

PALLBEARERS

Mr. Charles Farres Smith - Mr. Carson Karriem Freeman
Mr. Cari Freeman - Mr. Cushee Freeman
Mr. Carson K. Freeman, Jr. - Mr. Caizer Freeman
Dr. Melvin Fussell - Dr. W. Micheal Fussell
Mr. Celestine Khutbah (Maurice Mathis -Truck)



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The family of KAREN LORETTA LESTER FREEMAN wishes to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for all your kind deeds during her time of transition with comforting messages, floral tributes, prayers and many other expressions of kindness and concern evidenced at this time in thought and deed.

FINAL ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO:

C.J. Edwards Funeral Home, LLC
Authur James Nance, Proprietor
General Manager, Licensed Embalmer,
Licensed Funeral Director &
Graduate Mortician

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Fort Valley, Georgia 31030-2739
Office - 478.825.2730
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[www. cjedwardsfuneralhome.com](http://www.cjedwardsfuneralhome.com)



Karen Loretta Lester
FREEMAN

10/13/1949 - 06/05/2022



DANCING WITH
Angels



Saturday, July 16, 2022
11:00 AM

Belvin AME Church
13076 State Highway 224
Marshallville, GA 31069



love



joy



happiness





I hear her laughter and her glee
As she dances oh so free
On her face a delightful grin
Her feet feather light once again

She's dancing with the angels
Unbounded from her earthly vessel
She's dancing with the angels
New wings added to her apparel

With a heart so full of love
She's looking down from up above
Wishing them peace of mind

She sees how their hearts are torn
But tells them not to mourn
They'll be together again someday
Listen closely and you hear her say

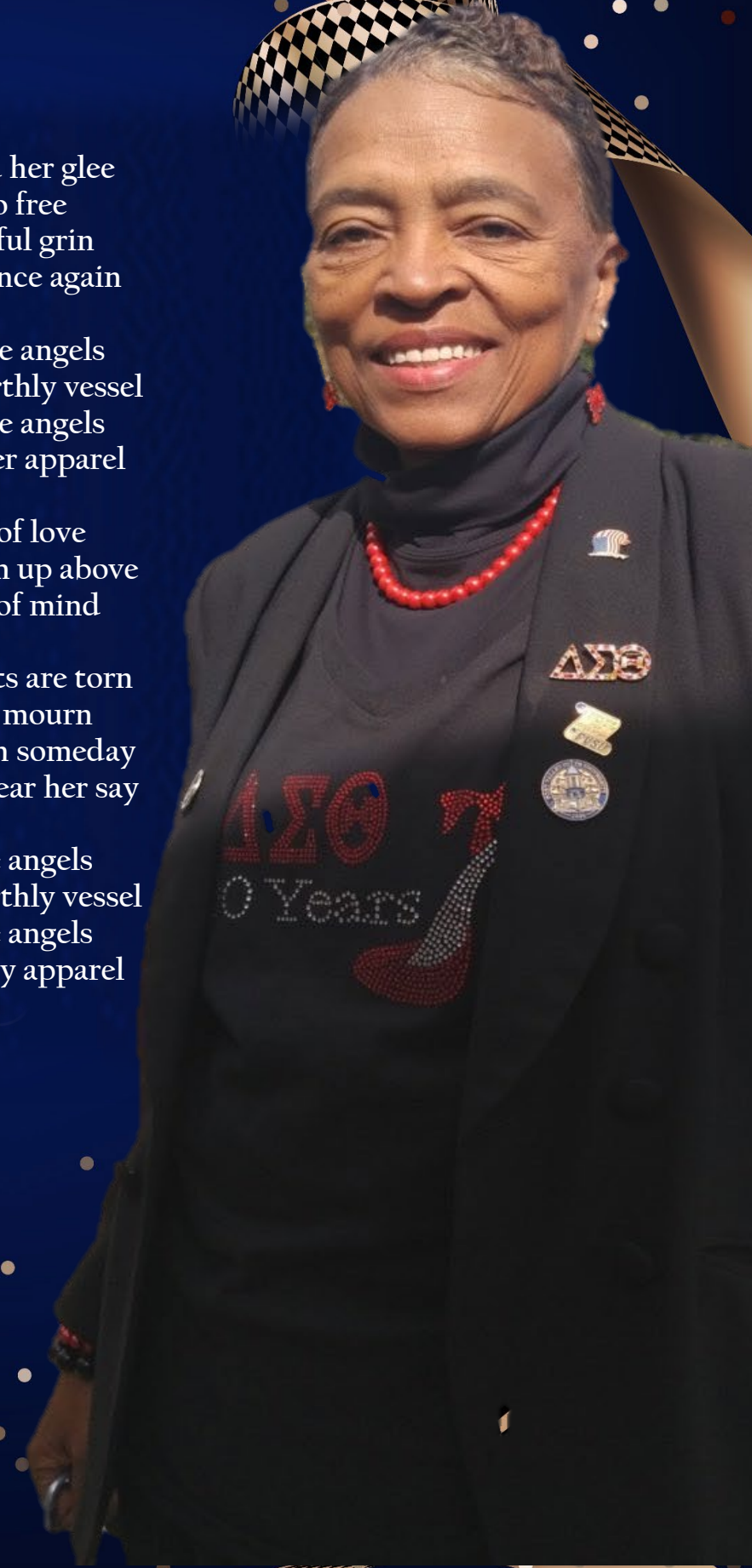
I'm dancing with the angels
Unbounded from my earthly vessel
I'm dancing with the angels
New wings added to my apparel



