

Celebrating the Life of...



Sverdolyn
FITZHUGH

SUNRISE: APRIL 1, 1951 - SUNSET: DECEMBER 17, 2020

Gwendolyn FITZHUGH



Life Reflections

Gwendolyn Iris Rollings-Fitzhugh was born April 1, 1951 in Vicksburg, MS to the late James “Rollo” and Eddie Mary (nee Manadier) Rollings. She was the first daughter born to this union. The Rollings family relocated to East Chicago, IN in 1952. Gwendolyn was baptized at an early age at Antioch Baptist Church in New Addition under the pastorate of the late Rev. Moses L. Sykes. She attended East Chicago Public Schools.

She worked at the swimming pool in New Addition, the A&P grocery store, the City of East Chicago, and later retired after 30 years of dedicated service from Midwest Operating Engineers Local #150. “Dimples” as she was called at work, was the first black female Operator at Plant #7 in East Chicago, IN. Gwendolyn relocated to Chicago, IL and was united in holy matrimony to Huey “Hugo” Fitzhugh on March 31, 1990. She joined St.

Paul CME Church under the pastorate of the late Rev. Orange; and was a present member under the pastorate of Rev. Dr. Curlee L. Adams until the time of her death.

Gwen was known for her infectious smile and generous spirit. The “Soul Food Cooking Diva” loved listening to the blues, but her favorite song was “Forget Me Nots.” We will always “Cherish” the love. An avid gardener was “Never Too Busy” not to remember everyone’s birthday and faithfully sent birthday greetings and presents. We’ve all received one of her “special messages” via phone, even the ones that left you with a “hunch.”

Gwendolyn was preceded in death by her parents, James “Rollo” and Eddie Mary (nee Manadier) Rollings, maternal grandmother and grandfather, Katie “affectionately known as Mama Katie” Mary (Louis C. Sr.) Manadier, paternal grandmother and grandfather Hattie Mae Rollings-Sparkman and Royal Rollings, aunts and uncles Florice (Nathaniel “Boe Jack”) Coleman and Mattiel (Vincent) Smith, cousins Burley Phillips, Jeremy Walker, Rosemary Johnson, and Toni Darden.

Unbeknownst to the family, we received what would be our last Christmas cards, presents, and special phone calls from Gwen right before her death. Our lives were forever changed when we received the last phone call on December 17, 2020 to say that our beloved Gwen was called home.

Gwendolyn leaves to cherish her memories: loving husband of 30 years, Huey “Hugo” Fitzhugh; beloved cat, Kitty; Godchildren Chauncey Hackett and Kenita Reed, daughter-in-love, Christa Seats; four grandchildren Dominique and Brittany Gordon, Rapheal Simpson, and Jamaal Thomas; four sisters Dr. Arlette (Art) Rollings Miller Smith, Jacquelyn Warner, Carolyn (Raymont) Henderson, and Jocelyn Rollings; two brothers James “Bay Bro” and Timothy Rollings; one uncle Louis C. Manadier III (ret); one sister-in-law Charlie Grandberry; three brothers-in-law James “JT” (Diane) Fitzhugh, Dewey (Kathrine) Fitzhugh, and Melvin Fitzhugh; fifteen nieces Traceen, Stacey, Tamisha, Terika, Chrystle, Cydney, Serena “Bree”, Jerlyn, Arlecia, Benita, Constance, Debra, Shirley, Margie, and Erica; thirteen nephews Tarik, Christopher, James, Shemar, Zedrick, Ross Jr., Keith, Mark, Michael, Terry, Jerry, David, and Nicholas; special cousins Janice (Gregory), Shelia, Naomi, Pamela (Gregory), Jakarda, a host of great nieces and nephews, other cousins from the Manadier and Rollings family, and special friends.

Order of Service

Tuesday, December 29, 2020

Visitation: 10:00AM

Funeral: 11:00AM

Divinity Funeral Home & Cremation Services

3831 Main Street

East Chicago, Indiana 46312

Processional – Clergy, Family and Friends

Scripture

Old Testament – Psalms 121

New Testament – John 14: 1-4

Prayer - Deacon Gregory E. Hunt, Sr. & Deacon N. Atterson Spann

Acknowledgements of Condolences

Song Selection – Bertha Kelly “Walk Around Heaven All Day”

Obituary – Read in Silence

Remarks – Family & Friends (2 min. please)

Song Selection – “Amazing Grace”

Eulogy – Rev. Dr. Curlee L. Adams

Benediction

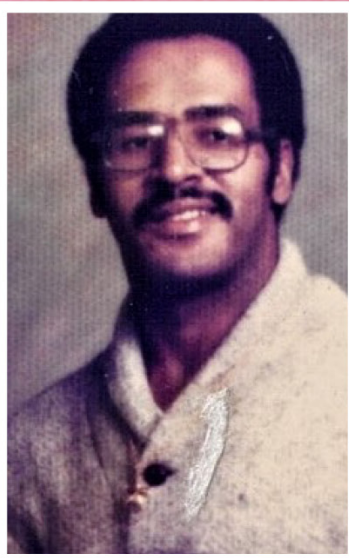
Recessional

Interment

Fern Oaks Cemetery

Griffith, Indiana







Tribute To My Wife...

Gwen,

I will never forget the times we shared together. I can't fly with one wing, no matter how hard I try. But until then, I will see you on the other side.

Your Loving Husband,

Hugo



GOD SEES THE GOOD



*God sees the good
we do on the earth.
God sees the thoughtfulness
we do towards others.
God sees the time
we go out of our way to help others.
God sees the words
of encouragement we give to others.
There are so many lessons
Aunt Gwen left us on the earth.
As I celebrate the life
of my Aunt Gwen,
I say thank you for the virtuous lessons
of life you gave to me your niece!
Love,*

Arlecia Brown



Daily Word

The Lord works in mysterious ways. This is the last Daily Word entry that Gwen was reading right before she was rushed to the hospital on December 16, 2020.

I am adaptable and resilient.

As I look back on my life, I can see that I have moved through many seasons and changes along my journey. I understand that change is inevitable, a natural part of life. When I forgot this truth, I felt anxious or uncomfortable when life presented me with challenges. I've learned to adapt to the twists and turns of life and not resist them.

Now when I am faced with a challenge and feel discomfort in my body or unrest in my mind, I pause to remember my divinity. I remind myself that I have the capacity to draw upon spiritual wisdom at any time. I affirm: I greet any change or challenge with resiliency and openness. My mind and heart are at rest as I accept the changes in my life. I am resilient!

I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go. - Joshua 1:9

Arrangements Entrusted to:

Divinity Funeral Home & Cremation Service
"The House of Divine Service"

3831 Main Street - East Chicago, Indiana 46312
Main (219) 397-2024 Fax (219) 397-2400
divinityfuneralhome.com

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FLOBOZ.COM | 877-902-2295