



Brenda Jean Calvin

November 30, 1949 - December 19, 2020

On Thursday, November 30, 1949, Brenda Jean Yearling Calvin was the fifth child born to the union of Minnie Lou and Illinois Yearling, Sr. Brenda had endearing memories of her parents, and regularly spoke of them. May 15, 2020: "God Bless Mom & Dad today and always. Love BJ." With her son, Richard and Granddaughter Marie at her bedside, her daughter Nicole, granddaughter Abby, and daughter-in-law, Angela, and other family members there by video and telephone, Brenda transitioned to be with our Heavenly Father, December 19, 2020.

Brenda was born, raised, educated, and worked in Denver Colorado. She accepted Christ at an early age, and was baptized at Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church.

One of the most striking thing about Brenda was her fight. It was as if she knew everyone, regardless of abilities and disabilities, was entitled to a full and independent life. Brenda spent years successfully overcoming challenges from the smoke inhalation she suffered when the family home burnt down, when she was a toddler.

When it was time for Brenda to start school, there were not laws mandating special education services, for children with disabilities. But prior to legislation, Brenda was one of the first children in the Denver special education classes. Her three younger siblings knew Brenda, was smart. They came home from school, and taught Brenda everything they learned that day. Mrs. Smith, her longtime teacher was so very proud of Brenda's innate ability to be educated.

Brenda fought to have a full, independent life with marriage, employment, even becoming a supervisor, and a Mother. As the family learned, Brenda was a fierce fighter for all of her rights, for as long as it took. Battling was part of Brenda's life's work. Inclusiveness was so important to her. Clearly, Brenda lived life on her own terms, in her own way, valuing family above all. Soft spoken, Brenda spoke up, and advocated for herself and her children.

Brenda's birth family was also important to her. She remembered details that she learned about our family, as a child, and never forgot them. She kept in touch with family, like her Uncle Julie. Saturday, July 4, 2020: "Hi. Uncle Julie said "Happy Fourth! Love You." "Be careful and Stay safe. BJ". It was obvious to all of us that Brenda loved family.

Brenda was aware of and knew everything she had materially accumulated, in life.

Generous to a fault, for her children, Brenda was willing to forgo her own needs, to make

sure they had what they needed/wanted.

Brenda was very proud of her son Richard's and daughter Nicole's successes. Her love of her granddaughters, Marie and Abby was quite evident. And her grandsons, Kamarri and Jamarri had her beaming with joy. April 4, 2020: "Wow! When Mom was in rehabilitation, she saw that the walker could help me. It does time after time. Both granddaughters walked with me. Now my great grandson walks with me also. BJ" One of Brenda's wishes prior to her passing was for the well being and good communication of family.

Matthew 7:16 begins by telling us that "Ye shall know them by their fruits . . .

Brenda was baptized at Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church. Our Mother, Minnie Lou Yearling, made sure that all of her children, while under her roof, were at the Church just about every time the doors opened. Unless it was something that my parents need to be at the Church for, the children walked blocks and blocks and blocks, from home and back, to the initial location of Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church. No doubt - the healthiest children alive!

Growing up in the Church, Brenda was involved in all of Rising Star's youth programs, including the choir.

As long as her health and her mode of transportation, related to her health, allowed, Brenda was in Church.

Brenda's faith was exemplified by continual prayers. She took her children to Church. Brenda never stopped trying to instill values, morals, right and wrong and her children. She taught her children "The Lord's Prayer," and "The 23rd Psalm." As with her upbringing, Brenda and her children go to Church with family members nearly every Sunday. They were baptized, and her granddaughter Abby was christened at Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church. Abby, like Nicole participated in the youth activities.

Fast forward to 2016, Brenda's granddaughter, Abbagayle, and her mother Nicole, left Texas to return to Denver have Abby baptized at the family Church, Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church.

Abby, and her mother, Nicole, faithfully stream the Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church's Sunday Worship Service, every Sunday.

Just about every one of Brenda's text said, "God bless." In her heart, there are few who parallel Brenda's uncompromising faith, and deep, abiding love for her Church.

