



Mrs. Denise Michele Erby

February 28, 1957 - July 18, 2013

Denise Michele Erby was born to the union of Esther and Joe Lacey Merriett on February 28, 1957. She was the youngest of four children. Her older brother Lonnie, whom she dearly loved, preceded her in death.

Denise was educated in the Detroit Public Schools system and graduated with honors from Cass Technical High School in 1974. She continued her education and received her bachelor's degree from the University of Detroit and her master's degree from Marygrove College. She was a lifelong learner and was always interested in enhancing her skills.

In 1980, she returned to the Detroit Public Schools as a teacher. Her first assignment was at Brooks Middle School. She spent most of her career in Detroit as a Special Education Teacher at Kettering High School. Denise was not only an excellent teacher, but served as a mentor and surrogate mother to countless students. She later taught in the Southfield Public Schools and retired from there earlier this year.

In April of 1991 the friendship that she had with Denaro Erby began to deepen into a relationship that led to marriage. Denaro said that when he met Denise, he knew that she was his "soul mate." Denise felt the same way about him. They shared a love for each other that was apparent to all that knew them. Together, they had two wonderful children who were Denise's pride and joy,

Amber and Wesley.

Denise was a multi-talented person who could seemingly do anything she set her mind to. She was a great cook, excellent seamstress and a creative gardener. She brought the Denise of excellence to her school, church and community activities.

In 2007 the Erby family joined Faith Christian Community Church. She served as a member of the Board of Christian education, taught Vacation Bible School and assisted in the special programs of the church.

On July 18, 2013, Denise went from labor to reward.

Cemetery Details

Chapel of Memorial Gardens

48300 Willow Road
Belleville, MI 48111

Previous Events

Visitation

Friday, Jul. **26**. 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Faith Christian Community Church
9640 Sorrento
Detroit, MI 48227

Family Hour

Saturday, Jul. **27**. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home
17600 Plymouth Road
Detroit, MI 48227
(313) 838-9770
info@pyefuneralhome.com

Funeral Service

Saturday, Jul. **27**. 10:00 AM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home
17600 Plymouth Road
Detroit, MI 48227
(313) 838-9770
info@pyefuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Denise Michele Erby*

January 21, 2023 at 09:34 PM



“ *My life is sooooo much diffirent now without you girl, it's been 8.5 years since i last held your hand. I miss you with every bone in my body, I can't wait to see ya again. I yarn for just a moment of our great past. I hurt moving forward through the future without you, we were like peanut butter and jelly peas and carrots apple pie and ice cream hot dogs and mustard. To have provided and protectd for you was my honer. I tried with all my heart to get it right. When i next see you, you can tell me if I did indeed get it right.*

*Love always your protector Denaro Erby
11-24-2021*

Denaro Erby - November 24, 2021 at 12:45 PM



“ *Valda Adams lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Denise Michele Erby*



Valda Adams - July 27, 2013 at 02:36 PM

VA

“ My friend, Denise, has passed on. I just found out today at 11:18 a.m. I met you in 1983, at Brooks Middle School. We had wonderful times together, through the years and I will never forget you. I said a prayer for you today, and knew that God must have heard. I felt the answer in my heart, although He spoke no words. I didn't ask for wealth or fame, I knew you would not mind. I asked him to send treasures of a far more lasting kind. I asked that He'd be near you in all things great and small, but it was for His loving care, I prayed for most of all. You were a daughter, sister, aunt, teacher, friend, wife and mother. You will be missed and I will always remember our last conversation. I know you are at a better place and will be overlooking Denaro, Amber and Wesley. They will keep their pace in life and a space for you always in their heart.

Your friend with all my heart,
Love you forever.
Valda Adams

Valda Adams - July 27, 2013 at 02:35 PM

CM

“ My prayers are with you and your family, Denise. We shared some work times together, laughing and talking about our children. I remember the sewing ideas we shared on the internet. Your beautiful smile will always be remembered as I know you are now smiling with the angels.

