



Gwinnette Valencia Brown Starker

November 6, 1958 - December 24, 2024

Gwinnette Valencia Brown Starker, affectionally known as “Snap”, made her transition after a long battle of chronic illnesses, on December 24, 2024. Snap was born in Atlanta, GA on November 6, 1958, to Mattlyne Willis Dukes and Joe Brown, both deceased. Snap grew up in Atlanta but later moved to Houston, TX where she met and married her husband, Thomas Starker (deceased).

Snap was a fun-loving person, kind and generous to the people she loved. She had no children of her own, but cherished her many nieces and nephews, as well as their children. She was “Auntie” to them all! Snap loved her adoptive family, Keith and Lauren Howard and their children especially their son, Kameron. Snap was an absolute whiz in the kitchen and had a creative knack for the culinary arts. Her skills were supported by a love for various cooking shows and her demonstrated abilities at family gatherings.

The phrase, “to know her is to love her” describes Snap extremely well. She didn’t mix words. She was very devoted to her beliefs and wore her emotions on her sleeve. Snap was also thoughtful and kind. She always remembered special events and everyone she met.

Snap’s openness and honesty made her easy to talk with people from all walks of life. She was quite the entertainer at family gatherings, and there was

never a dull moment in her presence.

No matter how much one prepares for the death of a loved one, it always seems to catch you off guard and leaves you vulnerable to your emotions. Snap will truly be missed!

Snap is survived by her sister, Elandis Willis Cashe (Leroy) and her brother Lee Grantlin Willis (Marsha); her nephews and nieces Christopher Cameron (Monique), Kaja Cameron, Medina Willis Timmons (Zawdie), Agyei Stubbs, Grantlin Willis, Morgan Willis Gregg (Matthew) as well as, a host of great nieces, nephews and many others who called her "Auntie".

The Memorial Service for Gwinnette V. Brown Starker (Snap) will be held on January 11, 2025 at 11:00 am at the Shrine of the Black Madonna – 5309 M.L. King Blvd. Houston, TX 77021.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 11. 11:00 AM (CT)

The Shrine of Black Madonna Pan African Orthodox Christian Church
5309 Martin Luther King Blvd
Houston, TX 77021

Tribute Wall

RM

“ My condolences to Snap's surviving family members. Thank you for posting several photos of Snap with her late husband, Thomas Merritt Starker, who died in Houston in 2014. They were happily married for nearly 18 years.

Ron Merritt - March 08 at 07:19 PM

RS

“ Snapshot is my Cousin. I Love you and I'm going to miss you. I really enjoyed our last conversation!

Robin T Singletary - January 08, 2025 at 12:36 PM



“ 18 files added to the album Life Tributes



Detting Funeral Home - January 07, 2025 at 05:03 PM

DL

“ Donna Lijewski purchased the *In Memory - Angel Figurine*, 8.25 in for the family of Gwinnette Valencia Brown Starker.



Donna Lijewski - January 06, 2025 at 09:51 PM

DC

“ I will miss our phone calls...RIH, Snap.

Denise G Cooper - January 04, 2025 at 05:06 PM