



## Judy Annette Ford

December 12, 1937 - July 26, 2021

In lieu of flowers, please honor the life of Judy A. Ford by making a donation to American Brain Foundation: [www.americanbrainfoundation.org](http://www.americanbrainfoundation.org)

Celebration of Life Services for Judy A. Ford will be held on Saturday, August 7, 2021 at 2:00PM. These services will be recorded and streamed live. In the event the service is interrupted at any time due to technical issues, the entire service will be uploaded and available to view later in the day. Please copy and paste the link to share, or simply click on the link to view the service.

<https://vimeo.com/582211011>

Judy Annette Ford (nee West) was born on December 12, 1937 to Cecelia Wheatley Briggs and William Waters West in the Manhattan borough of New York City, New York.

Judy received her education from local NYC schools including Resurrection Catholic School and Harriet Beecher Stowe PS 136. She continually pursued opportunities to excel by completing courses such as IBM Key Punch training at the Institute of Data Processing (oh how those fingers would fly) and countless Airline industry training courses. She was a generous spirit, smart – and eager to share her knowledge. Her family and friends were often the recipients of an extravagant purchase and her pearls of wisdom.

Judy married Elmer Roberts, Sr. in 1958 and from that union, Elmer Jr., Tammy and Michael Roberts were born. After a difficult period in her life, Judy found love again and married William Ford in 1964. This union was blessed with a baby girl, Sandra Ford. Judy comes from a large family of 6 sisters; Kathleen, Linda, Virginia, June, Inez and Renee and 2 brothers David and Walter. Her mother Cecelia, father William, and grandmother Eva were pivotal in her life and coupled with the love and support of her siblings; Judy always landed on a soft cushion and retained her Joie de Vivre, her Joy of Living.

Judy was employed for a time at Precise Imports of NY before being hired for well over 30 years, by American Airlines in 1967. American Airlines lowered their proverbial jet-bridge for Judy and literally opened the cabin door (1st Class was her preference) to endless travel adventures. Judy was brave and bodacious; and a trip to Detroit for a turn in the hairdresser chair or a solo jaunt to the Bahamas for the latest scent was par for the course, "...and throw that Movado in the bag while you're at it", she'd say before heading back to the airport.

Over the years Judy relocated with AA from Detroit, to Cincinnati, to LA, and finally to Tucson. While in Tucson, she suffered a catastrophic car accident that would stop most of us in our tracks; but not Judy, not our warrior mom, sister, daughter, friend. She was fiercely independent and after several surgeries where rods, pins and screws helped put Judy back together again, her wit and humor soon followed. Judy was now determined to make a monumental decision; where to go next! Judy settled herself in her wheelchair with the latest in haute couture, matching hardware rods to support her back and a fashionable back brace for extra support. She donned her baseball cap, placed her casted leg in the wheelchair support and declared her next stop was Las Vegas! Where else would a Diva that eats french-fries and pizza with a fork and knife be but among the rich and famous, high-end stores and

designer fashions and handbags, of course! Wheelchair and back brace; no problem. We family helplessly stood by and wrung our hands, "...that's Judy for you!" Fortunately, Judy's long-time boyfriend, Larry Brown, relocated to Vegas and life went on.

Judy loved the night lights of Vegas and retired from American Airlines there in 1998. Her years in Las Vegas were punctuated with frequent visits by family and friends where Judy would share the highlights of the latest Cirque du Soleil show or a headline concert show and then treat visitors to breakfast at the Bellagio or dinner at Wolfgang's, why not! Judy loved Vegas, and Vegas locals loved her and her ready smile and cheerful greeting.

Judy ultimately left her beloved Las Vegas and relocated to Atlanta where her daughter Sandi and her sister Renee kept vigil at her bedside. Family and friends filled in the gaps in her day thru telephone calls, cards, and Skype sessions.

