

OBITUARY

Celeste Trielle Shepard, daughter of Sandra Allen Shepard and James O. Shepard, Jr., was born on 30 November 1970 and departed this life on Wednesday, 8 August, 1970, at her home in Terre Haute, Indiana.

Celeste, 36 years old, was from childhood, an active member of the Seventh Day Adventist church in Terre Haute. Those who knew her best gave testimony to the great pride she took in her Christian faith and refused to compromise her faith and spiritual beliefs, which guided her life.

Celeste was very goal oriented in her early education and had a strong determined to succeed. She graduated from Terre Haute South Vigo High School in 1989, and because she was very focused and goal oriented, achieved many accomplishments and awards. Celeste was cheerleader at Woodrow Wilson Junior High School and cheerleader at South Vigo, where she was also a majorette in the school 's marching band; and was honored in her final year as the school's homecoming queen.

She was proud to be a Delta, having pledged the Delta Sigma Theta sorority during her sophomore year at Indiana State University's school of nursing. She was an honor student and in 1992, the dean of the school awarded her the very coveted Martin Luther King academic scholarship for having a GPA of 3.8 in her studies. She chose nursing because of her great desire to help others with sickness and health, and with her strong resolve and inner strength urged them to go forward to achieve their goals.. She is remembered today by her line Soros of Delta Sigma Theta, for her warmth and intelligence and her commitment to the standards of excellence and high moral integrity of Delta Sigma Theta.

Celeste was the mother of four children, whom she loved dearly. and strove each day to make the most of her time with them. She enjoyed family and spending fun time with her many cousins and friends and coworkers.

She was employed in Terre Haute as chief of operations for exam pro and masters' board of review, and as faculty coordinator, and lead trainer for the Osler Institute for continuing medical education. She also worked in other institutes of corporate management and continuing medical education for medical professionals. In recent months, she moved to Houston, Texas with her cousin, close friend and mentor, Leshan Shepard, in pursuit of a new life and career. She interrupted her quest for a professional career and returned to Terre Haute to care for her ailing mother, whom she loved dearly and with whom she shared a home until her untimely death.

Celeste had a strong will to live. She had great plans for her future and never gave up on her dreams and aspirations to fulfill those plans. Her positive outlook on life and future served as a great inspiration to those who knew her. She had the rare ability to love unconditionally and to bring out the positive side of any negative situation or circumstance in her own life and lives of others. Celeste was a fun-loving person and

enjoyed life with her children, her family and friends, as well as large family reunions. She will be remembered for her bright twinkling eyes and welcoming smile, and a personality full of warmth and charm. She will be sadly missed by all who knew her well and interacted with her over the years.

She is survived by her mother, Sandy Shepard, her father James O. Shepard, Jr. and wife Kathy; three sons; John Wheatley, Joshua and Montae Shepard and one daughter Cassandra Shepard. three brothers: Joseph Cherry and wife Tiffany, Bryan Shepard and Scott Shepard; four sisters, one who preceded her in death, Arena Anderson Branson, Kathy Cherry Moody and husband, Andre, Cynthia Shannon Shepard, and one stepsister, Jennifer Shull, all of Terre Haute; two grandmothers; Ambassador Cynthia Shepard Perry of Tunis, Tunisia, and Mrs. June Robinson, of Terre Haute. She leaves to mourn their loss several aunts and uncles, a myriad of cousins and a host of other family and friends.

Lovingly submitted by family
Monday, 13 August, 2007