



# Merinda Rubena Woodbine

DEC 21, 1931 - OCT 8, 2024



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# Merinda Rubena Woodbine

DEC 21, 1931 - OCT 8, 2024

**M**erinda Rubena Woodbine, 92, of Ormond Beach, FL passed away peacefully on October 8, 2024. Merinda was born December 21, 1931, to Ezekiel and Mary (Dobson) Shuttleworth in BigWoods, WestMoreland in Jamaica.

Merinda's life was a vibrant tapestry woven with threads of adventure and discovery. In 1979, she embarked on a journey from St. Catherine, Jamaica, to Florida, setting the stage for a life filled with exploration. Calling Cape Coral, Jacksonville, and finally Ormond Beach her home, Merinda's boundless curiosity drove her to traverse the globe.

Her travels took her to the majestic peaks of Switzerland, the historic streets of Germany, the romantic allure of France, and the picturesque canals of The Netherlands, England's rich heritage, Canada's breathtaking landscapes, and the tropical charms of Antigua and Mexico where all a part of her journey. She embraced the vibrant cultured of Dominica, US Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Barbados, St. Lucia, and the Bahamas.

Merinda's adventurous spirit wasn't confined to international borders. Within the United States, she ventured to the serene beauty of Montana, the bustling city-scape of Minnesota, the industrial heart of Michigan, and the iconic skyline of New York. Her travels extended to the political pulse of Washington DC, the historic charm of Connecticut, the musical heritage of Tennessee, the diverse vibrancy of New Jersey, the Southern warmth of Georgia, the architectural marvels of Illinois.

Merinda's life was a testament to her insatiable wanderlust and her desire to embrace the world in all its diversity. Her journeys, both near and far, reflected a life lived with passion, curiosity, and and enduring love for the roadless traveled.

In all of this, Merinda was driven first and foremost by her unconditional love of her Lord and her family. Her enduring and greatest desire was for her children and lineage to have a personal relationship with God, and love and care for family.



## Obituary

**Merinda Rubena Woodbine**

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Merinda was a member of Beeston Street New Testament Church of God in Jamaica where she raised her children and served faithfully for many years in Ladies Ministry, Prayer Ministry, Choir and other areas. In the USA, she was a member of Cape Coral Assembly of God, and then The Well Church, where she continued serving faithfully in similar capacities. She is best remembered for her intercessory prayers (prayer warrior) and her pure and powerful alto. Most recently, she attended Hopewell Church in Jacksonville, Florida, and Calvary Christian Center in Ormond Beach.

‘..Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.’ Matthew 25:2

Merinda is preceded in passing by her Father, Mother, Grandson Dave, and ex-husband.

Merinda leaves her loving memory with her survivors, 2 Sisters - Lynnette, Yvonne. 4 Brothers - Alden, Calvin, Walter, Ethan. 7 Children - Denham, Veronica, Wilton, Dennis, Peter, Paul, Dean. 17 Grandchildren - Carmica, Sophia, Rodney, Mogul, Titanya, Raul, Ashera, Kayosan, Kareem, Karlene, PetaGaye, Randi, Justin, Jason, Jonathan, Jordan, Jonah. 16 Great grandchildren with 2 on the way. 2 Great, great grandchildren. Daughters-in law, Son-in-law, numerous nieces and nephews.

Merinda's family has entrusted Fort Myers Memorial Gardens with the tender care of her final arrangements. There will be a visitation held on Thursday, October 24, 2024, at 9am at The Well Church at Fort Myers, 940 Pondella Rd, North Fort Myers, FL. Her funeral service is scheduled to begin at 10AM.

In lieu of flowers, offering will be collected for the Beeston Street Church of God Benevolent Fund for the Aged or donation to Love A Child.

An offering will be taken at the church service for the Beeston Street New Testament Church of God Benevolent Fund for the Aged.

For those who would like to make donations in Merinda's honor electronically, please donate to Love a Child foundation at <https://loveachild.com/>



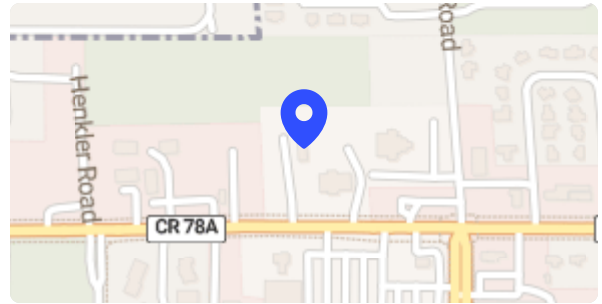
# Events

**Merinda Rubena Woodbine**

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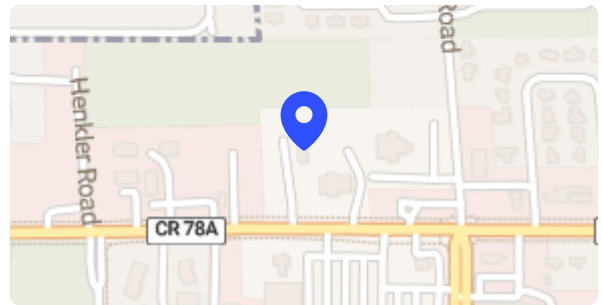
## Visitation

