

A Celebration of Life for

Janelle S.C. Brown

May 2, 1948 - June 5, 2021

Wednesday
June 16, 2021

Viewing: 10:00 a.m. Service: 11:00 p.m.

Donald Borgwardt Funeral Home 4400 Powder Mill Road Beltsville, MD 20705

Obituary

Janelle Suzanne Coleman Brown was born on May 2, 1948, at Freedmen's Hospital in Washington, D.C. She was the second child and only daughter of Otis and Norma Jane Johnson Coleman. She had three brothers: Otis Roy, Geoffrey André, and Stephen Dean.

Between the ages of four and ten, Janelle's family lived abroad in France while her father served in the military. In 1958, Janelle along with her mother and brothers returned stateside while her father remained overseas. They settled in Warren, Ohio,

near her maternal aunt, Myrtle Holmes, who was like a mother to her. The family later moved back to Washington, D.C., where Janelle attended the District of Columbia Public Schools, graduating from Eastern Senior High School. After graduating high school, she furthered her education by successfully completing several computer courses at Johnson Business School.

Some years later, Janelle gave birth to her daughter, Veronica Virginia Coleman. The child was the answer to Janelle's prayer; she loved her dearly. The doting mother never missed an opportunity to let Veronica know how much she loved and truly appreciated her. The mother and daughter duo were very close. In fact, they were best friends—a Coke and a few slices of Wonder bread and they could pull an all-nighter—sewing, cooking, baking, or talking until one of them fell asleep. Veronica lovingly recalls that her mother kept her innermost secrets, was the wings to her dreams, and taught her to have confidence in God, to see Him as her strength and ever present help.

In August 1967, Janelle began an information processing systems career at the National Space and Aeronautics Administration as a contractor. Later, she received extensive training and education in computer programming, system design and system analysis at IBM. She managed information systems and data processing for U.S. News & World Report, Teamsters Union, Browning Ferris Industries and National Home Builders Institute before starting her own contracting company, Broman, Inc., where as a systems engineer she provided contract and project management services until retirement in 2010.

Janelle was a woman of faith whose roots began at Lane Memorial A.M.E. Church, in Washington, D.C. In 1993, Janelle joined From the Heart Church Ministries where she remained a member until her passing. Furthermore, Janelle was a talented, beyond fashion-forward woman whose outfits were carefully coordinated with her handbags, shoes, and jewelry. Similarly, she had a keen eye for interior design and was the consummate host for holiday celebrations, ladies' luncheons, and sleepovers. The welcome mat at her front door should have been replaced with a sign reading "Sue's Cookies and Ice Creamery." Everyone looked forward to their favorite half pint, and baker's dozen or two. Moreover, because of her love for research her family has genealogy books that they will cherish forever.



Obituary (continued)

In August 1980, Janelle met Jerome Brown, her future husband. The couple married in October 1990, at the courthouse in Rockville, Maryland. From that union, she gained another daughter, Michele Antoinette, and a son, Reginald Anthony Brown. Janelle loved her husband and her blended family. She always expressed that Jerome was a wonderful, loving, generous, and thoughtful husband who made her laugh. It warmed her heart to know that she was blessed with his love and devotion until his passing in 2006.

Janelle will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her. She left an indelible impression on the hearts of friends and family. She leaves to cherish her memory her daughter, Veronica Garner (Anthony); brothers, Geoffrey Coleman, and Stephen Coleman; her affectionate son and daughter, Reggie Brown, and Michelle Broome; grandchildren: Jacqueline Garner, Faith Garner, Victoria Garner, Tiara Broome, and Kevin Broome, Jr.; niece, Andrea Coleman; and a host of close friends and relatives.

Janelle was preceded in death by the love of her life, husband, Jerome Brown; parents, Otis, and Norma Coleman; and brother, Otis R. Coleman.





Order of Service

Invocation

Scripture Reading

Old Testament: Psalm 23 New Testament: Romans 8:28

Prayer of Comfort

Selection FTH Psalmist

Acknowledgements

Ms. LaVerne Perry Mrs. Veronica V. Garner

Call to Christ

Recessional

Interment
George Washington Cemetery
Site 808-2
9500 Riggs Road
Adelphi, Maryland 20783



Psalm 23: 1-3 "The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake."

Grandma,

Death is a hard thing to understand. We spend so much time going around in circles asking ourselves "How could I have missed it? Why didn't I see this coming? When will the pain stop?" These questions go unanswered and we do our best to deal with them. But, that is not what God intended.

He intends for us to experience death the same way we experience life --with Him. He stays by our side every day experiencing life as we do. I can only imagine the adventures He and Grandma Sue went on.

From her many travels to exotic and beautiful places around the world, to the birth of her daughter, to her marriage with grandaddy and all the beautiful memories in between, and every and all things after that, God allowed grandma Sue to lead the way on their adventures. Now it's His turn to show her all he has in store.

It is hard to be sad when we consider the majesty her eyes behold right now. It is hard to be confused by the pain when we know she is being led by the good shepherd. Most importantly, it is comforting to know God is still here with us holding our hand experiencing our lives just as He did with her.

We love you, Grandma Sue. It's time for a new adventure.

Love, Tiara and Kevin



I could never forget all of what you have taught me and shared with me. My earliest memories are being with you in your garden and one of our last moments together you were giving me plants and teaching me how to water and care for the plants in your home. I am grateful for all the little lessons and I embraced the goodness from your heart and I realize that it is in my heart. I trusted you always and you were always here for me. I have always known you to be a strong woman planted in God on your journey. I will miss your laugh, your warm hugs, your family stories, and bonding over our love of Harry Potter movies and Subway tuna sandwiches. My trials might not get easier, but you've instilled in me a trust that will make my journey not only worth the while, but also worth embracing.

Love, Victoria Garner

Grandma,

Over the years you have always been there to show me you love me and how much you care. Words cannot describe how much you will be missed. I will miss your kisses and hugs and cuddles and cards. I will also miss Thanksgivings and Christmases with you but I know you are watching over me and always in my heart. I will love and miss you always and forever.

Love, Faith (Fa-Fa)



















Grandma, you were a remarkable woman. Your unconditional love for me has kept me grounded and made me strong. When I was younger, you took me everywhere with you. I fondly remember our weekend trips to local malls. We would grab our purses and head out many Saturday afternoons. You always had a Lincoln, a handbag, matching shoes, and music. No bother listening to the radio when you had a carefully curated oldies CD playlist. You loved different colors and found solace in nature, and you always meticulously searched for gifts in my favorite shade of purple. Grandma you always had a warm hug, extra kisses, and plenty of tough love. Your smile and laughter would permeate through a room as smoothly as your dance moves. Our sleepovers just never seemed long enough.

You were front and center of every event in my life, never missing a celebration, honor assembly, play, recital, prom, or graduation. You lovingly, and skillfully hemmed my prom dress. That was no easy feat on my 4'10" frame. You were always thoughtful, just as much as you were consistent. I always admired your sense of style and class, down to your flip-flops that had bling. Grandma, you constantly encouraged and inspired me to follow my every dream. We share an unbroken bond. I will always remember that you told me that I would not be alone because you were on my team.

Love always, Jacqueline Janelle Garner

Pallbearers

Family and Friends

Flower Bearers

Family and Friends

Acknowledgement

The family of Janelle S.C. Brown acknowledges with deep appreciation every act of kindness and expression of love shown to us during our time of bereavement. May God richly bless you. Special thanks to From the Heart Church Ministries for all your prayers, love, and support.

Services Entrusted To:
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4400 Powder Mill Road
Beltsville, MD 20705