Judy Annette Ford transitioned peacefully on July 26, 2021. Judy is preceded in death by her mother Cecelia Paulie (nee Briggs); father William West; brother David Briggs, Jr; and her sister Inez Powell. She is survived by siblings Kathleen Williams, Linda Hannah, Virginia Moore (Bill), June Davis, Renee Ford Clark (Curtis) and Walter Ford (Elaina); children Elmer Roberts Jr, Tammy Ford (Toni), Michael Roberts (Jackie) and Sandra Ford; and grandchildren Ellyssia Rene, Connor Roberts, Aurora and Aeven Evanoff-Roberts, David (Sarah), Robert (Dmitiry) and Tiffany Ford; Jadrien and Jordyn Roberts, Jennica Isham (Steve), Russell Yows (Vanessa), Cabrina Illies (Asher), Michael Illies and Nicholas Ford; and great-grandson David Luke Ford. Countless nieces, nephews and friends also mourn her loss.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

AUG 7. 2:00 PM (ET)

W.D. Lemon & Sons Funeral Home - McDonough Chapel  
300 Griffin Street  
McDonough, GA 30253  
(770) 957-4337  
[info@wdlemonfuneralhome.com](mailto:info@wdlemonfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *W.D. Lemon & Sons Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Judy Annette Ford* ”



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**W.D. Lemon & Sons Funeral Home** - August 02, 2021 at 02:43 PM

“ To Judys family-

*Thank you for sharing the services with us. I have thought about your mother so many times through the years and was so saddened to hear of her passing. Even though I hadn't seen Judy in decades the world seemed brighter just knowing she was out there making someone laugh.*

*I met your mother in 1993, in Tucson reservations for AA. I was 23 years old and had been with the company only a couple of years. The department that Judy was in merged with the department I was in and for her group had to learn a new computer system. Judy was not thrilled about that! We sat next to each other and I would help through the software. It didn't take long before Judy caught on to a secret I hadn't shared with too many people. I was 23 and single and pregnant. I was also in the process of interviewing for a management position that I knew they would never give me if they found out I was pregnant. Furthermore I was having horrible morning sickness all day. One time I got sick in the middle of a phone call and your mother grabbed my headset and explained to the customer that she was taking over the call because I was "a little ill". When the customer asked what she meant she said "she's tossing her cookies".*

*I didn't know a lot about Judys life outside of work and she didn't know much about mine. And from the outside perspective we were an unlikely pair. But she always had a way of making whatever I was going through seem okay. We laughed and laughed-sometimes until one or both of us were about to pee our pants. She gave me advise and confidence that I could be a good mom and a good manager. I loved the way she inspired me - and I did get that job!*

*One time she convinced a few of us that we needed to go to Vegas - we flew in late and went straight to the casino floor so Judy could play craps. She handed me a roll of 20s with a rubber band around*

*it and had me give her so much every hour. Watching her at a craps table was a site to behold. When she was on a streak she would look at me and "Roll me a 20". Watching the roll go up and down made me nervous- but she was fearless!*

*After my son was born we took him to the horse track in his stroller. Judy would hold him and read the racing form to him in a baby voice. I asked her if it was really a good idea to take a baby to a race track and she said " it's fresh air and horses- it's just like the zoo." Couldn't argue with that.*

*Then we got the call about her accident and we went to Palm Springs to see her. She was so strong and even in all her pain - had us cracking up. I was in awe of her.*

*Through the years I would always try to see Judy whenever I was in Vegas - we would gamble and have dinner and laugh and laugh and laugh.*

*Looking back - I think about how hard it was to find out I was going to be a single mom at 23 and remember how truly scared I was. But I also remember my friend Judy and how through it all she made it ok. Sometimes I think God put her in that department and made her learn that software just because I really needed her. And I know she would be okay with that. Her ability to recognize pain and make it better was her superpower.*

*I thank you so much for sharing her with us. She was an amazing soul and I will never forget her.*

*Rest In Peace Ms. Ford-my friend- I hope heaven is giving you lots of 7 and 11s.*

*Kama Morrison Moraga*

DH

“ My mother used to creases in pants when I was little, Anytime Aunt Judy saw me at that age I had those creases in my pants. From my teenage years, into adulthood. Every time she saw me, Aunt Judy would say " you wore those creases in your pants when you were little." She would say a joke with it as well to make me laugh. Aunt Judy definitely knew how to make people laugh.

