



## Marlene "Pumpkin" Murphy

June 26, 1951 - May 22, 2019

Marlene Todd was born on June 26, 1951 in Homestead, Pennsylvania. She was the youngest of 3 children from the union of Hazel Mathews and Louis "Bus" Todd. "Pumpkin" was forever called by family, friends, colleagues and politicians alike, was raised in Homestead's second ward. In her youth she attended Second Baptist Church and was baptized under the pastorate of the late Rev. O. C. Perkins. She was educated in Homestead Public School System and was a 1970 graduate of Homestead Senior High School. After graduating and entering the work force Pumpkin, with her strong work ethic, worked for US Steel and both Central Medical and Homestead Hospitals before her employment with the Homestead Parking Authority where she would spend twenty years of her working career. In that time she progressed from meter maid to supervisor. For many of those years, she worked closely with fellow employee Rev. Donald P. Turner, her pastor and good friend. Her job took her out into the community and that is where she loved to be. She was a lifelong resident of Homestead and loved her town and all the good it stood for. She was well known and respected and hers was the voice that could always be heard in matters regarding Homestead and its citizens. She had a special place in her heart for "Her Kids, Her Seniors". She believed that kids and teens needed a safe place to develop and learn and to that end she implemented and hosted an afternoon program for them at the Salvation Army. She was passionate about the senior citizens in the community. She believed that they deserved respect and kindness but also compassion, care,

love and companionship. "Her Kids, Her Seniors". She received the most personal satisfaction from the position that she held at that time of her passing which was Outreach Coordinator for The Rainbow Kitchen. Miss Pumpkin and her dedicated volunteers worked tirelessly to serve the underserved with the monthly food distribution which hundreds of families took advantage of, with food deliveries to the homes of senior citizens, her annual coat drive where she made sure that there were also hats, scarves and gloves for "Her Kids", and the Farmstand which provided fresh fruit and produce during the summer months for "Her Seniors". Pumpkin was united in marriage to Don E. Murphy. They have one son, Shawn. Pumpkin was a past member of Propel School Board and the Salvation Army Advisory Board and she was a past vice president of the Harmony Club of Homestead. Her less formal affiliations were that of the Spice Writers (she was an avid reader) and The Maple Street Gang which consisted of herself and 3 of her childhood friends: Lynette Clark, Hattie Smith, and Rose Shaw whose bond grew stronger over many years while living in the same apartment building and helping each other under the premise "It takes a village to raise a child". She also shared a special friendship with Mayor Betty Esper, Kelley Hill-Brown, Denise Hunt, and Michelle Collins. She loved her family with all of her heart, and her grandson, Grant was the light of her life.

On Wednesday, May 22, 2019 the Lord in His infinite wisdom, saw fit to call Marlene Todd Murphy home. She is preceded in death by her parents, Hazel Todd Green and Louis Todd, Sr., stepfather and stepmother; Arthur Green and Rose Todd; maternal grandmother, Azula Mathews; brothers; Benjamin, Louis Todd, and Keith Todd; nephews: David "Lumpy" and Don Everett "Booper" Todd; mother and father-in-law, Eva May and Joseph Murphy, Sr., sister and brother-in-law: Rosetta, Norman, Richard, and Wayne Murphy. She leaves to honor and cherish her memory devoted husband Don E. Murphy; sons: Rashid DeShawn (Sarah Diaz) Todd, Evan (Alannah) Murphy, and Erran Murphy; siblings: Shadena Todd, Jeffrey Bergwin, Dwayne (Satara) Bergwin, Eric Bergwin, Louis Todd, Jr., Cheryl Todd and Linda Todd; grandsons:

