



**In loving Memory of**  
**DEBORAH LYNN**  
**JOHNSON-BRICE**



**SUNRISE**

**April 24th, 1955**

**SUNSET**

**May 6th, 2024**

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE - TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024**

**MEMORIAL TRIBUTE 9 - 11AM**

**SERVICE at 11:00AM**

**Murphy Asbury African Methodist Episcopal Church  
700 Yarnell Street, Chester, Pa 19013  
Rev. Kim Billups, Pastor**

*To Nona:*

Your kindness and love were so special, And your heart so pure and true.  
You made the world a better place

Just by being you.

I will miss you Nona, so dearly.

I wish you were here with me.

To help to guide me through the years To be the person I want to be.

Words cannot describe the loss I feel Having to say this last goodbye.

Not to have you here with me To wipe the tears from my eyes.

But you'll never be forgotten, In my heart you'll always be.

And until we meet again, Nona, I'll keep your memory and cookie recipe safe with me

I love you Forever and Always

*From, Pilar Brice*



*To Nona:*

You gave me something that none had before, you gave me peace. Like a river that had been rushing pulled by the current for too long. You made my water still. I found rest in your arms.

-L.Y.

*From, Arianna & Alanna*



From the moment I came into this world, I knew I was blessed.

For God had chosen you, To be my sanctuary in a world of chaos.

I am blessed with countless memories, Memories of baking Christmas cookies, Each one a sweet reminder of your love. Blessed to have cuddled with you, Lost in movies and the drama of soap operas.

I love you beyond measure, Forever and always.

*- Taylor Monet*

Time melted away in your presence, The gift of uninterrupted connection. And even now, that you're not here, Your essence lingers, bringing us comfort and warmth.

I'm grateful for the uniqueness of you, Forever imprinted in my heart. For your love transcends the bounds of time.

How can I say goodbye?

To all the love you gave daily,

Everything you every said and everything you ever gave me

The laughs, rides, cries, dinners galore

The constant vote of confidence

And oh, so much more

Many never got you,

But you know I knew you well

Even when it felt like shy of being just a shell

Mommy I will miss you

This is very true,

you were the only one that always saw me through

the good times, the bad and all in between

it was you and me mommy,

we were a team

How can I say goodbye

Knowing I'll never here "Arieee" again

I guess I'll have to get used to this new communication now

My mommy, my friend.

*- Your Babygirl, Arielle*



My Debbie, you showed me the way to love and to forgive, Through every challenge and each day we live.

My Debbie, despite the pain, you taught us to stride, With grace and strength, you were our guide.

My Debbie, our home was open, friends always near, Your love and warmth forever sincere.

My Debbie, a force on Earth, your touch so wide, You've changed so many lives, our joy and pride.

My Debbie, now it's time for you to rest, In peace and comfort, because you're the best.

My Debbie, from above, keep watching us with care, Just like you did on Earth, your love everywhere.

My Debbie, your smile, your words so sweet, Your heart, so warm, none can compete.

My Debbie, an angel here, now above so high, Watching over us from your place in the sky.

My Debbie, my mom, my friend so dear, I'll love you more each day, year after year.

Love always,  
Your Sun ☺

*Jean-Pierre*



# Order of Service

Eulogist: Rev. Terrel McBride

Officiant: Rev. Dr. Kenneth E. Wilson

Organ Prelude \_\_\_\_\_ Janice Glass

Processional \_\_\_\_\_ Clergy, Family, Friends

Hymn of Expectation \_\_\_\_\_ A.M.E Hymn No. 84

*"Great is thy Faithfulness"*

Prayer of Comfort \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. Kenneth E. Wilson

Choir Response \_\_\_\_\_ A.M.E Hymn No 448

*"It Is Well With My Soul"*

Hymn of Assurance \_\_\_\_\_ A.M.E Hymn No 361

*"Yes, God is Real"*

Reading of Scripture Old Testament: Psalms 23 \_\_\_\_\_ JaVe'e Townsend

New Testament: John 14:1-6

Solo \_\_\_\_\_ Kenya Isaac

Acknowledgment and Resolution \_\_\_\_\_ Autumn Williams

Clergy Words of Comfort \_\_\_\_\_ Sis. Stacia Gray, Licentiate

Praise Dance \_\_\_\_\_ Tiyonna Burton  
Brooklynne Johnson

## Reflections

For Mom \_\_\_\_\_ Jean-Pierre  
Arielle-Marie

For my Sister \_\_\_\_\_ David Brown

Selection from Choir \_\_\_\_\_ A.M.E. Hymn No 450

*"Blessed Assurance"*

Silent Reading of the Obituary \_\_\_\_\_ Muted Music

Eulogy \_\_\_\_\_ Reverend Terrel McBride

Closing Prayer \_\_\_\_\_ Reverend Kenneth E. Wilson

Hymn in Recession \_\_\_\_\_

*"I Come to The Garden Alone"*

Repass at the Leake Center

**Interment**

**Resting Place**

**Chester Rural Cemetery Chester, PA 19013**



## The Life and Legacy of DEBORAH "DEBBIE" JOHNSON BRICE

Arriving in the world on a beautiful April day, Deborah Lynn Johnson was born on April 24, 1955, in Chester, PA, to Delia Wynn and Berman Alphonso Johnson. Known affectionately as "Debbie," she was the beloved youngest 'baby' girl, following her older sisters, Sylvia "Bonnie" and Bernadette. Growing up at 324 Jeffrey Street, a home that embraced togetherness and where the kitchen was always open, Debbie learned the true meaning of family—a lesson she cherished throughout her life.