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**Demitrius Holmes** - August 07, 2021 at 12:57 PM

ER

“ Hi everyone my name is Elmer Roosevelt Roberts Jr I am the oldest child of my mother Judy Annette West Roberts Ford and I'm speaking today in order to say what I need to say about my mom. First off I'm not going to try to go into a series of boohoo moments because I don't think I should try to remember my mother like that but what I'm going to do is try to share what mattered most as far as who she was to me. My mother was easily the smartest lady I've ever known whenever there was a problem and I thought I was smarter than that or doing better than that I could always count on four simple words because often times more times than not she would be right and she would say " I told you so". What I'm going to miss about my mother is how she was able to fill the room with happiness and laughter between her and her sister,my favorite Auntie "Tacky", there were way too many days where I would laugh so hard that it would it would make me cry to the point I couldn't control my laughter. They were just way too funny at any rate, I needed to say those things. I missed that we didn't get to be raised by my mother I think everybody knows what had happened with myself my sister Tammy and my brother Michael and how we were taken from my mother at a very young age I am convinced that had we been able to be raised by my mother that we would be extremely different people.I for one know for sure that I would have grown up with more purpose designed for more meaning in my life. Of my mother I say this, I severely loved my mother and I'm going to miss her dearly but I'm comforted now knowing that in spite of all the changes that my mother has gone through in her life, from her going through the other changes in her life back and forth and back and forth that at least now she's pain-free and she sits at the right hand of God,God bless you mother I Will always Love you and I'll always miss you rest in peace. I DO SO LOVE YOU.

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**Elmer Roberts** - August 07, 2021 at 12:04 PM

NW

*Judy Ford was my best friend. We grew up in New York City and attended the same local schools, the same grade.*

*Judy was someone who made everyone laugh. She was part of my family attending so many of my families functions. If she wasn't there someone would eventually ask "Where's Judy?"*

*We graduated from high school in 1956. We both got jobs. In 1957 I got married. Judy was in my wedding. My husband was in the service at*

*Ft. Lewis, WA. This was the first time Judy, the "Diva" and I were separated. We stayed in touch. Judy eventually got married. I missed the birth of her children but my family kept up with her and her little ones. She was at all my family gatherings because they loved her also.*

*Judy came out to visit me in Washington when Sandy was a little girl. Years later I got to meet her daughter, Tammy because she was married to a soldier stationed at Ft. Lewis, WA*

*Judy and I always stayed in touch by our hour long plus phone conversations. There is just so much to tell you about the Diva. My heart is so full..can't stop crying. I will truly truly miss her. It is comforting to know that the Diva is sitting at the right hand of God and giving Him and the Angels a few laughs.*

*Rest in Peace, my friend!*

*Hope to see you in the next life. Love you!! ❤️❤️*

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**Norma Wri3** - August 13, 2021 at 09:07 PM

TW

*“ I affectionately called her "Mrs. Ford". It sounded formal and unfamiliar to bystanders but between us it translated into Mother-in-Law. I smile as I think of her. She was an enigma, elegant and crass in the same instance. With her quick wit she could turn a phrase that would have you guffawing in an evening gown. She was so beautiful and so welcoming. I was truly blessed to have shared time, space, and love with my Mrs. Ford.*



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**Toni Williams** - August 07, 2021 at 02:44 AM

CM

“ Judy we met in 1968 in Detroit at AA. We laughed all the way to LAX and Tucson. We joked we were stalking each other.. You were fun, honest and loving. one of a kind. May you rest in peace and shake up the heavens, will ya?

*christine M*

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**christine manocheo** - August 06, 2021 at 10:35 PM

AD

“ Aunt Delphine lit a candle in memory of Judy Annette Ford



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**Aunt Delphine** - August 06, 2021 at 08:02 PM

KI

“ I have so many good memories of my Aunt Judy. I will miss her funny, over the top, bougie stories. She could make any situation light hearted by a joke or two. I wish she was here to lighten the heaviness I feel. She was truly the Miss Hollywood of the family. There will never be another like her. She told my mother years ago, that when she passed away she wanted us to party in her honor. Hopefully after all is better in the world. We as a family & friends can do just that.

*Loving you still  
Kissy*

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**Kissy** - August 06, 2021 at 06:46 PM

“ AA - Part 2 \* More American Airlines memories of our Miss Judy:

*\* So many fun memories working with Judy. She brought smiles to her coworkers and especially to her customers during a “pre-removal” day. She was awesome in handling those especially tough situations. May she bring her wonderful smile to those she joins in a better place.*

*\* My Judy, Judy, Judy. After I transferred to Atlanta, she tracked me down and called me at the ticket counter. She would come thru after her daughter moved here and we would laugh like I didn't have any other customers but her. If she didn't see me, she always left a crazy message for me.. RIP Judy, I know you have the angels laughing!*

*\* I met Judy when the WRO moved from Los Angeles to Tucson. I respected her, liked her and she was sooooo funny to talk to! I remember her as always having a smile on her face!*

