

## *EULOGY*

### *“FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH”*

Jeantilia Ferdinand of San Antonio, Texas, formerly of Miami, Florida and Haiti, died on May 1, 2020, of Cancer and was surrounded by her children at the time of her passing. Born January 2, 1944, to Lontine Tony and Jean Ferdinand, the 4th of 11 children. She immigrated from Haiti to Freeport, Bahamas and finally to America for a better life for her children where she achieved her dreams!

Mrs. Ferdinand was a devoted mother of eight children, three sons and five daughters. She was also a grandmother of 13 grandchildren. All affectionally referred to her as "yaya and grandma". She was an active and vivacious woman prior to her being diagnosed with Cancer.

While Mrs. Ferdinand did not have a formal education, however she was educated through the school of hard rocks we known as life. While a single mother, she worked two jobs seven days a week to support her children-many of whom graduated with Master's degrees and one accomplishing her goal of becoming a professional basketball player with the WNBA and another that served in the United States Navy. She knew the value of family and although a single parent raising eight children of her own, she also took in three nieces and a nephew. In 2006, one of her daughters established and gifted a bakery/restaurant to Mrs. Ferdinand, who successfully ran the business for seven years making it one of the best Haitian bakeries in North Miami Beach prior to her well-deserved retirement. While she was old schooled in her own ways, she instilled strong work ethics, self-independence, and the love of our Lord Jesus Christ in all her children, family and friends.

She was seamlessly humble, a kind gentle soul who always gave and her generosity knew no bounds. She was always an advocate for peace. She kept an impeccable, meticulous house and was always ready to cook up a storm. She will be remembered for her delicious Creole dishes and enjoyed cooking for her children. No task was ever too big. Mrs. Jeantilia Ferdinand was truly a woman of substance!

She will be remembered as a loving sister, mother, auntie and grandmother. She was very kind, caring and a sweet human being who was never judgmental and would make everyone feel welcomed at her home, regardless of where they came from. She was a soft-spoken woman but with a "look", you knew that she meant business.

We'll miss her more as the days lengthen the shadows of her passing. We'll miss her at home and at all future family functions. We have come to understand that death is not a punishment however, it is an eternity reunion with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.