



Mrs. Geormine D. Stanyard Crawford

August 5, 1960 - May 17, 2023

Mrs. Geormine D. Stanyard Crawford, 62, of Washington, DC (formerly of Charleston, SC) entered into eternal rest on Wednesday, May 17, 2023.

Obituary

Geormine Deweya Stanyard Crawford, affectionately known as “Queen Ge,” was born August 5, 1960, in Charleston, SC, the eldest daughter of the late George Dewey Stanyard, Sr. and the late Hermine Payne Stanyard. She was baptized and attended the Morris Street Baptist Church in Charleston with her family until college. Upon arrival at Howard University, she attended Shiloh Baptist Church in Washington, DC and officially joined in 1986. She was a member of the Haggai Circle, her immediate church family. She served in several ministries, including singing first soprano in the Shiloh Gospel Choir and serving the Women at Shiloh ministry, Shiloh’s 150th Anniversary Committee, and the Finance/Budget Committee. Even through her health challenges, Geormine was deeply committed to working with the Board of Trustees and the Finance Committee to help enhance the fiscal operations of the church.

Growing up in a family of educators and artists, Geormine was steeped in a rich environment of the arts, culture, public service, and history, particularly that of the Gullah-Geechee community, where her mother shared the

traditions through her poetry and advocacy. Geormine found her artistic voice through dance, where she excelled as the first African American ballerina with the Charleston Ballet Company. She traveled and performed with the company for many years before retiring due to a back injury. She began her public service work as a proud member of the National Federation of Colored Women and Girls Clubs in Charleston.

Academically, Geormine completed her primary and secondary education in the public schools of Charleston, graduating from the Charles A. Brown High School, where she was Miss C.A. Brown and her father served as principal. She was accepted and matriculated at Howard University, 1978-1983, where she double majored in Accounting and Computer-based Information Systems. While at Howard, Geormine was initiated into Alpha Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated with her Fortuitous 53 line sisters (she was #1) in Spring 1981, kicking off a lifetime of devotion and service to the sisterhood.

Post-graduation, Geormine joined Delta's Washington, DC Alumnae Chapter and served in positions to refine internal chapter operations, including Chapter Treasurer, Chair of the Arts and Letters Committee, and member of the Washington DC Alumnae Foundation, the Finance Committee, the Social Action Committee, and the Membership Intake Committee. She was a dedicated Community Outreach Committee member, participating in activities such as feeding the homeless through We Feed Our People, Meals On Wheels, and Pamper Me Day, a prom dress giveaway. She was instrumental in expanding the prom dress giveaway program into Back-to-Work Day, providing business attire, resume writing, and interview training to battered women. Geormine also served as an advisor to the Alpha and Mu Beta Chapters, as well as sang in the Delta choir and served as Assistant Sergeant at Arms for Regional Conferences and National Conventions.

With newly minted business degrees, Geormine set out to establish herself

professionally in the corporate world. She worked as a financial and systems auditor at Chase Manhattan Bank in New York City. She spent almost 20 years at the Federal National Mortgage Association, commonly known as Fannie Mae. Although she was successful in her corporate career, Geormine became restless and wanted to tap into her creativity and discover new interests and entrepreneurship possibilities where she could direct her own path. She combined her love of travel, exploration, and serving others into her newly launched travel agency, DeGeor Services in 1992, while still employed at Fannie Mae. Requiring more flexibility to care for her mother, Geormine stepped out on faith and pursued her passion full-time in 2011. She celebrated DeGeor's 30th Anniversary with a group trip to Turks and Caicos in September 2022. As with her other pursuits, Geormine excelled in the travel world, building a firm foundation for her own business while also mentoring and looking for opportunities to expose, support, and uplift other travel agents in her network. She was an active charter member of the Professional Travel Agents of North America (PTANA) where she held both local and national positions, most recently, Past President of the National Capital Area Chapter. She was also instrumental in helping to launch the North Carolina Triangle and Central Virginia chapters of PTANA. She was recognized as a tourism leader by invitation and initiation into SKÅL International USA in February 2016.

Geormine met the love of her life, Alonzo Crawford, while both resided in the same residential complex in Washington, DC. They were married on June 2, 1990. Not only did she gain a new husband but also a stepdaughter in Candice Crawford. Geormine recaptured her love of dance through Alonzo's gift for Salsa dance. They spent many date nights at the local salsa dance clubs.

Many were attracted to Queen Ge because of her warmth, generosity, and her

unselfish service to others. Although she lost her courageous battle to cancer on May 17, 2023, her loved ones rejoice that she is free of pain with her heavenly Father.

She was preceded in death by her parents: Mr. George D. Stanyard, Sr. & Hermine P. Stanyard.