*\* I know the people in heaven are laughing as much as I did when I was in Reservations sitting next to Judy. She was trying hard to convince a caller that paying the standby night coach fare did allow you to sit down on the aircraft. This is not like a Greyhound bus. There were so many priceless stories!*

*\* Many very happy memories working Confos Dept. with Judy... she really was one of a kind.*

*\* I'll always remember Judy and loved her thrift-store shopping stories.*

*\* Judy was a lovely, cheerful, funny person that brightened every room she entered. She will fill the heavens with joy & laughter. She was a mentor to all at the WCRO / WRO.*

*\* Soooo many stories/memories of Judy! She taught me so many things. She was her authentic self.*

*\* Judy Ford is up there telling God what to do! My heart is broken but it's also filled with joy having had her spirit in my life.*

*\* Oh Judy, a true AA legend, what an amazing woman! Condolences to her family and all the lives she touched at AA, I feel she impacted us all in a positive way!*

*\* What memories I have... the stories you shared with me are*

*endless....you were a pure delight and as someone else mentioned - only one Judy!*

*\* Seats and Flifo, Judy... and there begins the stories and laughter. She was a jewel!*

*\* Loved Judy, she had such a great sense of humor and such a kind heart.*

*\* Sad reading about Judy's passing but then you read the comments and it brings a smile to know everyone thought so much of her. At the AA Reservations Office, you drag yourself to work and then Miss Ford sits down next to you.. OMG how much energy can this woman generate laughing, entertaining, clowning and being truly honest to the bone. One day the pod of four seats was occupied by Bill Omelia, Stewart Cohen, me and Miss Ford. She had us laughing so hard that i said "Judy stop or wait I have to go change my depends" She jumps up walks over says, "let me help you with that little ole headset" grabs my hand and leads me out the into the hall and off to the restroom both of us hooting all the way. One of a kind & always brought out the best in other people. If Heaven was a quiet place, it's not anymore.*

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**Bob Alexander** - August 06, 2021 at 01:33 PM

DF

*“ An amazing woman and loving grandmother, Nana was always there for us and taught us so much. She had a larger than life personality, but it was the small things she did that really stick with me and remind me everyday of what it means to be a good and caring person. Our Nana will be missed, and she will always be with us in our hearts and memories.*

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**David F** - August 05, 2021 at 08:14 PM

TF

“ don't think there are any words that can describe Nana. She will always be our larger than life grandmother who taught us how to make hospital corners for the bed, using a fork and knife for all food including french fries and pizza, drinking out of stemware and to always dress your best. I have so many happy memories of spending time with Nana and my brothers lounging around the pool, casino buffets, and watching Wheel of Fortune. Nana taught us so much and was always a thrill to be around. Looking back and hearing Nana call us "Boobilah" with her arms wide open, will always be my best memory

Love you Nana  
Tiffany

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**Tiffany Ford** - August 04, 2021 at 11:45 PM

JG

“ Just want to share moments I shared with your mom.

She was warm and beautiful. My sister Ducky and I were in awe of her while she spent a brief stay at our mom's house with Elmer Jr. before she was scheduled to go to Germany. She never appeared for breakfast before adorning her makeup and eyelashes. We could not understand then how she kept them on. She was charming, adorable and we loved her dearly. Aunt Jackie

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**Jackie Gardner** - August 03, 2021 at 10:33 PM

DD

“ I first met Judy when she came to Williamsburg, VA with my brother, Elmer Roberts, we called him “Cakey” because he loved sweets. They were just dating back then. She was so pretty, such a pretty girl! My sisters and I had never met anyone so glamorous, the flawless skin, her makeup so pretty and the false eyelashes. We were fascinated! We didn’t know anyone that wore false eyelashes! Judy was so happy and friendly too. She liked to talk to everyone and they enjoyed talking to her. My brother married Judy and we were happy to have her in the family. One thing I will always remember about those years is that when Judy came to visit, you’d better believe she did not step one foot out of the room or come downstairs for breakfast until she was all dressed up in her beautiful clothes and of course, the eyelashes; always the eyelashes.

Judy was happy to teach me about make-up and she is the one that taught me how to fix up my hair and moisturize my skin, I still remember it so well. The “School of Judy”.

After I graduated from High School in Virginia, me and my friends Peggy and Loise landed jobs in Newark, New Jersey. When we had time off, we were so excited to take the bus from Newark to New York to go hang out with Judy and her family. She always showed us the best time. She took us all over New York City showing us the city life and pointing out all the things she loves about NYC. Judy took us to fancy stores and pointed out the finest things. We were in window shopping heaven!