Debbie attended Dewey Mann, Pulaski, and Chester High School, graduating in 1973. She was a member of the Chester High Band and attended Murphy A.M.E. Church, where she was a member of "The Fellowship Choir." Her love for hymns continued into adulthood when she joined the choir under the late Rev. Alfonso Sherald, contributed to the Finance Committee, and served on the Berman A. Johnson Scholarship and Kitchen Committees.

In 1974, Debbie moved to Brooklyn, New York, to attend the Fashion Design Institute. Her passion for fashion started as a little girl, as she was always admired for her beautiful dresses. That led to her meeting Jean-Pierre Brice, or "Peter," in 1976. They married in 1978 and welcomed their son, Jean-Pierre Berman Brice, on December 22, 1979. The couple returned to Chester in 1981 to raise their growing family, and on February 7, 1988, they welcomed their daughter, Arielle-Marie Berengere Brice, born with a glowing smile.

After returning to Chester, Debbie earned an Associate degree in Business Management from Delaware County Community College and assisted her mother in her catering business. Following her husband's death in 1992, Debbie continued to be a pillar of strength and love, providing a welcoming space for all at her home. Continuing the tradition, she was taught early on, she provided safe spaces for many people, old and young alike. She was also a creative entrepreneur, owning Brice Family Jewels and The Affair to Remember Event Planning. Debbie enjoyed traveling; during the holidays you could find Debbie preparing Christmas cookies and sweet potato pies for family and friends, meeting new people, and crafting beautiful jewelry. In her later years she combined her love for people and crafting by working with the seniors at the Chester Senior Center, the bonds created were a blessing to one another.

Debbie is preceded in death by her parents, Berman Alphonso and Delia Wynn Johnson; her husband, Jean-Pierre Brice; grandmother, Elizabeth Watson; nieces, Candace 'Candy' Felder and Raquel 'Kelly' Canada; cousin, JoAnn Canada, and sisters in law, Marie Jose Brice and Marie Helene Danielle Brice.

She leaves to carry on her legacy her sisters, Sylvia "Bonnie" Rolle and Bernadette J. Givens; her father-in law, Pierre Brice, two brothers-in law, Claude E. and Jacques A. Brice; sisters-in-law, Anne Marie Michelle Brice, Mona-Lissa Benoi, and Marie Florence Mabou who shared a mutual love and admiration for their Brice lineage; her children, Jean-Pierre Berman Brice and Arielle-Marie Brice-Rankine (Kenneil); and her grandchildren, Taylor Monet Juliana Brice, Pilar-Jeanae Marie Brice, Jean-Pierre Brice, Arianna-Bri'nae M. Brice, Alanna-Brielle M. Brice, Zaria-Lynn McBride, Jurnie-Nicole Brice, Janai-Michelle Brice, Ava-Marie K. Rankine, and Jordyn Lela Brice. She cherished her roles as an aunt to her last surviving niece, Kenya Nicole Givens Isaac (Cliff) and Great-Aunt to Ian E. Rollington Sudler, Sylvonne Felder, and Kristen Lanette Canada. Great Niece Ashley Nicole and Kristen Lanette Canada, Chad and Cairo Isaac and cousin, Mary E. "Mitzi" Clark.

Debbie's profound impact extended beyond her family, to include her best friend of over 50 years, Juliana "Kitty" Williams; godbrother and friend, David Brown; road dog, Barbara Blake Townsend; confidante, Gail Guy and many more cousins, classmates, neighbors, church members and friends. Her warmth, wisdom, sense of humor and loving spirit will be deeply missed and forever remembered by all whose lives she touched.

Cry, Forgive, Learn, Move on. Let your tears water the seeds of your future happiness. - Steve Maraboli



Don't Cry  
Here we are again  
That old familiar place  
Where the wind will blow  
No one ever knows  
The time or space  
Don't cry for me  
Don't shed a tear  
The time I've shared with you  
Will always be  
And when I'm gone  
Still carry on  
Don't cry for me  
No one is to blame  
My death was meant to be  
Don't carry guilt or shame  
Reason why I came  
Soon you'll see  
Don't cry  
When life is not the joy it should be  
With life comes pain  
Soon time will end its course appointed  
Then you will be rewarded  
And all this world will see  
Don't cry for me

### Pall Bearers

Jean-Pierre Brice  
Jean-Pierre "Jp" Brice Jr.  
Kenneil Rankine

Ian Sudler  
Cairo Isaac  
Chad Isaac

### Honorary Pall Bearers

David Brown  
Jared Jacobs

Clifford Isaac  
Kenneth Hunt

Michael Brice  
Dante Hollis

### Acknowledgement

We, the family of the late Deborah L. Brice, would like to express our sincerest appreciation for many kind words and loving expressions of sympathy and comfort extended during this time. Our prayer is that God will bless and keep every one of you.

**Interment**  
Chester Rural Cemetery  
**Tuesday, May 21st, 2024**  
**Repas - Leake Center**