family

love

Karen



Karen Loretta Lester Freeman born October 13, 1949 was the daughter of the late Robert Lester Sr. and Rosa Jane Johnson Lester. Karen attended Belvin A. M. E. church with her grandmother, Bertha Johnson as a young girl and later joined the church, where she remained a faithful member.

Karen graduated from Fort Valley High school; she made history as one of the three African Americans to desegregate the schools in 1967. She matriculated Georgia State University for one year before returning to Fort Valley, Ga. Upon returning to Fort Valley, her friend, the late Joann Freeman, introduced her to her brother, Carson Freeman, whom she married on February 19, 1969. After marrying, Karen and Carson moved to Boston, Massachusetts, where they decided to become Muslims. While in Boston.

During this time, Karen gave birth to her four children in Boston, MA, Karriem, Cari, Cushee, and Chardas.

Karen accomplished much in her 17 years in Boston, MA. She trained as a secretary at the historical John Hancock Building, where her skills she learned led her to further her talents by becoming employed with General Motors in Framingham, MA, where she remained working for nine years. Karen was a trailblazer. She became the first woman and the first woman of color to become a supervisor at General Motors in Framingham, MA.

A significant life-changing obstacle met Karen. She was diagnosed with Stage 4 Ovarian Cancer at 32 after giving birth to her last child. She was advised she would not see her child grow up. However, her determined spirit survived and lived an additional 40 years beyond the diagnosis. That life-changing event prompted Karen to reevaluate her life and her love for her family. Karen decided to move back home to Georgia in 1985 with her four beautiful babies.

Karen's move opened her up to continue to pursue her many dreams. She modeled and developed acting skills. Karen starred in the movie *No Holds Bar* with wrestler Hulk Hogan. Her passion for beauty and education led her to attend Cosmetology School and become a licensed hair stylist. Karen's education did not stop there. She felt there was a rumble in "the Valley" when Karen arrived. She enrolled in Fort Valley State College, now Fort Valley State University, receiving a Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communications. Karen was a Delta Legacy of Eta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Karen was an editor for the Fort Valley State College Peach Hite Newspaper. The rumble continued where she felt compelled to continue to pursue education at Fort Valley State College and gained not one but two Master Degrees; one in Guidance Counseling and a Masters in Rehabilitation Counseling.

She also taught ballroom dancing. She would dance to any type of music. She literally would dance all night long while keeping her beautiful smile on her face.

Education was used as a pillar for her to touch more people. She served in so many ways. Karen went on to become: an English Instructor at FVSU; a recruiter for FVSU; a School Counselor in the districts of Macon, Dooley, Talbot, and Hancock; a financial aid counselor for FVSU, and lastly, a substitute teacher for Houston County School District following her retirement.

She helped countless students of life with her zeal for life. She often left students with bracelets, quotes, pins, and cards that she would make. Some of her quotes are, "I Care for You!" "Do All You Can While You Can!" and "Don't Give People Gasoline to Burn You Up With!"

She leaves to cherish her loving memories, a devoted husband, Carson, and their four children, Karriem Freeman (Anitra), Cari, Cushee, and Chardas Freeman (Larome); her loving brother, Robert "Bobby" Lester, Jr.; her loving sister, Rhonda Smith; the children she took under her wing, Colestine Khutbah, Maurice "Truck" (Patrice) Mathis, Manson Mazizi L, and Laboya Bryant; eight grandchildren: Karen C. Freeman, Caizer K. Freeman, Caden K. Freeman, Carson K. Freeman, Jr., Brisco A. Freeman, Kenya Freeman, Ankhesenamun R. Freeman S.L, and Nuyget Taylor; a host of nieces and nephews, other relatives and countless friends.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Musical Prelude Minister Dexter Davis

Processional Rev. Dexter Mullens, Pastor
Belvin AME Church, Marshallville, GA

Parting Glance Family and Friends

The Closing of the Bier The Family

Prayer Reverend Dexter Mullens, Pastor
Belvin AME Church, Marshallville, GA

Scripture Readings Old Testament
New Testament

Solo Minister Dexter Davis

Tributes or Words of Expressions Rev. Dr. Ronnie Jackson, Pastor
Bethel Worship Center Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Eulogy Reverend Robert J. Angrish, Pastor
Mount Vienna AME Church, Valdosta, GA

Proclamation FVSU National Alumni Association
Angela Fussell

Acknowledgements Authur James Nance, Proprietor
C.J. Edwards Funeral Home

Musical Postlude Minister Dexter Davis

Recessional

Postlude

The Interment and Committal Service
Belvin AME Church
13076 State Route 224
Marshallville, Georgia 31057