



Dolores "Dee" Bruton

February 4, 1946 - August 9, 2022

Dolores "Dee" Leonard, the second oldest of four siblings (James Leonard, Herbert Leonard, and Valerie Garnes), was born to Mr. Scottie Leonard (deceased) and Helen Muldrow-Leonard (deceased) on Tuesday, February 4, 1946, at Einstein Medical Center, located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Dee as she became affectionately known, was head-strong, self-motivated, and a self-starter. She attended John Bartram High School in South West Philadelphia. Dee and her family were faithful members of Gospel Temple Baptist Church in Philadelphia.

Soon after graduating, Dee caught the eye of bestselling and Nobel Peace Prize-winning author, Pearl S. Buck. After working at Ms. Buck's foundation in Philadelphia, Dee was chosen to go to Korea where she served as the Asian Field Liaison for the foundation. There, she met Joseph James Bruton, a Sgt. In the Army. The meeting changed Dee's plans to move to the Philippines. After marrying and moving to Orlando, Florida, she eventually moved to Altamonte Springs, Florida, and joined Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church.

The Philadelphia native found herself on the pre-opening cast of Walt Disney World. Starting in hospitality at the front desk of the Polynesian Hotel, she quickly worked her way up through the ranks and became Manager of Human Resources (HR) and eventually was promoted to Assistant Director of HR. Instrumental in setting up the Magic Kingdom College Kids Program and

partially responsible for the staffing of EPCOT – Walt Disney World, Dee found herself traveling through Europe and the Orient on “Mickey’s” ticket. After 23 years of service and leadership, Dee took an early retirement in 1994 and became an entrepreneur with the opening of Discrimination Assistance Business (D.A.B. Co.), an equal employment opportunity consulting firm. Always wanting the next challenge, Dee eventually signed on with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as an EEOC Officer. This opportunity allowed her to travel domestically and continue her life’s work of helping people in need. Over the years, Dee organized and volunteered for many programs and associations, including but not limited to: Young Professionals, Inc., Greater Orlando Chamber of Commerce, B.E.T.A., United Negro College Fund, Urban League Advisory Board, Continuing Education for Women, Single Teen Association, as well as many others.

Dee Bruton was proud to have been named one of the Nation’s Top 100 Business Women of the Year and received the Central Florida YMCA Black Achievers Award.

With all of these accomplishments, Dee was most proud of her family. She was the proud mother of two wonderful sons, Peter Bruton and Jabari Bruton-Barrett, and two more “children” through marriage, Lisa Bruton and Robert Barrett, Jr. She is survived by her adoring longtime companion of 11 years, Eddie Long (age 80). She was also the grandmother of two handsome and loving grandsons, D’Andre Bruton (age 22) and Devan Bruton (age 21). Also left to cherish her memory are her siblings: James Leonard, Herbert Leonard, Valerie Garnes, and a host of nieces, nephews, other loving relatives, and friends.

To view the service via Facebook Livestream use the link below:

<https://m.facebook.com/ZandersFuneralLIVE/>

Cemetery Details

Highland Memory Gardens

3329 E. Semoran Blvd.
Apopka, FL 32703

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG **19**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church
412 E. Kennedy Blvd.
Eatonville, FL 32751

Service

AUG **20**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church
412 E. Kennedy Blvd.
Eatonville, FL 32751

Tribute Wall



“ *Dolores "Dee" Bruton*

October 22, 2023 at 05:49 PM



“ *Jacqueline Tribue Scott lit a candle in memory of Dolores "Dee" Bruton*



Jacqueline Tribue Scott - August 20, 2022 at 02:24 AM



“ *Eddie & Beverly Blanding lit a candle in memory of Dolores "Dee" Bruton*



Eddie & Beverly Blanding - August 19, 2022 at 03:26 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Dolores "Dee" Bruton.*



August 18, 2022 at 07:30 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Dolores "Dee" Bruton.*



August 18, 2022 at 07:22 PM



“ *John & Regina Kemper purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Dolores "Dee" Bruton.*



John & Regina Kemper - August 17, 2022 at 07:00 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dolores "Dee" Bruton.*



August 16, 2022 at 12:28 PM



“ *Most Excellent Union Grand Chapter-HRAM purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Dolores "Dee" Bruton.*



Most Excellent Union Grand Chapter-HRAM - August 15, 2022 at 11:45 PM

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“ Augustus W. Franklin Chapter No. 118 purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Dolores "Dee" Bruton.



Augustus W. Franklin Chapter No. 118 - August 15, 2022 at 09:48 PM

JN

“ To Pete & family, you have our deepest condolences on the loss of your loving Mother & family Matriarch. You may have loved her most, but God loved her best. Weeping may endure for a night, but believe, that Joy will come again, again & again.



Sincerely yours,

*James, Katrina &
Norman Family*

James L. Norman - August 13, 2022 at 06:36 PM