

CELEBRATION FOR THE LIFE OF
Shawn Walder-Williams

Sunday, June 20, 2021
4:00 PM

Ambassador Seventh-day Adventist Church
3245 W Oakland Park Blvd
Lauderdale Lakes, FL 33311

Her Story

Shawn Walder was born to Vera Daire Walder and Wilfred Alexander Walder on October 17, 1958. She was a native of Jamaica and hailed from the beautiful parish of Manchester where she grew up in the small town called Walderston.

Shawn was the fifth of nine children and because she fell right in the middle, she often played the role of mediator and peacekeeper. She is survived by six brothers and two sisters, Loxley Walder, Kay Burton, Carol Walder-Hutchinson, Terran Walder, Joseph Walder, Peter Walder, Patrick Walder and Dale Walder, her two children Alecia Williams and Arvid Williams Jr, three grandchildren, Kaila, Kasidy and Ryhan, nine nephews, eleven nieces, multiple grandnieces, and grandnephews.

In her early years Shawn attended Mount Olivet Basic School, Mizpha All Age School and then continued her education at Christiana Comprehensive High School. One of her best friends recounted how focused and hardworking she was as a student. Shawn took pride in both her schoolwork and deportment; she was attentive to her studies and was respectful to both her peers and those in authority. Shawn would often recount a story from her primary school days about a young man named Duggie Christopher who copied from her paper and mistakenly wrote "My name is Shawn Walder. I am a girl".

In high school she excelled in the skill of dressmaking and the garments that she made in both grades ten and eleven were chosen to be a part of the Christiana Secondary High School exhibit, in the annual all island secondary school skill exhibition. Her friend recounts, only the best quality work was placed on display, and her work being selected two years in a row spoke for itself.

After completing high school Shawn went on to teach at Mizpha Basic School. Over the years she kept in touch with some of her students and that's the kind of person she was. She was the connector, the one who always kept in touch with everyone.

In 1978 Shawn Walder met Arvid Williams Sr. They became friends through communication in a pen pal program. She picked his name out of a Student Challenge book she received at church. They later became man and wife in 1981 and that union produced two children, Alecia Petrenia Williams, and Arvid Shawn Williams Jr.

The family lived in Newport and then settled in Walderston. Shawn always found something for her hands to do. She was a sought-after seamstress who made beautiful clothing and crochet items. She was extremely resourceful, she raised and sold chickens and cows and travelled to other Caribbean islands to buy and resell goods. She was already an entrepreneur in the making as she always wanted better for her family.

In 1990 Shawn migrated to Nassau, Bahamas where she worked as an Au pair. After looking for additional opportunities she decided to go to the United States and settled in Fort Lauderdale Florida. There she started a cleaning company. She serviced boats, luxury yachts and luxury homes in the Fort Lauderdale and Las Olas area. However, her true passion was to be a nurse and take care of people. She later attained her certification as a nursing assistant.

Shawn loved caring for people. She cared for her patients as if they were her own family members. Even after they were deceased, she would continue the relationship with the families.

Shawn was the true definition of a workaholic, however; when she found some free time, she would knit and do needle point. She made beautiful pieces that she would use as gifts and to decorate her and her daughter's home.

Shawn was a Seventh-day Adventist Christian and an active member of the Ambassador Seventh-day Adventist Church where she served as sabbath school superintendent and soloist when requested. She was also a great cook. Her house was the eating spot for some of the young people of the church. Not a sabbath would pass by without a big lunch gathering.

Shawn had the most vibrant personality. She was a social butterfly, mischievous person, life of the party, jokester, prankster, and the best advice giver. Once she entered the room her presence was known, she radiated warmth and love. She was one to always start a conversation and made you feel extremely comfortable. She had several adopted daughters and sons who connected with her regularly and sought her advice. They listened to her stories and laughed heartily at her naughty jokes. She remembered everyone's birthdays and special days. Shawn intentionally maintained connections with everyone in the family and was always the go to person if you couldn't find a contact. As part of staying connected she was kind, in terms of helping anyone that needed some assistance.

She will truly be missed by her family and friends. This is just goodbye for now until we meet again.

