

Patricia Ann Wallace
August 3, 1948 – December 13, 2006

She was born in Boston on Aug. 3, 1948, the eldest daughter of Archie and Belva Wallace. She was raised in Roxbury. Her childhood favorites included long days at the beach, dancing and reading. She loved learning and excelled in school. Ms. Wallace attended Girls Latin School and graduated from Brighton High School, where she was a member of the cheerleading team.

After graduating high school, she began college at Northeastern University, then studied languages at the University of Guadalajara (Mexico) and Middlebury College (Vermont). She completed her degree in Nursing in 1978 at Simmons College (Boston) with honors and her research was incorporated into the Nursing Department's efforts to create culturally-specific curricula.

For many years, Ms. Wallace worked as a nurse, specializing in the fields of maternal health and child development in Boston's black and Latino communities.

In 1997, she began graduate school at Boston University's School of Public Health (Class of 1998) to fulfill her dream of becoming a mid-wife, and was awarded the prestigious Martin Luther King Jr. Fellowship. As a certified nurse-midwife, she practiced and taught at Boston Medical Center, the University of Puerto Rico and several other institutions in the Greater Boston area. A highlight of her career was appearing on the Oprah Winfrey Show in 1998 for a discussion of the novel "Midwives."

Above all, her life was defined by an unfading desire to know God. Her earliest memories were of Charles Street African Methodist Episcopal Church (Roxbury), but after leaving home for college she embarked on a spiritual quest that led her through eastern religions and Islam until she re-encountered Jesus in 1982.

For more than 15 years, she was a member of Faith Fellowship Ministries/International Family Church (Winchester), where she graduated from Victory Bible Training Center and taught new member classes. In 2004, she joined the Vineyard Christian Fellowship of Greater Boston. She served on their Intercessory Prayer team, started a small group focused on "Soaking" in God's presence and touched many lives in a short period of time.

By her own account, the thing she most wanted to do and be in life was a mother. She was blessed to have two sons, Josef and Tarek, who were the joy of her life. Ms. Wallace also had many "adopted" children and a wealth of friends, with whom she enjoyed visits to the ocean, listening to music, practicing her Spanish, spending time in prayer, macrobiotic cooking, and partaking of Caribbean and South American cuisine. Her kitchen in Lincoln, where she lived for over 25 years, was frequently filled with delicious meals, love and laughter...

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