

Dear God



*Please guide me as I walk down paths new
and unknown, and hold my hand should I get
lost on my journey.*

*Give me the wisdom to take steady breaths,
to hold my head high, and take each step with
the confidence that comes from knowing
I will be caught should I fall.*

*Help me see the lights in the darkness, to feel
their warmth and remember that I am part of
that warmth, for I have walked kindly in this
world and given it my love.*

Acknowledgement

*The Family wishes to express their sincere gratitude to the many friends, both near and far, who have offered their prayers, sympathy, condolences, comforting words and many acts of kindness and regrets during this difficult time.
The calls, the visits and the other numerous forms of assistance meant a great deal to us.*

Arrangements Entrusted to:



BENTA'S
Funeral Home, Inc.
630 St. Nicholas Avenue
New York, NY 10030
Phone: (212) 281-8850
Fax: (212) 234-3600

A Celebration of Life



Juanita Hernandez

SUNRISE: OCTOBER 9, 1953 ~ SUNSET: NOVEMBER 13, 2023

Funeral Service

Tuesday, November 28, 2023 • 10:00 A.M.

BENTA'S FUNERAL HOME, INC.

630 St. Nicholas Avenue • New York, NY 10030

DEACON RODNEY BECKFORD, Officiant

BRVON NEAL, Organist

Interment

FERNCLIFF CEMETERY

Hartsdale, New York

Order of Service

ORGAN PRELUDE

INVOCATION

SELECTION “AMAZING GRACE”

SCRIPTURE READING

OLD TESTAMENT JOSHUA 1:9

NEW TESTAMENT ISAIAH 41:10

PSALMS 147:3

PSALMS 23

READ BY JAMETTA DALMIDA & KENNETH JACOBS

PRAYER OF COMFORT

SELECTION “PRECIOUS LORD, TAKE MY HAND”

REFLECTIONS FAMILY & FRIENDS

(TWO MINUTES PLEASE)

OBITUARY LEI SADE SUMMERS

SELECTION “WIND BENEATH MY WINGS”

EULOGY DEACON RODNEY BECKFORD

COMMITTAL & BENEDICTION

FINAL VIEWING

RECESSIONAL

Obituary

JUANITA HERNANDEZ, born on October 9th, 1953 was the daughter of the late Bernardo and Louise Hernandez departed us on November 13, 2023. Juanita was the 5th of 8 children and is survived by her 2 sisters; Maria Hernandez-Campbell (Muammar), Luisa H. Jacobs (Ken), and brother; Miguelito Hernandez (Valencia), her life partner Eisen “Ike” Jones, and her beloved nieces and nephews; Elizabeth, Edward, Lisa, Bernardo, Louise F., Ernest, Earl, Paul, Jerilyn, Miguel, Lei-Sade, Amoni, Kareem, Naasir, Louise J., Matthew, and a host of other relatives and friends.

Nita emerged from humble beginnings, but her quiet strength and determination became a beacon of inspiration. Through teaching and reinforcing the importance of personal independence, she skillfully rewrote the narrative of her own life.

She was affectionately known to her family and friends as “Nita, Sugar, and Creampuff”. Growing up Nita attended P.S. 108, J.H.S. 13 and Julia Richman H.S., after graduating she went on to pursue a degree in Accounting at Baruch College.

She was known for her love of numbers, organizational skills and beautiful penmanship which led to her work as a bookkeeper at Kott’s Fish and Tackle Company in the Flat Iron District, Shoenfield Furriers in the Fur District, and the Rotgin Law Firm located in Uniondale, NY. While growing up she even worked at several local neighborhood businesses in Spanish Harlem.

Nita was a cherished matriarch, she played the role of a second mother to all who were fortunate to know her. Her infectious smile and supportive approach was disarming and she made everyone around her feel so comfortable, she was loved by everyone. Regardless of anywhere we would go, everyone would always asked: “How’s Nita?”

Nita loved sports, she grew up watching basketball in the early 70’s, 80’s, 90’s and in her senior years she later became obsessed with baseball and tennis. She never missed a Yankees Game or Tennis match. When the Yankee’s or the Williams sisters played, we all knew not to disturb her.

Beyond her personal past times, hobbies and professional accomplishments, she leaves behind a legacy of warmth, kindness, and unwavering support. Nita was known for being apart of our family’s 1st. She was the first to travel to Japan to spend time with her baby sister “Wee-See” after her niece was born, she was the first to take the boys on their first flight to Disney, she was the “mom” who drove us to college during our freshmen year at college, she was the first to introduce her nieces and nephews to banking and the importance of building a savings and managing their assets.

Nita enjoyed celebrating the personal moments and the important life events of others. Her most memorable event is when she decided to throw a Masquerade Ball, her mission was for everyone to simply have a great time together on her birthday. She enjoyed celebrating life and will be remembered for planning parties, weddings, graduations, etc. and making souvenirs a.k.a capias for so many parties.

She always made sure we were prepared for those important moments like Easter Sunday during the times when we all looks forward to getting dressed up. She would take us shopping to make sure we were ready for those important days. She really enjoyed the holidays and she always made sure we all received gifts on Christmas and Birthdays. Nita was incredible, she always took the time to make sure that we were all ready for the first day of school, picture day, bake sales, first prom and graduation day. During those special events her knack for “doing hair” helped ensured all the girls looked good with the use of her curling iron, rollers and a little dippity-do.

Regardless of whatever we were interested in, she helped support all of our hobbies, interests and dreams. Nita was so giving, but her greatest gift and the most important lesson she taught us all was to be independent. Independence is what has helped us all perpetuate her personal beliefs and pay it forward.

Nita loved music and she filled our family gatherings with melodies of the oldies and the classics. In our home, we all knew when it was almost 8:00pm, because WBLS’ DJ Frankie Crocker when “signing-off” played Moody’s Mood For Love, and like clockwork each and every evening Nita would sing and we would all join in. Her love for music and old-school tunes brought her so much joy. We will truly miss those incredible moments with shared with her.

Her special musical touch was especially felt each time she would call to sing “Happy Birthday” to family members, turning those moments into a symphony of love and laughs.

Nita had a memory like no other, we would refer to her as “Nita-pedia”. She loved our neighborhood and she took the time to remember everything and everybody. Whenever we had a question about a person, place or thing we would end our quest for facts with her. Even in her last days while hospitalized during our weekly family zoom calls she would provide answers to so many questions and historical moments which we failed to remember.

In celebrating her life, let us remember the joy she brought and the love she shared as a big sister and mother to us all. Nita will be dearly missed and fondly remembered by all who had the privilege of being touched by her presence. So, when we think of the question How’s Nita? We know that she is resting in eternal peace.

