

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF



*Yolanda D.*  
**STROZIER-LAKE**

SUNRISE: 08/25/1956    SUNSET: 3/11/18

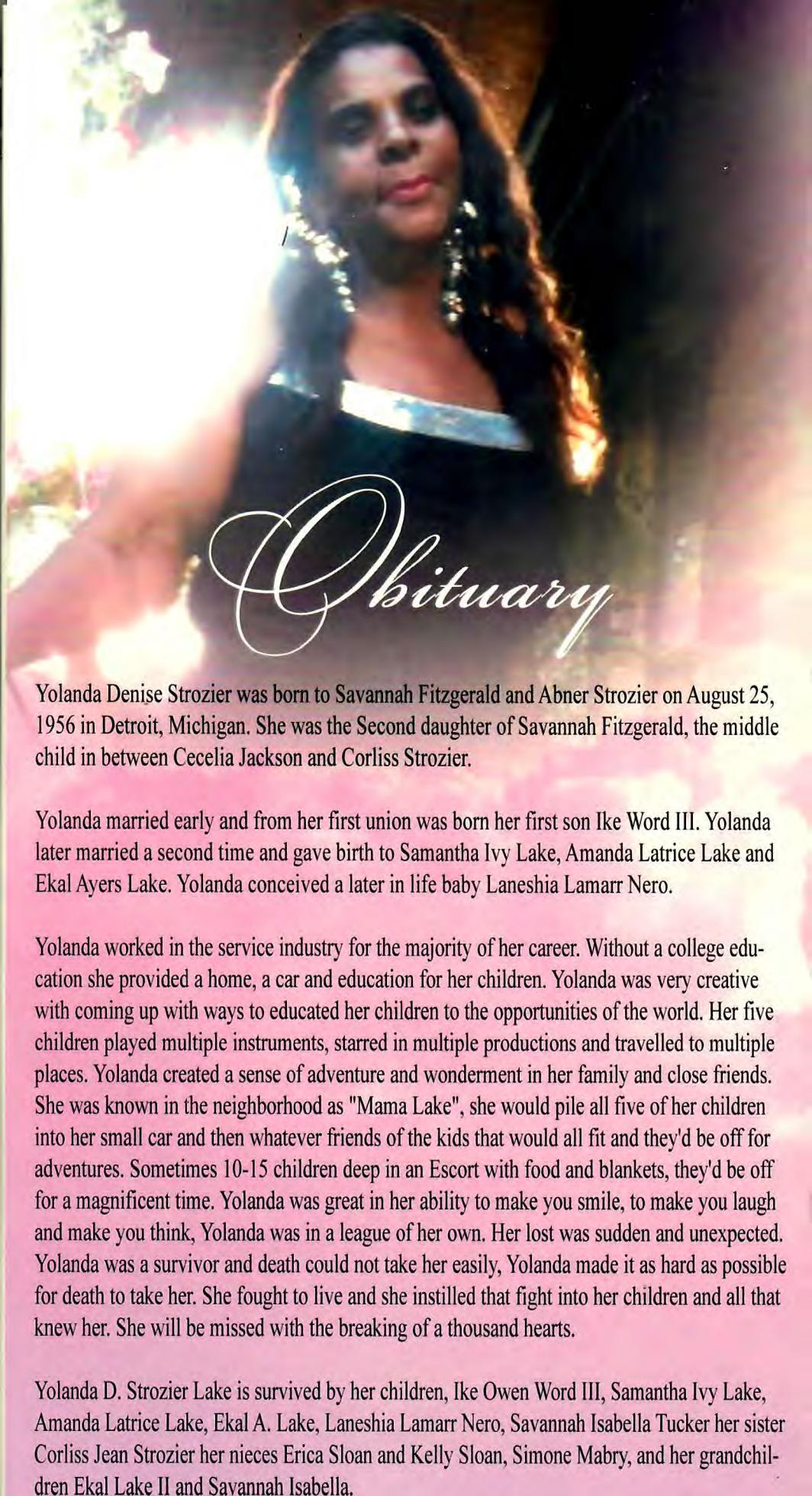
**MARCH 23, 2018**

FAMILY HOUR 4:00 PM  
CELEBRATION SERVICE 5:00 PM

**THOMPSON FUNERAL HOME**

15443 GREENFIELD RD

DETROIT, MI 48227

A portrait of Yolanda Denise Strozier, a woman with long, dark, wavy hair, wearing a black top with a silver band across the chest and large, ornate earrings. The background is a soft, out-of-focus floral arrangement.

# Obituary

Yolanda Denise Strozier was born to Savannah Fitzgerald and Abner Strozier on August 25, 1956 in Detroit, Michigan. She was the Second daughter of Savannah Fitzgerald, the middle child in between Cecelia Jackson and Corliss Strozier.

Yolanda married early and from her first union was born her first son Ike Word III. Yolanda later married a second time and gave birth to Samantha Ivy Lake, Amanda Latrice Lake and Ekal Ayers Lake. Yolanda conceived a later in life baby Laneshia Lamarr Nero.