Brenda leaves to mourn her passing: her children Richard Calvin (Angela) and Belinda Nicole Calvin; her grandchildren Jean Marie Taylor, Abbagayle Rigina Calvin, and Robbie Stewart; her great grandchildren Kamarri James, Jamarri James, and Rhett Link Stewart; her sisters Mrs. Gladys Mae Burnett (J.D.), Dr. Constance Yearling (Dr. Bill Lance); Mrs. Linda Taylor (RT), and many long time friends, including Betty Cole, James Lincoln, and Brenda Williams.

Brenda's passing is also mourned by numerous relatives of her Mother's and Father's families, nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws, other relatives, and friends.

Brenda was predeceased by her parents: Minnie Lou and Illinois Yearling Sr.; five Yearling brothers: Willie T (Quizzie), Illinois Jr., Robert Ray, Mylous, and Ervin Winston; and one infant sister, Rosie.

Battler. Family person. Independent. Generous.

To God be the glory for the things He has done.

Events

JAN **Service** 01:00PM - 03:00PM

4

Rising Star

1500 S. Dayton St, Denver, CO, US, 80207

Comments



“ An external video has been added.



A Better Place Funeral & Cremation - December 30, 2020 at 07:09 PM



“ To Nicole, Abby, Gladys and of course the entire family. I give my most heartfelt condolences. During the time that I've been blessed to know the daughter, grand daughter and sister of Ms. Brenda Calvin it has truly been a joy. I can see what a good mother she has been, and how well she raised the children in her enduring faith in God and instilling in them that they will learn the word of God and attend church regularly. Nicole and I were choir members in the Rising Star Adult and Mass Choir and it has been such a blessing to sing God's praises along side with her! It is so good to see her son Richard and his wife here standing for his family. Nicole speaks of Ms. Brenda very very often, and says how much she loves her and says how much her mother motivates and inspires her. Even though she's gone with the Lord, she is still encouraging you: "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" philippians 4:13 God bless, keep, protect, and comfort you... Mrs. Sylvia Cooper

Sylvia Cooper - January 04 at 04:18 AM



“ “Condolences, love, and prayers. Let us pray for one another. Mrs. Quizzie Yearling, sister-in-law and nieces and nephews including: Donald, Lorraine, Shirley, Wayne, and Willie T.

Angela Calvin - January 02 at 11:23 AM



“To the family of Mrs. Brenda Yearling Calvin, we send our prayers and condolences.
Ms. Brenda Williams, sister-in-law

Angela Calvin - January 02 at 11:23 AM



“Condolences, love, sympathy, and prayers.”
Lakieha Shears
Nicole “Nikki” Henderson, and her mother, Stella Henderson, friend of Ms. Belinda
Nicole Calvin

Angela Calvin - January 02 at 11:23 AM



“So much love and support from RSMBC family, including: Deaconess Rice,
Deacons Burton and Daniels; Sister Isabella Ray, Usher, and many, many more.
Such a wonderful blessing.

Angela Calvin - January 02 at 11:22 AM



“Hello Aunt Gladys and Aunt Linda,
I spoke with Aunt Brenda when Covid 19 first started. I miss you guys. You're all in
my prayers.”
Mrs. Tina Yearling Gonzales, Niece

Angela Calvin - January 02 at 11:22 AM



“Condolences on the passing of Brenda. I, too, am grieving. I encourage our family to
be strong. Show love to one another. Know that God is in control.
Mr. Calvin Hobley, Jr., Cousin
Coushatta, Louisiana

Angela Calvin - January 01 at 12:41 PM



“To the family of Mrs. Brenda Jean Yearling Calvin, we extend our deepest sympathy.
Your Aunt, Mrs. Betty Jean
Hobley, Jeanette, and family

Angela Calvin - January 01 at 12:40 PM



“Hello Aunt Gladys and Aunt Linda,
I spoke with Aunt Brenda when Covid 19 first started. I miss you guys. You're all in
my prayers.”
Mrs. Tina Yearling Gonzales, Niece

Angela Calvin - January 01 at 12:40 PM