Through the years, time passed and Judy stopped wearing those false eyelashes. Judy and I always managed to find each other and catch up on our lives. Although we didn’t speak often, when we did, it was no time at all before Judy had me laughing so hard! We laughed for hours as we caught each other up on our lives. Those funny and cheerful conversations and the adventures with Judy in NYC will live with me forever. When I need a lift and a smile, I will remember NYC and the “School of Judy”. My condolences to my nephews and nieces and the family that is surely mourning Judy.

*Rest in peace,  
Delphine Driver*

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**Delphine Driver** - August 02, 2021 at 08:21 PM

ST

“ *It was toward the end of 1975 riding First Class JFK-SJU when I met you. I was a young out loud and proud Queen and you were a Detroit Diva filled with love, light and joy. We hung out at the Americana Hotel (\$5 a night for employees!) and then I got to visit you in Detroit where I met Sandi as a beautiful young girl who'd just won a Governor's science competition after which she proudly told me she'd going to be a Doctor one day.*

*We both transferred to WCRO/LAX where we laughed a whole lot. I love you Judy for your love and unconditional acceptance at a time when hanging out with an over the top femme gay guy was considered questionable. You never questioned: you loved, accepted and nurtured me on my journey..*

*Enjoy heaven and we'll be seeing you sooner than we realize.  
Thank you for Sandi and now Nicholas and the brilliance and joy they bring the world and me.*

*I will never forget you, ever.*

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**Stu** - August 02, 2021 at 07:59 AM

“ To my Sister

*As far back as I can remember as a tiny girl, and realized I had a big sister named Judy, I was fascinated by her. To me she was the moon and the stars. She could do no wrong in my eyesight. I wanted to be just like her. Judy would make the funniest faces, and say the most outlandish things that only she and I would share. I felt I was the most important person in her world.*

*We attended Resurrection Catholic School together until she moved on to PS 136 in New York City. What a bummer that turned out to be, I always wanted to be where she was. Little did I know, I should not have been hearing some of the things she would say or tell me, but I loved it. She was my best friend.*

*As teenagers, she was always a leap ahead of me. She was able to do things and go places I could not, but she always gave me the "heads up", of the times, her friends, and the "Sugar Bowl" hangout that was across the street from Mother Zion Church where she was supposed to have been with grandmother (smile).*

*I realized that Judy was just a little left of conforming to the rules of the household.*

*She had a mind of her own (as folks would say) and come-what-may she was going to test the waters regardless. To me she was a rebel, which I liked in her. Sometimes, when grandma Eva would send her to the store (which was just downstairs), for a loaf of bread, she would not come back for hours. She would be hanging out with her friends that lived around the corner, Norma, Pat, Barbara, sometimes Carol & Jimmy. She would forget all about the reason she was out there. When she got home, the fresh bread she went to get was crumpled over and hanging over her arm (smile). She would accept the consequences of her deed, but it was not enough to keep her from doing it all over again. That's just who she was.*

*Judy loved being in charge. She felt it was her duty to be the boss of all things. She would tell me, "I am the older sister, I can tell you what to do", to which I would say, "No you can't". It didn't matter*

*though, she did it anyway.*

*Judy was so funny when she would tell me stories. I don't know if half of them were true or not, but I hung on her every word. Where in all of the despair of the '50's, '60's and '70's, did she have the ability to have such a profound sense of humor. It was a gift I imagine, that she spread to everyone she met. People loved being around her as I did so many years before.*

*Through all of our childhood and into our adulthood, I recognized something about my sister. She was a very giving, kindhearted spirit. Judy would give you the literal shirt off her back. When she began working, her income seemed to give her a great sense of being.*

*Nothing was too good for this woman who dubbed herself "The Diva". She lived the Diva existence to the fullest extent allowable. If you needed something, she was there for you. "Let me get that for you" she would say. She shopped at the best stores, bought the best of whatever she needed, and gave you the best of whatever she had to offer.*

*I said to Judy one day, let's go to Woolworth's. She looked at me in shock as though I had committed a crime. Woo-Woo-wool-wor-wor-th?????, "I can't even get the words outta my mouth" she said. "eeww", "how tawdry" that was Judy, it was hilarious!*

