



Obituary

Died: Thursday, October 1, 2020

Vanessa Jvonne Rice Doss, (affectionately known as Van), daughter of Fred and Odessa Rice, was born on December 24, 1953 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Vanessa's early years as the second daughter in a large, fun, and rambunctious family of 16 on Indianapolis' East Side, molded her commitment to family. Attending Indianapolis Public Schools, she graduated from Arsenal Technical High School in 1971. Always seeking to learn and better herself, she earned an Associate in Business Administration at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College.

Vanessa professed a hope in Christ as a young adult. Wherever Vanessa became involved she was all in! It's not hard to imagine that she was an active member of Greater Saint James Baptist Church, including as a choir member and as a participant in the youth ministry.

Van married Phillip Doss, the love of her life, in 1994. Their love created a blended family of Juan and Corey Stallworth, Phillip and Devon Doss, Ludwig Johnson, and Cory Owens.

Vanessa spent most of her career working for, and later retiring from, Indiana Bell. Always busy in her "retirement", she worked for Washington Township Schools, and her years of employment with Marriott Hotels allowed her the support and freedom to pursue some of her consuming interests: traveling, event and wedding planning, and her passion for children. Vanessa loved to travel! During her mother's later years, she and Phil often included her mother and any number of family members in their travels. While at home, or on the road, she was a proverbial Mother Goose, always surrounded by children, grands, nieces, and nephews. Many of which were nurtured and well loved in her owned and operated daycare.

Anyone who was a participant in, or a recipient of, Van's event and/or wedding planning knew these things: she had unstoppable energy, she had a LOT of supplies and decorations (or she would buy what you needed!), and she was a force to be reckoned with! Seldom without a strong opinion, she had unshakable confidence that her ideas were the best thing for you! Van's persistence, persuasiveness, and determination to provide you with the best event ever were unmatched. Unafraid of challenges (and sometimes confrontation!), nevertheless her legacy remains one of love and getting things done.

Van's heart of service and care for those in need was clearly demonstrated in her cooking and preparing meals for the annual Mozel Sanders Thanksgiving dinner. On the fun side,

Service Summary

Interment following funeral service
Sat Oct 10, 2020

Visitation

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, Sat Oct 10, 2020

Greater St. James Miss. Baptist Church

3101 E. RAYMOND STREET
Indianapolis, Indiana 46203

Celebration of Life

12:00 PM Sat Oct 10, 2020

Greater St. James Miss. Baptist Church

3101 E. RAYMOND STREET
Indianapolis, Indiana 46203

her annual Easter baskets were epic, and her candy Christmas wreaths were an absolutely sweet holiday favorite! Her work, and her sacrifice of time, talents, and finances, were all in the quest for fun, gathering family and loved ones, and creating lasting memories. Love was an action word for Vanessa.

Vanessa departed this life on Thursday October 1, 2020. She was preceded in death by her parents Fred and Odessa Rice, sister Glenda, brothers Lancey, Frederick, Danny, and Steve.

Remaining to cherish her memory are her devoted, loving husband, Phillip Doss; sons, Juan and Corey Stallworth Phillip and Devon Doss, Ludwig Johnson, and Cory Owens; sisters, Sharon Davis, Denise Johnson (Tony), Andrea Colbert (Lawrence); brothers, Freeman Bradley, Norman Ellis, Glenn Rice, Jeffrey Rice (Pam), and Rodney Rice (Sharice); grandchildren, a great grandchild; many nieces, nephews, godchildren, other relatives, and many special friends who will treasure memories of her.

Humbly Submitted.....The Family