



Mrs. Michele Benford Sly

February 18, 1958 - March 7, 2023

I have fought a good fight. I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing. ~ 2 Timothy 4:7-8

And Michele Yvette did just that! God presented her to the world February 18, 1958, a beautiful black girl with bright sparkling eyes, and a vibrant smile. She was reared by loving parents, Rev. D. N. Benford, Sr., and the late, Julia Mae Benford, who did not always understand her, nor did she always understand them, but by God's grace and mercy she accepted Christ at an early age, and grew to be a smart, intelligent, and successful young lady. As she was completing her senior year at La Marque High School, Class of 1976, God blessed her with one, Mokysa Denise, "Professor Pumpkin". Michele was a free spirit and while she sometimes colored outside the lines, the picture was ultimately beautiful. She was a hopeless romantic and along her journey she was blessed to find love more than once.

Throughout her life, Michele worked at Southwestern Bell, American National, and UTMB where she always excelled in administrative management.

Entrepreneurship was in her future, and the highlight of that was the 501c3 that she birthed – Overcomers. Overcomers was a calling that grew out of her own struggle with addiction, and it manifested as a facility to help others both in the short and long-term. United Way ultimately sponsored her and she was able to acquire a building in Texas City as well as utilize Rising Star

Missionary Baptist Church, where she provided various services to the community which included a men's center for recovering addicts, daily meetings for recovery, and assistance to those transitioning back into society. Until this very day people call, stop by, and share with all those who will listen their testimony of how Michele and her organization saved their life! What the devil meant for evil, God meant for good! Due to the amazing work she was able to accomplish with Overcomers, she was asked to speak and was honored by the United Way. Michele was also an exceptional writer and realized one of her dreams of becoming published when she authored her book of poems appropriately titled, *Shades of Me*.

Michele was strong in her faith, and had a great love for sports, cooking, fishing, and spending time with family and friends. You could always find her house filled with loving family and friends and the aroma of something delicious cooking in the kitchen. Her house became the haven for so many. Due to her union to Michael Manning, Sr., she gained a son, Mycal Terry. And he is just one of many who called her Momma, or in his case, his T Lady. Michele had a spirit about her that drew people to her, and she knew how to make each one of them feel welcome and special.

Michele gained her wings, Tuesday, March 7, 2023, with her oldest grandson, Thomas Kilby, right by her side. She is preceded in death by her grandparents; mother, Julia Mae Benford, and sister, Arla Benford Jones. She leaves to cherish her memory: father, Rev. D. N. Benford, Sr.; husband, Dauterive Sly; daughter, Dr. Mokysa Benford, son, Mycal Terry (Mary); grandsons, Thomas Kilby and Shelton Kilby; brothers, Doris Benford, Jr. and Thomas Benford (Chelsea); sisters, Yolanda Benford Proctor and Toni Benford Relf (Thomas); nieces, Kimberly Jones, Tonya Jones, Cherrell Proctor King (Rodney), Natalie Proctor, Julia Carol Benford, Desiree Benford, and Madison Benford; nephews, Sam Proctor Jr., Malcolm Proctor, Dustin Benford, Alonzo Benford (Jaime), Wright Benford, Chase Benford, and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family, and close friends.

You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. ~ Genesis 50:20

Cemetery Details

Rising Star Cemetery

La Marque , TX 77568

Previous Events

Public and Family Viewing

MAR 18. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church
302 N. Oak Street
Texas City, TX 77591

Celebration of Life

MAR 18. 12:00 PM (CT)

Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church
302 N. Oak Street
Texas City, TX 77591

Burial

MAR 18. 2:00 PM (CT)

Rising Star Cemetery
LaMarque, TX 77568

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Michele Benford Sly*

October 05, 2023 at 01:51 AM

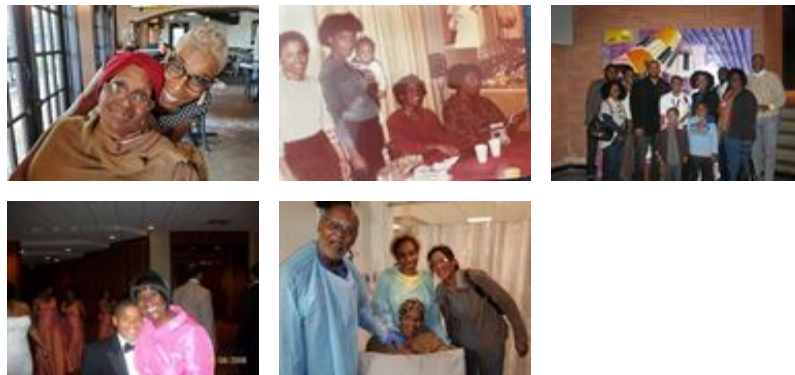


“ *To the Benford Family. May God keep and give you peace..... From Yvonne Wright Newsome.*

Yvonne Wright Newsome - March 17, 2023 at 10:47 PM



“ *156 files added to the album LifeTributes*



McBride Funeral Home - March 17, 2023 at 12:39 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Michele Benford Sly.*



March 16, 2023 at 01:00 AM