Order of Service

Processional

Opening Remarks

Pastor Valtricts Binns

Congregational Song

Under His Wings Hymn 529

Prayer of Comfort

Elder Albert Daley

1st Scripture: Psalm 23

Kaila and Kasidy Williams

2nd Scripture: John 14:1-2

Omeal Mullings

Congregational Song

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less Hymn 522

Reflections

Please limit to 2 minutes

Eulogy

Elder Fitzroy Williams

Special Song

Sonya Dixon

Sermon

Pastor Noel Rose

Prayer of Consolation

Elder George Charles

Closing Song

How Great Thou Art Hymn 86




Tributes

My rock, my strength, my solace, the love of my life and my best friend. Mommy, I still can't fully accept the fact that you are no longer here with me. You've always told me that you were not here to be wood or stone, but I would have never imagined the void that your passing has left. Mom, I am thankful for all the values that you've instilled in me. I will miss our talks and the back-and-forth banter we had. I miss your reassuring smile and laughter but most of all the big warm hugs you'd give me. This cruel world has robbed us of the time we could have had together but I will cherish the memories and moments we spent together. Mommy you were one phenomenal woman, I love you. Sleep in Peace until we meet again.
-Alecia

Mom, words can't describe the magnitude of love I have for you and the level of appreciation within my heart knowing that I was privileged to be your son in this lifetime. When I reflect on your life, it's no doubt in my mind that you're the most amazing person I know. You trail-blazed a path for your family to live a better life and helped countless people from the bottom of your heart with no expectations of anything in return but simply them helping others as well. Your sage wisdom and unparalleled visionary abilities helped inspire a whole generation after you that will carry the torch with full confidence that your legacy will continue. Your charismatic personality, charming spirit, and amazing sense of humor will always be memories that will stay with me the rest of my life. You always taught me to do the right thing, do things to the best of my abilities, and always show people I care. I know good and well within my spirit that when God returns, he will welcome you with open arms. You are no longer here with us in the flesh and physical form, but I know the love you showed will live on. I love you with all my heart Mom always and forever!

-Junior





Shawn, those special memories of you will always bring a smile. You always meant so much and will always do. The fact that you are no longer here is hard to comprehend and I'll surely miss you. You're forever in my heart until we meet again. May your soul rest in Jesus.

-Bobette Walters

To my Auntie. You are one in a million and there is no one else like you. God made you special. You were always there to encourage me in anything I wanted to do, and you never gave up on me. When things seemed impossible to me you encouraged me to keep at it and complete what I started. Auntie I love you so much. Sleep and take your rest. I will miss our talks and your laughter but most of all I will miss you. I love you. -Kerry Ann, Kelicia, Briana and Rezenia

Dear Grandma, I know that you were not in the best of health. You were in pain every day, but I wish you could have lived longer. You used to have the funniest jokes and stories. I don't know what to do without you. I remember when you would call me your little helper, even when I would do the smallest things for you. Everything feels different, but I know you're in a better place now.

-Love, Kasidy

Dear Grandma, it still doesn't feel real yet. Even though you are gone, I still think, "should I go check on grandma? Is she ok?" I'm going to miss your jokes, calls, and even candy. Knowing that you are no longer here makes me feel lonely, but I know that I have people around me that understand what I'm going through, and who also loved you very much. This may be selfish, but I wish you were still here, however; I understand that you were sick, so it makes me feel better knowing that you're in a better place now. -Love, Kaila

It was a privilege to have met Shawn during our school days at Christiana Secondary High School. She was more than a friend to me, she was like my sister. I will always remember her hospitality, sense of humor, her generosity and being outspoken on various matters. I will also remember the undying love she had for her children and grandchildren. They were her pride and joy. I will always cherish the special memories of her and she will always be in my heart.

-Love, Angella







Poem of Consolation

There are no words one can express to convey our heartfelt deep regret, for amid the thoughts, prayers, and consolation your heart still feels deep devastation.

A prayer ascends for your comfort and cheer not just for now but every day, every year.

Though now you may not understand be comforted knowing the Master has a plan.

You are His blessed and highly favored creation you will be strengthened by the host of heaven. Put your trust in his promises sure it will give you strength to endure.

Remember there will come a day when death will be conquered and cast away. Remember that He promised too that it will work out for good to you.

Don't forget He is the door of hope He'll help you to overcome and to cope. Though weeping may endure for the night He promises joy at the dawn of light.

And there shall be no more death, crying, or sorrow when we meet our loved ones on that great tomorrow. A new day will come the Earth restored we'll abide with Jesus forever more.

Kerry-Ann Peters

Acknowledgements

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to them during this time of bereavement.

-The Family

Repast

Ambassador Seventh-day Adventist Church Banquet Hall

3245 W Oakland Park Blvd

Lauderdale Lakes, FL 33311



Funeral Arrangement's Entrusted To:

MCWHITE'S FUNERAL HOME

*"Satisfaction Is Our Business" * "Because Families Deserve The Best!"*

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