

*Celebrating the Life of*  
*Yvonne DeCarlo*  
*Craighead*

*Sunrise:*  
April 17, 1954

*Sunset:*  
March 21, 2024



FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2024

SERVICE: 1:00PM

*Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church*

315 WINCHESTER ROAD

HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA 35811

PASTOR RICKY SYKES, EULOGIST

REVEREND DR. O. WENDELL DAVIS, PASTOR/OFFICIANT

*Obituary*

On March 24, 2024, after an extended illness, Yvonne DeCarlo Craighead heard her Savior say, "well done, my good and faithful servant" as she was welcomed and entered her heavenly home.

Yvonne was born on April 17, 1954 in Huntsville, Alabama to Mattie Louise Craighead and the late Phillip Drake. She was affectionately known to family and friends as "Taffy" because of her sweet demeanor. During her early years, Yvonne attended Westminster Christian Academy and then completed her secondary education at Lee High School in Huntsville, Alabama. After graduating from high school in 1971, Yvonne enrolled in Alabama A&M University. While in college, she gave birth to what she considered her greatest achievement in life, Carlos O'Bryant. Yvonne did not let motherhood stop her educational pursuit and graduated in 1975 with a bachelor's degree in special education. After graduation, Yvonne decided that teaching was not for her. She began working for WBHP in 1975 as a traffic director, responsible for scheduling all radio commercials. Yvonne had a high work ethic and expected a lot from her sales staff and the DJs. As an expert in her field, she continued in the radio industry through the merger of WBHP and WDRM. In the early 1990s, Yvonne began working in the mornings with Hundley Batts and WEUP. When her love for urban music outweighed her love for country music, she transitioned to working full-time at WEUP. Yvonne was instrumental to the success of day-to-day operations, The Black Arts Festival and other WEUP activities.

Yvonne loved being a Nana to Evan Jeremiah and Eden Joy. She enjoyed going to football and baseball games as well as dance recitals and Nutcracker performances. There was never a time when you talked to Yvonne that she wasn't doting on "her boy" and "her baby doll". She loved them more than life itself.

She is preceded in death by her father, Philip Drake; brother, James O. McDavis, Jr. and sister, Karen D. McDavis.

Yvonne is survived by her son: Carlos O. Craighead (Joycelyn), grandson, Evan and granddaughter, Eden Joy all of Huntsville, Alabama; mother: Mattie Jasper of Huntsville, Alabama; two brothers, Phil Drake of Huntsville, Alabama and Phillip Gilbert (Gilda) of Sheffield, Alabama; three sisters, Lynnette Udeh and Phyllis Saunders of Riverside, California and Shelia Bell (Robert) of Detroit Michigan; Felecia Drake and Alvenia McDavis both of Huntsville, Alabama; goddaughter, Pamela A. McTiller and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and loving friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Huntsville Hospital Foundation designated for Inpatient Hospice, in memory of Yvonne D. Craighead.

# Order of Service

Processional ..... PASTOR RICKY SYKES  
New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church

Prayer..... PHIL DRAKE

## Scripture Readings

Old Testament ..... Ecclesiastes 3:1-8  
PASTOR O'BRIEN WHERRY  
Beans Creek Primitive Baptist Church

New Testament ..... John 14:1-3  
PASTOR ELDER DR. CURTIS JORDAN  
Greater Mount Carmel Primitive Baptist Church

Music Selection..... UNION CHAPEL MISSIONARY  
BAPTIST CHURCH CHOIR

Resolution ..... UNION CHAPEL MISSIONARY  
BAPTIST CHURCH

Solo..... MRS. ETHEL JAMES  
"Amazing Grace" (John Newton)

~Silent Reading Of The Obituary~

Eulogy ..... PASTOR RICKY SYKES  
New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church

Solo..... MR. COURTNEY MOORE  
"My Soul Is Anchored" (Douglas Miller)

Prayer Of Comfort ..... DR. O. WENDELL DAVIS, PASTOR  
Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

MORTICIAN ..... ROYAL FUNERAL HOME

RECESSIONAL..... PASTOR RICKY SYKES  
New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church

*Pallbearers*

MR. CHRISTOPHER ANDERSON

MR. AL JAMES

MR. EMILE JONES

MR. STEVEN MURRAY

MR. LAMONT MARTIN

MR. PATRICK WYNN

*Flower Bearers*

LADIES OF WEUP

HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE CLASSMATES

*Acknowledgments*

The family of the late Yvonne DeCarlo Craighead wishes to thank you for your acts of kindness and expressions of love. The love you have shown has given us great comfort during this difficult time. It is deeply appreciated and will forever be remembered by our entire family. May God bless and keep each of you. A special thank you to Huntsville Hospital Hospice Family Care, outpatient and inpatient services for the care provided. Also, we would like to recognize Felicia Jasper, Tiffany King, Joycelyn Davis and Christine Lewis for your loving care during her illness.

*Funeral Arrangements Entrusted to:*

*Royal Funeral Home, Inc.*

*"When only memories remain, let them be beautiful."*

4315 Oakwood Avenue  
Huntsville, Alabama 35810