

Celebration of Life for Lisa Ellen Boze

December 3, 1964 - March 15, 2023



Sunday, March 26, 2023

Wake 10:00am

Funeral 11:00am

Order of Service

Mistress of Ceremony: Evangelist Sharon D. Doyle

Processional.....	"On That Resurrection Morning"
Church Anthem.....	I Love Thy Church O' God
Prayer.....	St. Matthew 6: 9-14
Prayer of Comfort.....	Evangelist Sharon Doyle
Selection.....	"Blessed"
Old Testament Psalms 39.....	Elder Joshua Boone
Selection.....	Choir
New Testament 1st Chorinthians 15: 41- 59.....	Evangelist James Cook
Selection.....	Choir
Acknowledgments & Condolences.....	MS St. Stevenie Shelton
Solo.....	St. Michelle White, USSD
Resolutions.....	St. Tawnia Stephens, HFM
Solo.....	St. April Grant, USSD
	Friends and Family Tribute
Selection.....	Choir
	Clergy Remarks
Obituary.....	St. Charesse Barrett, Gen. Singers Treasure
Selection.....	Choir
Eulogy.....	Evangelist At Large Isaac W. Artis Jr.
	Final Viewing
	Recessional



Obituary

God smiled on us the day Lisa Ellen Boze was born, December 3rd, 1964. She was born in Newark, NJ and was raised in East Orange, NJ by her beautiful mother Mattie Lemay and her father Ed Boze II. As the second eldest of seven children she was influential in the growth and development of her younger siblings. She learned at a tender age what it meant to be responsible for young life, and she took that responsibility seriously. Growing up on Sunnyside Terrace, Lisa was known in the neighborhood to be fierce and independent.

She spent her young life being formally trained in the Turtle Karate system by Sensei Ed Boze II. Lisa's tenacity and strength eventually earned her a Black Belt in karate; she won state-wide tournaments and brought home countless trophies. She never lost her physical training or her innate skill to fight. Lisa graduated from East Orange High School in 1982 and continued her education at Essex County College, where she earned three Associate degrees, including a degree in Early Childhood Education.

Lisa developed a zeal for entrepreneurship from her grandmother the late Mary Boze who she affectionately called Nana. Nana owned and operated a dry cleaners and a corner convenient store on West Kinney Street in Newark where Lisa worked tirelessly until her dreams took her elsewhere. Her first job was at Sunset Christian Academy. She worked there for a few years until taking a position at The Children's Academy (TCA) in Newark.

Lisa worked at TCA for over 20 years as a Pre-K teacher, then Head Teacher, and ultimately served as the Associate Director for more than 10 years. While at TCA she helped to raise many, many children. Lisa's own children, Mark, Michael, and Yolanda, who she had with the late Mark A. Harris Sr., had the honor of being educated right under their mother's nose until they were old enough to attend grade school. Lisa's intense love for children and her heart of pure gold led to her gaining another child, Leonard, who she raised as her very own.

While at TCA Lisa wasn't just the boss, she was everybody's mom. Naturally, her children made friends with the other children there, and those children would often find themselves at Ms. Boze's house. She would feed them, clothe them, take them to church, and on trips. Lisa had a "no child left behind" policy in her home. Quite frankly it didn't matter what the child looked like, who their parents were or where they came from, if they found themselves at Lisa's house, they were sure to be met with love, food, and fun.

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Lisa was an adventurer! She loved to have fun and she made sure her children were brave enough to explore and learn new things in life too. There was no place Lisa went that her children did not go. She happily brought her children on adventures to show them the world outside of their neighborhood. She took her own children and others on Caribbean cruises, annual vacation in the Hamptons, Coney Island, Seaside Heights, Point Pleasant Beach, Broadway shows and all over New York City. It wasn't about the expenses, it was about the experiences, the adventures and the sweet memories.

Lisa was the most charitable, generous, kind-hearted and genuine soul many have ever known. She gave and gave and gave some more, and somehow still managed to always have enough for her own family. One would think she had a master's degree in budgeting and money management because of how miraculously she made ends meet. She raised 4 children as a single mother in Newark, one of the toughest cities in the state. In a neighborhood that was laden with gang violence, riddled with poverty and hostility, Lisa did the unimaginable. She raised all 4 of her children to be highly educated, spiritual, family oriented and productive members of society.