*I cherish the relationship we had. We had high adventures together, we had some hiccups too. No one's life is completely without a faux pas here and there, but through it all we remained Best Friends. Judy lived her life the way she wanted to, no one can dispute that. She inherited the ability to keep humor at the forefront even when things would get her down. She didn't want anyone to know she had vulnerabilities.*

*My dear sister, abundant comfort awaits you, the one and only "Diva" I love You Judy, you have earned your rest.*

*Kathleen*

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**Kathleen Williams** - August 02, 2021 at 04:46 AM

RC

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Renee Ford Clark** - August 02, 2021 at 03:05 AM

JR

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



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**Jackie Roberts** - August 01, 2021 at 09:19 PM

MR

“ *For My Mother*

*At 19 you found me in the military at Fort Hood, Texas., I knew it was you when you got off the plane our journey began there.*

*I would visit you often getting to know you and the rest of the family, I had so many questions, but I digress. I knew of you but until we met getting to know you was the best part of the relationship because when we traveled I got to know what a “diva” was, but I had never seen why a Diva was called that, Watching how other folks greeted you and looked up to you left me in total amazement!!! I mean you had friends everywhere and when we were traveling first class and I raised my cereal bowl to drink the milk you didn’t even have to speak to me you just gave a look and a firm “oh no you didn’t” was all it took. Mom, you made my life complete and I’ll always love you for all that you’ve done to help me be whom I’ve become today. I know you’re gone in flesh but you’ll always be with me in spirit!!*

*You will be missed and I will always love you.*

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**Michael Roberts** - August 01, 2021 at 08:20 PM

JR

*May your loving memories always bring you peace. ❤️*

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**Jackie Roberts** - August 01, 2021 at 08:47 PM

“What a beautiful day it was. The sky was a lovely blue with little white clouds dancing like seraphim through the heavens. I was somewhat nervous as I prepared to visit her. I must have known deep inside that today was the day. The final opportunity. The last chance to stir her heart to bow down to God. I emptied a tiny bottle of hand sanitizer and filled it with oil and prayed for victory. As I drove, I prayed that the Lord would go ahead of me and open her heart. He did.

While I walked down the hall to her room, I could hear her. She had developed the habit of saying “Yes” and “Oh” over and over again. That was why they moved her to the last room at the end of the corridor. When I entered the room, she stopped talking and looked at me.

I had a smile on my face and proceeded to mash myself on her chest like I always did when I came to visit. Then I began kissing her all over her left cheek, all the while whispering “I love you, Judy. I love you, Judy. And I know you love me.” She would grunt. That was her way of hugging me back. I took the oil and rubbed it on her face and prayed. I used my phone to play “Emmanuel” by Norman Hutchins, the gospel song I had been playing for her for the two years she had been in residence at A. G. Rhodes. She liked it a lot and would sort of hum along.

As the song played, I sang along, not caring if I was off key or not. I sang and just kept smiling at her. She locked eyes with me. I smiled at her and sang. Smiling and singing. When the music stopped, I began to pray in the Spirit, that is to say, I prayed in tongues. We never took our eyes off one another. The anointing of God was thick in the room. Soft tears began to fall from my face and I didn’t bother to wipe them away. She kept looking at me. Then I started saying “Jesus, Jesus, Jesus” over and over. She started saying “Jesus” too. I said “Judy, say “Save my soul.” She said “Save my soul.” I looked up and said “Is that okay, Lord? Will that do?” And I felt peace.

*When I looked back at her, her face was different. I didn't see an 83-year-old woman. I saw a little girl! I have a photo of her when she was small and her face looked like that photo. Her eyes were wide open and she had a look of wonder and awe on her face. I knew then that she wasn't looking at me anymore. She was looking at the face of God. When I came back the next week, she spoke no more.*

*What a moment! What a gift he gave both of us. Of the 72 years I have known my sister, I have never seen her face as I did on that day. Vulnerable. Soft. Submitted. This is what I will keep in my heart to nourish my soul for the rest of my life. And so, I am at peace. I know where Mommy, Nana, Sister and Friend Judy is. She is resting at Home with the One who loves her the most. God has promised to comfort all who mourn. He is comforting us now.*

*Renée*

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**Renee Ford Clark** - August 01, 2021 at 06:44 PM

JR

*Renee, this is so beautifully written. ❤️ God is good.*

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**Jackie Roberts** - August 01, 2021 at 08:40 PM

TJ

“*High thread count sheets, Egyptian cotton bath towels, LV handbags and luggage...will always remind me of you. #luxurious So were you to me Aunt Judy. Proud to carry our middle name. To my cousins, we are bound in blood, nothing can break that. Always,  
Tracy*

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**Tracy (Briggs) Jupiter-Vassell** - August 01, 2021 at 12:00 PM

TA

“ A few words in remembrance for your mom.