William, Grant , Jaiden, and Micah; niece and nephew: Denise Todd and Antwon Rose, Sr.; aunt, Marion Palmer; sisters-in-law: Lori Roadway, Ruth Todd, Diane Murphy, Lorraine (Darryl) Foster and Laverne Murphy; brothers-in-law: Joseph Murphy, Jr., Robert (Jeanie) Murphy, Calvin (Marsha) Murphy, and Anthony (Kim) Murphy; goddaughter, Joslyn Smith; and a host of other relatives and good friends too numerous to mention. She is already missed.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY **29**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Tunie Funeral Home, Inc.  
218 E. 11th Avenue  
Homestead, PA 15120  
(412) 462-6466  
lisajohnson@tuniefuneralhome.com  
<http://www.tuniefuneralhome.com/Default.aspx>

## Service

MAY **30**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Second Baptist Church  
108 W 12th Avenue  
Homestead, PA

# Tribute Wall



“ *Marlene "Pumpkin" Murphy*

January 29, 2023 at 12:45 PM



“ *Marlene "Pumpkin" Murphy*

January 29, 2023 at 10:10 AM



“ *Pumpkin will be missed by the whole community, she was the face of compassion for all of the people of Homestead*  
*Lloyd Cunningham*

**lloyd cunningham** - May 29, 2019 at 05:39 PM



“ *Linda Tunie lit a candle in memory of Marlene "Pumpkin" Murphy*



**Linda Tunie** - May 28, 2019 at 01:27 PM



“ *Brenda Keys lit a candle in memory of Marlene "Pumpkin" Murphy*



**Brenda Keys** - May 28, 2019 at 09:25 AM

BK

*To Don, Shawn, and Family my condolences. Peace!*

**Brenda Keys** - May 28, 2019 at 09:31 AM

JT

“ *Jeremy Pufky and the Philadelphia Pepsi Team purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Marlene "Pumpkin" Murphy.*



**Jeremy Pufky and the Philadelphia Pepsi Team** - May 28, 2019 at 08:33 AM

CJ

“ *Having known Pumpkin my entire life I was saddened to hear of her passing. She was always a listening ear a confidant and friend. She will truly be missed Rest In Peace my friend*

**Charmaine Johnson** - May 27, 2019 at 02:00 PM

EP

“ *Pumpkin was a blessing to her family and community. Many will miss her. Stay strong Don. May she rest easy.*  
*Eric & Liz Pastor*

**Eric Pastor** - May 27, 2019 at 12:04 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Marlene "Pumpkin" Murphy.*



May 27, 2019 at 11:12 AM

PH

“ *May you rest in peace and be with the Lord.  
Miss you Pat Herd*



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**PATRICIA HERD** - May 26, 2019 at 09:29 AM

GR

“ *My condolences to the family. Take your rest my friend! See you on the other side.*

*Geraldine Hill Robinson*

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**G. Robinson** - May 24, 2019 at 08:44 PM



“ *Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of  
Marlene "Pumpkin" Murphy.*



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May 24, 2019 at 11:49 AM

CW

“ *Ms. Pumkin,*

*We remember you now in love, your life from start to end and we're just glad to have know you as Shawn's mother and as our friend.*

*Char Char & Kristin Westbrooks*

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**Charlene Westbrooks** - May 24, 2019 at 11:24 AM

PL

“ GM, My Condolences 2 The FAMILY 🙏🙏 RIH Marlene 🙏🙏🙏.  
Priscilla Lawson

Priscilla Lawson - May 24, 2019 at 08:22 AM

JB

“ She always had a kind word & a helping hand to anyone who needed it. When my kids were little she would always make sure my youngest would get on the bus going up to his Aunt's house so I wouldn't be late for work. I will never forget her kindness. Rest in Peace my friend.



Joanne Batyi - May 24, 2019 at 07:44 AM

AW

May your soul rest in peace so sorry for your family's loss . Prayers during this time of greivence. Mrs.Pumkin was a true blessing and words or wisdom will be missed .

AnnMarie Wilkinson - May 29, 2019 at 09:48 PM

DS

Ms. Pumkin will truly be miss. i meet her through my cousin Kelley and started doing her hair in braids many times. She was a very beautiful lady. kind and very Unique.. rest now Beautiful Angel.

Deborah (Speedy) Smith - May 31, 2019 at 05:19 PM