Lisa's strength was unmatched because her faith was unshakable! Her parents raised her with a strong spiritual background and gave her the foundation for her lifelong walk with the Lord. She was introduced to The Church of God and Saints of Christ in the late 1980's. She was a dedicated member until her last breathe. She served as a faithful choir member and Special Captain, responsible for meeting her Pastor's traveling needs for various church trips. As she did at TCA, Lisa helped to raise many, many children in the church. S t. Lisa B, as she was affectionately called, was well known for hosting sleepovers for the kids after Sabbath service. Even after her children were grown, she kept her tradition alive by hosting the next generation of children. Her selflessness knew no limits. She never stopped hosting, she never stopped feeding, she never stopped teaching, and she never stopped loving. Lisa was also an integral part of the church outreach initiatives. Establishing a relationship with the Community FoodBank of New Jersey, she secured food for the church and community members to fill their freezers and cupboards on a regular basis. Today, nearly 20 years later, the foundation she laid with the FoodBank, enables the House of Love soup kitchen/pantry to feed upwards of 100 families each month.

Lisa will be remembered for her work ethic, her ingenuity, and her self determination. In 2006 she and her sister Ravi were blessed to buy a family home.

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Lisa converted the first floor of the home and established her own business: Family Tree Daycare. She was elated to carry on her Nana's entrepreneurial spirit and to finally be able to work for herself. Family Tree Daycare was very successful and Lisa quickly reached and maintained enrollment capacity. After years of fun and enrichment, the business was dissolved due to life's unforeseeable and unpredictable nature.

Later in life Lisa worked as a private nanny. People trusted Lisa with their children's education and development, their safety, and their lives. She had a special way of nurturing children and showering them with a deep deep love, so much so that she became part of their families.

In June 2019 Lisa was diagnosed with stage 4 Metastatic Breast Cancer and she fought until the very end. Lisa worked and maintained her quality of life for years! Her Oncologist and the medical staff were perpetually in awe of her strength and her will to live. She fought with great courage and vigor. She was determined to live life on her own terms and to fight until she could no more.

Lisa's first grandchild was born in February 2020 and she instantly fell in love with him. Just as she did her whole life with countless other children, she wrapped him in love and taught him how to enjoy life. Trey loved his grandma and she loved him! Even in her late fifties, with stage four cancer consuming her body, she would sit on the floor and roll around playing and having fun with her grandson. Lisa absolutely loved being a mother to her 4 children, but being a grandma lit up her life.

Lisa Boze was the embodiment of St. Matthew 5:16 "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your father which is in Heaven". Her light shined even in the darkest of places. Her positivity was contagious, her smile was glowingly beautiful, and her energy was unstoppable. She wasn't just a nice person, she was a Godly person. She forgave the unforgivable, she taught the unteachable, she rescued and restored the seemingly unreachable. Lisa loved with the love of God.

For the short time she was here, she made an incredible impact on the lives of so many people, you and I are blessed to be in that number. Lisa Boze transitioned from this life on Wednesday, March 15th, 2023 and said farewell to her parents, Mattie, and Ed, her loving children Mark (Simone), Leonard (Delia), Johnathan, Michael Isaiah (Celia), Yolanda, Janelle, her grandchildren Trey, and others to come, her siblings Troy, Eddie (Racquel), Kelvin (Lisa), Ravi, LeaLea, Lemay (Poppie), Charlene, Michael (Toya), her godson Samir, her many nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, uncles, and friends. She will be sorely, sorely missed by all who knew her.



Pallbearers

Mark A. Harris Jr.

Leonard A. Davis

Michael I. Harris

Edward W. Boze III

Joseph J. Best

Samir A. McSwain

Lisa Boze

By: Mark A. Harris Jr. (age 11)

L is for Living up to everything that you say

I is for being Irreplaceable in every single way

S is for Strength that cannot be denied

A is for the Ambition that you've instilled inside

B is for Believing in me when I didn't do my best.

O is for Outstanding which you are without rest

Z is for the Zeal that you have in my success

E is for being Excellent and of course for being the best

Interment on Monday, March 27, 2023

Fairmont Cemetery

11:00am