*Judy is the mother of my siblings, and the mother of my bonus sister. When I first met Judy she was warm, loving, witty, and kept me in laughter. I have only been blessed to be in her presence a few times. I can say that each of those visits left me with lasting memories. Although she will be missed, she will have a place in my heart.*

*Elaine Roberts*

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**Tammy** - August 01, 2021 at 12:45 AM

NA

“ *Nonia Amis lit a candle in memory of Judy Annette Ford*



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**Nonia amis** - July 31, 2021 at 08:38 PM

RF

“ I remember years ago, maybe when I was a freshman or sophomore in high school, Nana came to visit us in San Antonio. She was in the kitchen with my mom and her friend Felix, telling stories and making everyone laugh as usual. Felix walked over to me and said, "Your grandmother is something else on roller skates." I didn't understand what he meant, but Felix told me it was good, that she was the life of the party. And she was. I'll always remember Nana as someone who could make us laugh with an outrageous story, or by calling someone an old buzzard, or by roasting us or anyone else who was the target of her wit. She made our summers with her in LA and Las Vegas exciting even though we were too young to do grown folk things. She made flying standby a couture event with blazers and loafers. She made drinking orange juice posh with crystal stemware. Now, when I think about her, I keep hearing those words from Felix. Nana really was something else on roller skates.

*Love always,*

*Tyler Ford*

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**Robert Ford** - July 31, 2021 at 05:34 PM

DO

“ Dear Aunt Judy or better yet *The Diva*, the little nuggets you gave to your nieces and nephews will never be forgotten. I've never eaten a piece of pizza with a knife and fork, but I will always remember you doing it. I will never forget the cruise you took with us when you introduced Quincy to the need of always having pockets. "You always gotta have pockets so you can keep some money in them." You then proceeded to give him some money for his pockets. You and Quincy became buddies on that cruise and it's one of my favorite pictures of you. I'm gonna miss the goofy giggles from you when you were so tickled at yourself for something crazy you said or did. Your eyes really did sparkle when you laughed. Nobody can *Diva* like you did Auntie. You're now flying higher than any airline could have taken you. Rest Well. Love you bunches!

*Donice*



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**Donice** - July 31, 2021 at 04:23 PM

YC

“ Thank you Tammy "Faye" for sharing your mom ❤️ ...always full of life and laughter..I will cherish the memories .Praying for Gods comfort and peace for you and your family. 🙏❤️🌸

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**Yvette Carter** - July 31, 2021 at 02:51 PM

DB

“ My Dear Aunt Judy -

*I remember watching TV20 with you BRIGHT and EARLY in the morning in Detroit. I'd ask you to come watch "Felix the Cat" with me at age 4. You said "You haven't brushed A TOOTH yet!"*

*I didn't care. I just wanted to hang out with you.*

*Thank you for sharing time with me and my family when you visited with us. You dropped gems of laughter and wisdom everywhere. You lit up a room like no one else and you made a person feel SEEN. Your gaze was something else. You'd ask questions that needed to be answered and a person would be better for it.*

*I can't enumerate all the ways you added to my life, but I'll just say you were a blessing. Thank you for everything. I love you.*

*Darryn*

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**Darryn Briggs** - July 31, 2021 at 01:59 PM

TA

“ *I'm so sorry to hear about Judy passing. Please extend my condolences to your family. I am so glad to have gotten the chance to know her, she was a beautiful person! RIP Judy...*

*Elsie Tapia*

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**Tammy** - July 31, 2021 at 12:37 PM

TA

“ Here's a few memories of "The Diva".. I met Judy through Dolores Gonzales in Brooklyn back in the 1970's.

