never asked for a single thing in return; it was truly her nature and her desire to please others.

In 2008, Shirley met James Smith, and two immediately connected. They spent more than seven years together, and enjoyed trying out various restaurants and taking frequent trips to Atlantic City. He remained by her side until the very end.

As a mother of four, Shirley made it her priority to pour her heart into the daringly defiant turned dangerously debonair Darrell, timid youth turned tenacious Tanesha, boldly expressive turned unsurpassingly elegant Ebony, and her youngest dedicated duckling Donte'. Shirley loved her children and grandchildren very much, and considered them to be God's masterpieces. She raised them to be academically inclined, socially connected, caring, giving, honest, determined, loyal, and family oriented.

Shirley leaves to cherish her memory and continue her legacy; her mother, Bessie; four children, Darell (LaKesha), Tanesha (Patrick), Ebony (Mark), and Donte' (Lauren); six grandchildren, Shalyse, Brianna, Adrielle, Kahron, Keira, and Amirah; one great granddaughter, Emery; one brother, Larry; two nieces,

Shavonda and Kiev; one nephew, Yusef; two aunts, Ginger and Ann; three uncles, Daniel (Mary), Leroy, Jr. (Patricia), and Gerald (Rosalind); two cousins who were more like sisters, Angela and Lawanda; three great-nephews and one great-niece; a loving and devoted companion, James; two dear friends, Linda McCurnin and Barbara Williams; and a host of cousins, adopted children, friends, and students.

Cemetery Details

Druid Ridge

Previous Events

Public Viewing

MAY 31. 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
(410) 542-2400
info@marchfh.com

Family Hour

MAY 31. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
(410) 542-2400
info@marchfh.com

Wake

JUN 1. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Union Baptist Church
1219 Druid Hill Avenue
Baltimore, MD

Service

JUN 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

Union Baptist Church
1219 Druid Hill Avenue
Baltimore, MD

Tribute Wall



“ Shirley Erwin

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ Hello momma Shirley, every time I'm at work I think of you and I feel like I feel u there with me as I work. I miss coming to diffident units to check on you to see you face and your pretty smile. Especially you asking me when I'm coming back to work because everybody doesn't treat you like I DO. Just talking to you in this short time that we've know each other felt like Eternity for me. We always uplifted one another no matter time or day. I Miss you so much when I pass 661,647 I feel you watching over me. My siblings are trying to hold it together. Mom, give the strength that they need. And please continue to watch over us we love and miss you soon. Until we meet again R.I.P



JOY MORTON - June 04, 2015 at 01:34 PM



“ I remember when Mrs. Shirley came to SIANI Hosptial with all her family members. We instantly had a connection from the way I treated there mom. As the night went on and they left her I told them she was in GOOD hands with ALLSTATE. eVER since then they loved me for taking care of there mom. One day Mrs. Shirley told nesh and ebony I was there fifth sibling. I love my siblings with all my heart and I wouldn't change it for anything. tHANK YOU momma SHIRLEY for bringing my SIBLINGS into my life #WEALLWEGOT #hASHTAG love you all. JOY MORTON

JOY MORTON - June 04, 2015 at 07:26 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 - May 29, 2015 at 08:49 AM