Carol

Carol Marine - July 27, 2013 at 10:12 AM

LR

“ *Condolences to your lovely family. As a Southfield Public School Teacher, I have had the pleasure of being graced by Denise's majestic personality and have had the joy of knowing that Wesley has been a true friend to my son. Only a mother of great wisdom, integrity and kindness can raise a son that exemplifies her most precious characteristics.*

May Peace be upon you soon.

Levqual Robinson

Levqual Robinson - July 26, 2013 at 05:42 PM

GL

“ *Ms. Erby, you were my daughter teacher at Kettering. As I write this it has sadden me because not only have you made you transition so has she. I thank you so much for all you've done not only for Tiara, but all the other children you have taught over the years. You will be truly missed.*

Sincerely, The Bowens Family

gloria - July 25, 2013 at 09:56 PM

IH

“ My heart and prayers go out to the Erby family. Denise Erby was and will always be such a warm, loving, kind, giving and "best red velvet cake bakiness" Piscis I know. Her birthday being just a day after mine, we shared fantastic Piscis stories. Some of my best work hours were spent with "that beautiful spirit". Countless hours talking about this or that, but mostly about her precious Amber, Wesley and Denaro. Truly the best mom and wife I know. I often teased her that if I didn't have such a great mom - she would have been my next choice. Now HEAVEN will be so blessed with her presence. Thank you Erby family for sharing your wife, mom, sister, auntie... with us. My life is richer and fuller because I knew her. May God bless you with all the peace and understanding you need to get through this very tough time.

Ingrid Hollis - July 24, 2013 at 07:25 PM

IH

“ Ingrid Hollis lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Denise Michele Erby



Ingrid Hollis - July 24, 2013 at 07:11 PM

RH

“ On July 18th God called an angel home. Denise a loving mother and wife; a beautiful person inside and out always there to help in anyway; from providing advice and direction to the kids at school, baking those delicious red velvet cup cakes and banana puddings for the girls soccer team. Making sure the kids werer covered. Just nurturing and loving to everyone. A kind peaceful and loving person who let the love of God shine in her daily walk.

While we understand the journey of life, our hearts ache when the Lord calls his angels home sooner than expected. To Amber, Wesley, and Denaro may the love and peace of God; and all of your blessed and loving memories keep you and comfort you at this time of transition. Knowing that she is resting in the arms of the Lord and her spirit eternally and everlastingly with us always.

Love, peace, and prayers

Renee Hollis and family.

Renee Hollis - July 23, 2013 at 11:34 AM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Denise Michele Erby.*



July 22, 2013 at 08:48 AM

MS

“ I am so sorry for your loss. The lost of a loved one is something everyone has to endure in life at one time or another. What helps me cope with the death of a loved on is turning to God's word for encouragement. At Revelation 21:4 it says that soon death will be no more. Can you imagine living in a world where you don't have to worry about getting sick and dying? This promise that Jehovah God gives us always builds me up and I pray that it does the same for you.

Miss Shaver - July 22, 2013 at 06:48 AM

JS

“ My Condolences to the Ervay Family. May God Bless and Maintain your hearts and mind through this fragile time.

John Salter

John Salter - July 20, 2013 at 08:07 PM

CY

"May God continue to uplift your spirits at this sorrowful time." A poem to share with the family entitled " Little Did We Know"

Little Did We Know

Little did we know that morning that God would call your name.

In life we loved you dearly, in death we'll do the same.

It broke our hearts to lose you, you did not go alone.

For part of us went with you the day God called you home. You left us peaceful memories, your love is still our guide. And though we cannot see you, you are always on our side.

Our family chain is broken and nothing seems the same.

But as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again.

*Ms Crystal Young-Wilcher
Southfield Lathrup Math Teacher*

Crystal Young-Wilcher - July 24, 2013 at 08:31 AM