



Joyce Ann Washington (Miller)

April 10, 1951 - February 5, 2021

God, in His infinite wisdom sent His angel to call home our beloved Joyce Ann Washington on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 in Milford Sussex Campus. She was born April 10, 1951 in Milford, DE. She was 69 years old. She was the daughter of the late J.C. and Lena Miller.

Joyce attended Benjamin Banneker Elementary School and later graduated from Milford High School. Joyce also attended Del Tech Community College, attaining a degree in education. She always wanted to be a teacher, and believe it or not, she was her daughter, La'Verne's teacher. Joyce wasn't fully satisfied in education, so she decided to go back to school, getting a degree in Nursing. She was employed as a nurse for a little over 15 years. Joyce retired from nursing ONLY to go back to her first love, school. We ALL know she loved the kids. She was at her best when she was with her school kids.

If you knew Joyce, you already know she loved from the heart. She loved hard, and was loved hard. Everyone was her friend, at least that's what she called them no matter who it was, "MY FRIEND". She loved being with family. She bragged about gatherings, vacations, holidays, and most important her birthday celebrations, which had to be a BIG DEAL every year.

Joyce was a member of Holy Trinity Church of the Living God in Dover, Delaware, where she received the Lord at an early age. She began to find her way, by doing things she loved in the church like Ushering and being in charge of the youth program. Two of her main programs were the 7up and Rainbow service. She later became a Missionary for church, which led her to being ordained as an evangelist. Her final home church was My Father's House Ministries in Milford, Delaware, where Evangelist Washington was one of the Mothers of the Church. Although at a new church, she continued her mission to get the LORD'S word out to the people. She would always say let the Lords Will be done.

In addition to her parents, Joyce was preceded in death by her sister, Shirley Church and brothers, Henry and Freddie Carter.

Joyce leaves to mourn her passing, her husband, Tommy Lee Washington; two daughters, La'Verne White (Edgar) of Greenwood and Angela Boone Jones (Rudy) of Milford, DE; god-sister, Rosie Johnson of Dover, DE; godbrother, Chester Fuller of Fort Bragg, NC; adopted sister, Shirley Lowrance of Charlotte NC; godson, Adrain Miller; three goddaughters, Cleo Shelton, Damita Smith and Monica Sewell; one grandson, Ryan Boone (Britney), two granddaughters, Brittany Zator (Chris) and India Jones; five great grandchildren; two very special friends, Theresa Cooper and Pamella Taylor; and a host on nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and church family.

Comments



“ Good morning, My co teacher in the Milford Central Academy Life Skills room, Ms. Elder asked me to write a few words about our colleague and friend, Joyce Washington. No writer could hope to do this task with the proficiency that Joyce should receive, but I do my best. Joyce deserves that. You have to be a special kind of person to work with our Life Skills students. They are truly the most needy, and come from some of the most challenging life situations of any group of students in our school. For that reason when we needed help in our room, we would only ask for Joyce. She never let us, or our kids, down, and we were always proud of her. And so we are proud to call Joyce our friend today because Joyce was the very symbol of professionalism. Each day she came to work with us at school she modeled appropriate dress for not only students, but staff members, too. Joyce treated each child, no matter how difficult to work with, or how poorly dressed, with respect, grace, and nurturing. “These babies,” she’d tell us, “deserve that.” We are proud to call Joyce our friend today, because she would literally drop everything to help us. That’s what friends do. Joyce would volunteer to come in without pay to cook, or clean, to greet parents, to decorate the room, to tackle any task. Joyce did so without asking, without complaint, without anything but cheerfulness and good humor. Joyce was protective of us and our class, and could always make us laugh. We are proud to call Joyce our friend today, because she put everyone else first. Time and time again we’d find a reminder from her—a card or scribbled note on a desk, saying just the right thing at the right time. More often we’d hear a little knock at the door, look up, and she’d be there, asking “Are you okay?” We are proud to call Joyce our friend today, because she’d spend her own money to buy gifts for our kids. Joyce didn’t miss a trick, and would see things in our kids that we’d miss in the hustle and bustle of our day. The next day “bang,” she’d show up in the room with some gift she’d purchase for our kids. Finally, we are proud to call Joyce our friend today because of the very last day our school was in session last year. No teacher will forget March 13th for how it ended, but we can tell you how it began. It began with Joyce Washington standing at our door with a child she’d found at in the hall. The girl was crying, and Joyce brought her in, made her something to eat, and dried her tears. Joyce looked at me and said “I know it’s not where she should be, but it’s where she deserves to be.” And so today we want to tell you all how proud we are to call Joyce Washington our friend. She isn’t where we want her to be, standing next to us in class, but we have no doubt that she is where she deserves to be. Captain Jack Rodgers
Milford Central Academy Life Skills, February 9, 2021

Lizabeth Elder - February 10 at 08:48 AM