



Dwanda Marie Trask

August 10, 2025

Dwanda Marie Trask, age 64, of New Orleans, Louisiana, passed away peacefully surrounded by family on August 10, 2025. She lived a remarkable life and was well known for being a devout Christian, beloved mother of two, and dedicated registered nurse.

Dwanda was born in New Orleans, Louisiana on June 20, 1961 to Elizabeth Trask and Eli Washington. She spent her early years as a devoted learner. A member of the Class of 1979, Dwanda was a proud graduate of McDonogh 35 Senior High School, where she excelled at playing the clarinet and bassoon in the Marching Band. She pursued higher education at the University of New Orleans before completing her education in registered nursing at Charity School of Nursing in 1985. Over the course of her forty-year career in Labor and Delivery, she supported countless families across the country. Her professional excellence was distinguished by her attention-to-detail and willingness to go above and beyond for her patients.

Dwanda was a selfless and nurturing mother to Ashton and Aysha, her pride and joy. She instilled in them the values of family, education, and strong work ethic. A lover of music, shopping, and travel, Dwanda was affectionately known for her fun-spirited personality and sense of adventure. Her desire to share positivity and joy with others was evident by her passion for celebrating birthdays, holidays, and achievements.

Dwanda was a faithful Christian who cherished her Bible and the teachings of Jesus Christ. She was a member at Franklin Avenue Baptist Church and remained steadfast in her prayers, which brought her comfort and peace. As she put it, Dwanda saw herself as “a soldier marching in the army of God” and one who “fought a good fight until the end.” Her Christian values informed every aspect of her life and strengthened her during every season.

Dwanda leaves behind a legacy of love, strength, and compassion. She is survived by her son, Ashton Wright; her daughter, Aysha Gibson; her mother, Elizabeth Trask Leslie; her sisters, Khadija (Corey) Trask-Wallace and Dr. Dione Washington; her brothers, Byron (Drina) Trask, and Gregg Washington; her nephew, Terrance Leonard; and a host of other relatives and friends who will never forget the love she brought to their lives. Dwanda was preceded in death by her father, Eli Washington; her sister, Jennifer Trask-Leonard; and her brothers, Maurice Washington, Larry Bassett, and Audrey Barrett. Though her earthly light has dimmed, the bright glow of her love, faith, and example will continue to shine in the hearts of all who were blessed to know her.

Relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend her Celebration of Life Service at Franklin Avenue Baptist Church, 8282 I-10 Service Road South, New Orleans, LA 70126 on Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 10:00 AM. Visitation will begin at 9:00 AM. Internment: Mount Olivet Cemetery, New Orleans, LA. Arrangements have been entrusted to D.W. Rhodes Funeral Home located at 3933 Washington Ave., New Orleans, LA 70125. Please visit www.rhodesfuneral.com to sign the online guestbook, share memories and condolences with the family.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Olivet Cemetery

4000 Norman Mayer Ave.
New Orleans, LA 70122

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 21. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Franklin Avenue Baptist Church
8282 I-10 Service Rd
New Orleans, LA 70126
(504) 488-8488

Funeral Service

AUG 21. 10:00 AM (CT)

Franklin Avenue Baptist Church
8282 I-10 Service Rd
New Orleans, LA 70126
(504) 488-8488

Tribute Wall

RV

“ Love Renée & Tiya



Renée Vaughn - August 21, 2025 at 06:21 AM

RV

“ Renée Vaughn lit a candle in memory of Dwanda Trask



Renée Vaughn - August 21, 2025 at 04:34 AM

CN

“ Although Dwanda and I graduated from McDonogh 35 together, it was not until the last 15 years or so that we really connected. What an awesome child of God! I am happy that I got to see and hug her at our 45th class reunion last year. My heart, love, and prayers go out to Dwanda's family.



Carla Young Nix - August 20, 2025 at 07:59 PM

MR

“ Maggie, Katherine and David Richard planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dwanda Marie Trask.

Maggie, Katherine and David Richard - August 20, 2025 at 11:21 AM

MR

“ Maggie, Katherine and David Richard purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Dwanda Marie Trask.



Maggie, Katherine and David Richard - August 20, 2025 at 11:21 AM

RV

“ I met Dwanda when she first started Kaiser Sunset Hospital in Los Angeles, California over 7 years ago in Labor and Delivery. We worked together and became close friends after her diagnosis.



After she started her new journey facing a very long and difficult battle with cancer, we were able to enjoy spending lots of fun times together and sharing friendships with Denise from going to favorite restaurants, shopping together and going to many venues to enjoy live music that she enjoyed so much.

I will miss you dear friend. You fought the long hard battle with strength and grace until the end and God saw you getting tired and said your work has been done and now it's your time to REST!!! Sleep well my friend. 🙏✨🕊️

Love Renée Vaughn

Renée Vaughn - August 20, 2025 at 02:43 AM

FF

“ From tina tang & family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Dwanda Marie Trask.



From tina tang & family - August 19, 2025 at 01:31 PM

FF

“ From tina tang & family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dwanda Marie Trask.

From tina tang & family - August 19, 2025 at 01:31 PM

DR

“ My dear classmate Dwanda and I shared many high school fun memories, she was in the band and I was on the pep. We reconnected on FB in later years she spoke of her health battles with confidence & faith. To her loving family may her joy & light live on in your heart.

Davetta Ross

Davetta Ross - August 18, 2025 at 11:23 PM

DR

“ My Heart goes out to my classmates RIP DeiadreCloud class of 1979

Deiadre Cloud Robinson - August 18, 2025 at 06:18 PM

EG

“ *Eddie and Deborah Gray lit a candle in memory of Dwanda Trask*



Eddie and Deborah Gray - August 18, 2025 at 04:59 PM