- Thursday**, October 24, 2024
- 9:00 AM ET
- The Well Church**  
940 Pondella Rd, North Fort Myers FL 33903



## Funeral Service

- Thursday**, October 24, 2024
- 10:00 AM ET
- The Well Church**  
940 Pondella Rd, North Fort Myers FL 33903





## Tribute Wall

**Merinda Rubena Woodbine**

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CB

**Cecile Berlin** lit a candle in honor of Merinda.

My deepest condolences to the beautiful family of Mrs. Rubena Woodbine. Ms. Ruby, my teacher, my friend, I love you and cannot imagine a world without you. I think I met you when I was around 11 years old, and I am now 64. Jamaica, land we love! I loved all our conversations about all things home. I loved that every conversation included Jesus and his love. I loved the way you loved and cared for others; Unconditionally. Ms. Ruby had her way of doing things and that's the way it was so if I needed a re-adjustment once in a while, a stern voice may set me straight but soon after I would hear that memorable laugh and feel that unconditional love. For Ms. Ruby, there was nothing that Jesus couldn't do, and prayer and the Bible were part of her daily walk. She never let me forget to always keep Jesus with me. She lived her life with incredible strength and beauty and walked with pride and perseverance. May you rest in perfect peace Ms. Ruby. You will forever be in my heart. With love and admiration. Cecile, Dennis and Matthew Berlin



November 17 at 12:49 PM

AC

**Audreylin And John Cameron** posted:

Mom, you are our adopted and zoom mother twice per week for the last 4 years during our meetings. Although your earthly presence is no longer there, your spirit still lingers on. Another comfort in that, is the verse that says "to be absent in the body, is to be present with the Lord". May you soar like the eagle, and may your family take comfort in knowing that one day we will meet again. May the Lord hold them in his arms and cover them, for as long as they need him. From Audrey and John Cameron

October 23 at 1:03 PM

FP

**Floreyce Palmer** posted:

Mom, you have been a part of our family for as long as my sister has been married your son Paul. We have enjoyed being around you. Best of all we will cherish those times you shared with us during our Family Prayer time, praying boldly and fervently for all the family to come to know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. We love you and miss you. Basil and Ruth Martin and family.

October 23 at 12:46 PM



## Tribute Wall

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FP

**Floreyce Palmer** posted:

A special lady! First a woman of faith who served her LORD from the moment she accepted Jesus as her Savior until she took her final breath. She had a big heart, always helping others with an eagerness and energy beyond compare. She came into my life some 30 years ago and immediately made an impact. Her words of encouragement and prayers blessed me tremendously. Down to the last day before her sudden illness we were joking and dancing. Mom I'll miss you greatly. Love always 'till we meet again in Beulah Land. Floreyce Palmer.

October 23 at 12:40 PM

NS

**Nadine Simms** posted:

It is indeed a privilege to write this tribute on behalf of the Simms family to a special person...Sis Ruby Woodbine, a woman that gave her all to family, friends, church and community. A woman that loved and was loved. Sis Woodbine was a no nonsense christian lady who spoke her mind. She was a phenomenal woman one of strength, dignity and order. She was strong yet sober, solid and classy and loved the finer things in life. She was kind and you felt comfortable in her presence. She told me that her family took great care of her....and I know her love for her family was evident in how she cared for them deeply. She shared many stories about her encounters with God. To the family be encouraged, she is around the throne praising her God, fellowshiping with the other saints. Your grief will transform into joy on that glorious resurrection morn. As the apostle Paul declared to the Thessalonians, we do not sorrow as those who have no hope. There is hope beyond this life. Sis Woodbine has crossed the finish line and is cheering all of us to continue to run the race with the same level of commitment and dedication she exemplified. Well done Sis Woodbine!!

October 21 at 6:50 AM

JR

**Jr & Vicktoria Rizvi** sent an Enchanted Cottage to the Woodbine family.



October 18 at 2:48 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Jackie Francis (Heslop)** lit a candle in honor of Merinda.

Sis. Woodbine (as she was known back in the day - Beeston Street NTCOG), was a "no nonsense" Mom. She was very strict with us young people (back then) and didn't care whose child you were. She didn't like "gossipy" people and would take a liking to the young people who behaved. She just wanted us to be serious about God So, I guess I was one of those people, because one Sunday she invited me over to her house in Waterford after church, unexpectedly to me, I was scared but at the same time delighted. NOBODY visits her house unless she approves of you. She was the one who taught me to make Coleslaw - everything FROM SCRATCH - with a tups a vinegar in the end. I will never forget that. I truly loved and respected her as my second Mom, even though we were one of the reputable families in the church, when you get to know her you could talk to her. After almost 30 years since migrating to Canada, I was then reunited with her when she visited in 2017 with Paul, Sharon and family. We had a good time catching up reminiscing and laughing. I will miss her sense of humour and her smile. Sleep on Mom, rest from all your toils, heartaches and pain. On that GREAT DAY when the trumpet sounds, you will precede us, THEN we will all be together again, (if we continue to walk with The LORD) forever, NEVER to part.



October 18 at 2:23 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Woodbine family.



October 18 at 2:23 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Merinda by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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