Yolanda worked in the service industry for the majority of her career. Without a college education she provided a home, a car and education for her children. Yolanda was very creative with coming up with ways to educated her children to the opportunities of the world. Her five children played multiple instruments, starred in multiple productions and travelled to multiple places. Yolanda created a sense of adventure and wonderment in her family and close friends. She was known in the neighborhood as "Mama Lake", she would pile all five of her children into her small car and then whatever friends of the kids that would all fit and they'd be off for adventures. Sometimes 10-15 children deep in an Escort with food and blankets, they'd be off for a magnificent time. Yolanda was great in her ability to make you smile, to make you laugh and make you think, Yolanda was in a league of her own. Her lost was sudden and unexpected. Yolanda was a survivor and death could not take her easily, Yolanda made it as hard as possible for death to take her. She fought to live and she instilled that fight into her children and all that knew her. She will be missed with the breaking of a thousand hearts.

Yolanda D. Strozier Lake is survived by her children, Ike Owen Word III, Samantha Ivy Lake, Amanda Latrice Lake, Ekal A. Lake, Laneshia Lamarr Nero, Savannah Isabella Tucker her sister Corliss Jean Strozier her nieces Erica Sloan and Kelly Sloan, Simone Mabry, and her grandchildren Ekal Lake II and Savannah Isabella.



Mommy,

There are no words, no poems, no pretty pictures that can convey the emptiness your departure has left behind. Nothing, means anything, if I were to be honest. Music has no melody, food no taste and the holidays are a conveyor belt of memories pummeling me with my new reality.... I'll have to wait to see you again. "Death, how cruel is thy sting....." I MISS YOU MORE THAN I CAN EXPRESS. I've LOVED you my whole life and I'll LOVE YOU FOREVER.

Your baby with Stars in her Eyes,  
-Samantha

I am truly going to miss my mother. On my birthday she would call and sing to me every year. God saw that my mother was getting tired, He put his arms around her and whispered "Come with me". With a tearful eyes, I watched as you slowly slipped away. Your beautiful heart stopped beating, your tired hands put to rest, broke our hearts to prove God only takes what's best.

-Ike

Every time I put my pen to paper, it feel like I'm writing with invisible ink. My mind goes blank for words except to say this, My Mother was perfectly flawed, a beautiful mess and in my eyes, the best damn thing God ever created. She walked into this world with a confidence that would set your soul on fire and an outfit to match. One of her mantras' were "Don't take foolishness from anyone". Well, Ma... you were the only exception to that rule. I'm going to miss our petty little spats and long trips to the grocery store.

Your perfectly flawed daughter loves you,  
Laneshia

What a Queen I was able to share this world with. Consider a Queen as being POWERFUL, STRONG, DETERMINED and DEDICATED, she fights for what is right, fare and honest. In the face of a Queen combating life's hard decisions, she remains focused on her goals while protecting and providing for her loved ones.

I am grateful that My Mother embodied what it is to be a Black Queen.  
Thank You Mama,  
E.A. Lake

# Order of Service

|   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Organ Prelude.....                          | Something About the Name Jesus |
| Processional.....                           |                                |
| Prayer.....                                 | Minister                       |
| Scripture.....                              | Ekal Lake                      |
| Organist.....                               | Solo                           |
| Acknowledgement of Cards and Condolences... | Minister                       |
| Remarks (2 minutes, 5 guest).....           |                                |
| Song Selection.....                         |                                |
| Moment of Silence.....                      |                                |
| Eulogy.....                                 | Samantha Lake                  |
| Scripture Psalm 23.....                     | Laneshia Nero                  |
| Musical Selection.....                      | Going Up Yonder                |
| Recessional.....                            |                                |
| Organ Postlude.....                         |                                |

If Roses grow in Heaven  
Author: Kirsten Preus

If Roses grow in Heaven Lord, please pick a bunch for me.  
Place them in my Mother's arms and tell her they're from me.

Tell her that I love her and miss her, and when she turns to smile,  
place a kiss upon her cheek and hold her for awhile.

Because remembering her is easy, I do it every day,  
but there's an ache within my heart that will never go away.

Amanda Lake

My Dear Sister Yolanda,  
I love you very much and I'm going to miss you. I will not say goodbye but, I'll say, I'm going to see you later. I'll find comfort in knowing our last words in this world was "I love you"....I'm grateful for that. You will forever be in my heart.

Love you sister,  
Corliss

As I sit here and reflect on all the serious and not so serious moments we've shared I'm fighting back every tear. I know you haven't gone very far but will always walk beside me every day, unseen, unheard but always near. Forever loved and missed with every breath.

With all my love,  
Your niece,  
Kelly



*Yolanda D.*  
STROZIER-LAKE

*Callbearers*  
Ekal A. Lake  
Ike O. Word III

*Flower Bearers*  
Samantha Lake  
Amanda Lake  
Laneshia Nero

*Repass*  
BARACHIT SOCIAL CLUB  
7235 Greenfield  
Detroit, MI 48228

*Final Arrangements Entrusted to*  
THOMPSON FUNERAL HOME  
15443 GREENFIELD RD  
DETROIT, MI 48227

*Acknowledgement:*

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent those beautiful flowers, that we saw sitting there. Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say. Perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts we thank you so much for whatever part.



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