*Judy and I worked at American Airlines along with Beryl. We would catch the train to 179th Street, Queens then catch a bus to Lake Success, Long Island where we all worked.*

*What Beryl and I remember about Judy was her wit and funny stories... like the winter day she went to the dentist. It was cold and she was so numbed up she didn't know her nose was running while people on the subway were smiling at her... she was just smiling back, or the time the toilet paper was hanging out and she didn't know. We all would laugh hysterically at her stories.*

*I also remember her telling us how she'd hop on a plane to Detroit to "get her hair done" then fly right back because they did a better job. The advantages of working for an airline back then!*

*Judy, Beryl and I did take one trip together to Puerto Rico where we drank rum and hit the discos. I looked high and low for some pics of Judy when we went to San Juan, but couldn't find any.*

*When Judy moved to Vegas we kept in touch periodically and I told her I'd drive out (from San Diego) to see her, sadly I never got the chance.*

*May you rest in peace Diva!  
Brenda Lefebvre*

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Tammy - July 31, 2021 at 07:14 AM

TF

“ Nana,

*There's no way we can fully express the pain of losing a loved one. I don't think about you going away though, your journey is just beginning. I just think about you resting in a comfortable place in the garden of Eden. God's garden must be so beautiful and He always takes the best. In life, I loved you dearly and I love you still. In my heart, you hold a place that no one else will ever fill. Those special memories of you, will always bring a smile, "YOU KNOW".*

*Those we love, don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Grief, I've learned, is just love. It's all the love you want to give, but cannot. All of that unspent love, gathers in the corner of your eyes. It's the lump in your throat and the hollow part of your chest. Grief is just love with no place to go.*

*Until we meet again Nana.*

*Love,*

*Rosy, Connor and family*

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Tammy Ford - July 31, 2021 at 03:59 AM

TF

“ To: Judy  
From: Virginia

*Judy*

*Knowing that you “Got Your Wings” today makes me look at life differently.*

*I feel like a five-year-old girl who has lost her lollipop in the sandbox, at the playground.*

*My heart is heavy, and I don’t want to say goodbye.*

*I want us to go back to the days when you wore fake lashes (that you affectionately called, “Bedroom Flutters”) and beautiful designer clothes from Neiman Marcus.*

*...The days of you ironing your sheets and measuring your washcloths to make sure they were exactly 13 x 13.*

*...The days when we watched the same TV show and then called each other to process what we just saw. We would either get the characters mixed up or wouldn’t remember the names at all. Then we would end up confusing each other even more.*

*...The days when you would call me while having a McDonald’s egg sandwich and a coffee at the mall. We’d be talking, but you were also engaged in your favorite social pleasure – people watching.*

*I saw you today. You were a dandelion. You landed on my coffee cup. I made a wish for the fun Judy that joked about everything, including herself.*

*I will miss hearing your voice and laughter.*

*I will miss our sisterhood.*

*I realized last night that you were more than a sister to me, you were also my friend.*

*If you were still here, I would call you today, so you could help me get through losing you.*

*Always remember, I love you – that will stay with me forever.*

*-Love, Buhginna [pronounced buh-gin-uh]*

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Tammy Ford - July 30, 2021 at 06:20 PM

TF

“ Aunt Judy,

*This is a thank you letter for what you represent to me.*

*When I think of you, I see a woman who cared about quality, the way she presented to the world and curated surroundings that felt glamorous. Who ate burgers with cutlery and a manicured pinky up to the Moon - the perfect example of bougie.*

*When I think of you, I also see joy. My favorite memory of you were the hilarious adult jokes you'd tell me even when I was too young to hear them. They were wonderfully unforgettable, just like you. You gave me womanly advice about how to care for "the girls". I felt so seen in those moments, getting that advice from you. You treated me not as someone below you but as a person to whom you could radiate life wisdom and the gift of laughter.*

*Thank you for being my girly and funny aunt. I take some parts of that essence with me every day.*

*-With love, Zendra*

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**Tammy Ford** - July 30, 2021 at 06:13 PM

TF

“ *You Never Said Goodbye*

*You never said I am leaving.  
You never said goodbye.  
You were gone before I knew it .  
Only God knew why.  
If love alone could have saved you.  
You never would have died  
In life I loved you dearly.  
In death I love you still.  
In my heart you hold a place  
That no one else could fill.  
It broke my heart to lose you  
But you didn't go alone  
For part of me went with you  
The day God took you home.*

*June*

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**Tammy Ford** - July 30, 2021 at 06:02 PM

TF

“ *Judy's passing leaves an indelible mark on our hearts. She was central to any conversation, as her presence continuously illuminated a room. She was fortunate to possess a unique gift of communicating and connecting with people and always had a kind word to accompany her infectious smile. To say family and friends will miss her is a gross understatement. She was, without question, a God-given gift that blessed the family and all who knew her.*

*With love,  
Walter and Elaina*

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**Tammy Ford** - July 30, 2021 at 05:56 PM