

A Daughter's Profile of A Mother Gone To Soon



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It is with deep heartfelt memories of a wonderful mother that I write these words of factual sentiment of a great woman who was a mother, daughter, sister and friend. She graduated from Ralph J. Bunche High School as one of the two, top high school students in her senior class.

I remember my mother as a person who was devoted to her job, family and daughter, she was a woman of high character, a woman who was always professional, caring and punctual, she treated everyone with respect, dignity and kindness.

If you are wondering how, at the age of 9 the age I was when my mother died, how do I know this? It is for the reasons listed below I know all too well:

- 1) Regardless of how busy she was she made time for her family, friends and herself, I never wanted for anything
- 2) She treated everyone she encountered with respect regardless of their status or title
- 3) She would often tell me after her divorce from my father "always remember baby girl you can do whatever you want to on your own, only rely on yourself for your destiny and success not others, she reiterated it by stating family, love ones and friends will let you down, you will not"!
- 4) Each week day she would drop me off during the mornings at my grandparent's house on her way to work at Thiokol, with a kiss and would say to me be and do your best today, I love you!

It is number four that I can best relate too as if it was yesterday, we drove to my grandparent's house on a chilly, February, Georgia morning, I never thought on that particular morning that it would be the last time she would say those words to me or I would see her alive. It remains one of the worst days of my life that I will never forget.

As, the sirens roared, ambulances sound their alarms, helicopters filled the skies me and my friends laughed, giggled and played on the school yard playgrounds at Woodbine Elementary, we being kids made jokes about the sirens and helicopters, we never



thought for a second that within 30 minutes three of us would be picked up from school by neighbors to go home early, one of those three people was me and two others would be two of my childhood friends, only later to be told as I arrived at the same house I was dropped off at for years with numerous of cars parked and a front yard and front porch filled with people, some I knew, some I did not.

As I walked inside the house being guided by a neighbor, I immediately saw my grandmother laying on the couch surrounded by nurses with IV's in her arms, I knew then something was terribly wrong, never did I think they would tell me my mother had died.

Be and do your best today is my motto in life. I do my best at whatever is required even if it means taking on some challenges unforeseen, challenges such as , losing an amazing grandmother to cancer a few months before leaving home for the first time to enroll at the number one HCBU in the nation, losing a best friend a month after you went to college to a tragic car accident, losing the man (grandfather) in my life junior year in college and last but not least losing a wonderful aunt who played the mother figure to me throughout my college days and who was always there for me whenever I needed her to be. I think it's safe to say challenges have never gotten the best of me, instead I turned the challenges into opportunities for better.

My mother lives on in me each and every day, she is the reason I continuously parent my daughter to be all that she can and wants to be, I instill in her daily to never set limits on your goals or desires of the heart, instead pursue them, should you fail, get back up and try until you succeed!

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