She leaves to cherish her memory her husband, Alonzo Crawford; stepdaughter Candice (Megan) Crawford-Zakian; brother, George Dewey Stanyard, Jr.; aunts: Willie Dell (Henry) Taylor, Jenny Lou Washington, Eunice Washington, Barbara Payne, Mary A. Brown, Rose A. Whitney and Glenemae A. Johnson; uncles: Cyrus Carl (Demetra) Washington, John Nathaniel Ashe, Thomas Ashe and Morris Ashe; sister-in-law: Helen (Sherman) Childs; brother-in-law: Charles E. (Phyllis) Crawford and Kenneth (Ruth) Crawford; god sisters, god brother, cousins, a host of other relatives, friends, church family and sorority sisters.

Saturday, May 27, 2023

Morris Street Baptist Church

25 Morris Street

Charleston, SC 29403

Viewing: 10:00 AM - 10:50 AM

Celebration of Life Service: 11:00 AM

Interment: Mt. Pleasant Memorial Gardens

1308 Mathis Ferry Road

Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464

The Service will be LIVE STREAMED via the Smith-McNeal Funeral Home - FACEBOOK Page!

Cemetery Details

Mt. Pleasant Memorial Gardens

1308 Mathis Ferry Rd.
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464

Previous Events

Viewing

MAY 27. 10:00 AM - 10:50 AM (ET)

Morris Street Baptist Church
25 Morris St
Charleston, SC 29403

Celebration of Life Service

MAY 27. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Morris Street Baptist Church
25 Morris St
Charleston, SC 29403

LIVE STREAM VIEWING

MAY 27. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM.

Smith-McNeal - FACEBOOK PAGE

Tribute Wall



“ *W.M. Smith-McNeal Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Mrs. Geormine D. Stanyard Crawford*



W M Smith-McNeal Funeral Home & Chapel - June 01, 2023 at 11:57 AM

AC

“ *Adriane Clark lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Geormine D. Stanyard Crawford*



Adriane Clark - June 08, 2023 at 07:21 AM

AC

My prayers and thoughts are with the Stanyard and Crawford family. I met Geormine many years ago as members of Delta Sigma Theta, Incorporated Washington DC Alumnae Chapter and Geormine was always friendly, warm, and loving.

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. John 14:1-4

Adriane Clark - June 08, 2023 at 07:37 AM

DS

“*Heartfelt condolences to Geormine’s husband, family and friends. She was one of a kind and I’m so glad I got to know her and work with her. She fought the good fight and now she is in God’s hands. “And He will raise you up on eagle’s wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you shine like the sun and hold you in the palm of His hand.”*

Debby Summerlin - May 27, 2023 at 01:20 PM

CC

“*Candice Alona Crawford-Zakian lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Geormine D. Stanyard Crawford*



Candice Alona Crawford-Zakian - May 26, 2023 at 09:51 PM

VE

“*Vernon lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Geormine D. Stanyard Crawford*



Vernon - May 25, 2023 at 09:38 PM

VE

“ I remember Geormine as an encourager, she knew where I was weak and where I was strong and so in my 1st semester in college I was speaking to her on the phone I was about to tell her that I found the curriculum to be much tougher than I imagined and so I was about to give up. Right before I could say the words "give up" she hurriedly interjected by telling me that she knew I can overcome the demands of the courses I had to take and that giving up would make her feel her disappointed in me. After the conversation was over I felt a renewed sense of confidence just to know that my classmate believed in me and that moment helped me, a kid from the impoverished Eastside of Charleston to graduate from The Citadel.

Rest in Peace Geormine we the class of 1978 will always love you our sister

Vernon - May 25, 2023 at 09:36 PM



“ My Condolences to the Stanyard and Crawford family . My prayers are with you all.

Stiney McKnight Mears and Family



Stiney Mcknight-Mears - May 25, 2023 at 03:00 PM

SW

“ Sheila Williamson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Geormine D. Stanyard Crawford



Sheila Williamson - May 25, 2023 at 08:16 AM

GB

“ Gwendolyn McNeill Brown lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Geormine D. Stanyard Crawford



Gwendolyn McNeill Brown - May 24, 2023 at 08:28 AM

GB

Sincere condolences to the Stanyard & Crawford families during your time of sadness. May your happy times and beautiful memories comfort and keep you at this time.

Gwendolyn McNeill Brown - May 24, 2023 at 08:28 AM

EL

“ Truly, I send my condolences to the Stanyard/Crawford Family and C. A. Brown family. My prays are each one of you be comforted during this time of bereavement . Dr. Ernestine Brown Lawson

Ernestine B Lawson - May 23, 2023 at 02:43 PM

GE

My condolences to the Stanyard & Crawford family. May she RIP.

Gartiss Edwards - May 25, 2023 at 12:12 PM

DM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



deborah d moseley - May 23, 2023 at 11:13 AM