

In loving
memory of
*Doraine
Samuels*





The RJRGLEANER family members of directors, managers, staff, freelancers, advertisers and listeners at home and abroad pay the highest tribute we can to our colleague and friend Dorraine Samuels. We have been a part of Dorraine's world and she a huge part of ours for the last 38 years ever since she joined RJR The Supreme Sound on January 5, 1981. Her voice was "the supreme sound"; her name is still called every day; and she will remain in our thoughts, and our hearts for decades to come.

This outstanding radio and television news presenter, accomplished outside broadcast exponent, consummate continuity announcer; this warm and engaging companion via the airwaves will be remembered by us as being fanatical with her punctuality, unflappable with all things broadcasting, and committed in all her professional engagements. Most of all, she was a friend to hundreds of us. We will miss her dearly!

We in the RJRGLEANER Family honour her and pay tribute to her memory for the excellence she has shown for us.

Gary Allen CD., JP
CEO RJRGleaner Communications Group



Dorraine Samuels

“Our Real Life Shooting Star”

Like the glow and sparkle of a shooting star on a dark night, Dorraine Samuels streaked into our world and into our hearts. But unlike the illusionary shooting star which disappears as soon as it appears, Dorraine stayed for close to 40 years, becoming a symbol of excellence, a ubiquitous force for good touching every aspect of our lives. She informed, educate, entertained, charmed, dazzled and comforted us with her soothing voice and effervescent personality during times of crisis.

In an excerpt from a letter she penned to me October 13, 1993, three months after I had left RJR to study at University of Connecticut, she writes: “Have been thinking about you lately...just thought I’d send you a picture of me & the gang, so you would have a pleasant memory to cling to.”

Today, I like others cling not just to one memory, but to a glittering array of beautiful memories that Dorraine Samuels created over a period of 40 glorious years as a radio and television broadcaster with programmes such Jamaica Today, thousands of Outside Broadcasts from every nook and cranny of Jamaica, Newscasts, Healthy Living, PriceTag games show with Larry Neiman, Beverly Heights Jamaica, a radio drama series featuring cameo appearances by its all-stars cast of Marguerite Newland, Michael Reckord, Karl Binger, Dorothy Cunningham, Grace McGhie, Rosie Murray, Blacka, Oliver Samuels, Teddy Price, Fae Ellington, Iceman, Volier Johnson; Jetaway broadcasts from around the Caribbean; and co-anchor of TVJ Prime Time News, to name a few.

“...considering I don’t like to write letters,” Dorraine continues, “...cherish this one. The kids are fine – Melissa doing well at school; Rusell excelling in karate. Take care, let me hear from you soon!” “D” The shooting Star, the “Voice of Jamaica” has returned from whence she came, leaving behind an unparallel record of achievement and excellence in broadcasting, and a permanent glow in our hearts. Like her family, friends, colleagues and the legion of fans in Jamaica and throughout the diaspora, I too will forever “cling to...and cherish” the memories. The Johnny Bristol epic reminds us: “I’ve learned that the past is never far behind, So it’s there to remind me, Memories don’t leave like people do, They always stay with you....” The memories she created will always be with us. Andv we know she’s up there... somewhere...waiting and creating more memories... Hasta luego Range!

Lloyd Pusey: 1983-1986, Technical Operator; 1987-1993, Quality Control Officer/Producer; 1996: Programme Development Officer; 1996-1997: Asst Sales & Marketing Manager, RJR; 2000-2006: Brand Manager, RADIO 2FM/HITZ 92FM, Director of Sales & Marketing, RJR Communications Group.



Dorraine was from the old school of broadcasting. For her it was always business first, fun after. She never mixed both, even though her presentation came across with a smile, she was serious.

I remember doing a broadcast from the Bahamas and the day before the broadcast she did an interview from one of their local stations; the way she handled herself, you would have thought she was the host of the show. Everyone in the building who heard the interview came to the studio to see who it was. Dorraine was the kind of presenter who could fit in any situation, from kiddies show to a royal visit. She was a professional to the end.

Jeffrey Brown
Supervisor Broadcast Technician
RG Gleaner Group.

Dorraine Samuels- A breath of fresh air!
The total professional. To me, a great mentor.
Charming & easy to work with. She brings out the best in people.
Always bring her “A” game, & makes you want to do the same!
I am better for knowing you!

Regards,
Karl Richmond JP.
(Haircare with ORS)





It was my pleasure to have met and worked with Dorraine. Always professional, respectful and punctual as preparation was key for her. She requested solely positive feel good music for her show as her wish was always for people to forget about all the negativities and just enjoy life. It was amazing to watch, how by pushing that on-air button she would switch to that 'Rainebow' of hope and laughter through the airwaves irrespective of the nature/seriousness of situations. I will miss her presence and especially our chats about Morgan.

Terrian Heslop
Record Music Librarian

What an experience knowing!

A three-decade tour. From the starry eyed days of now broadcasters in this massive entity. It was great to grow with you. From the early years of carnival to watching you raise your children and the bottomless love you had for them. To being part of your wedding and watching you dance with more love in your eyes and heart.

There were times for smiles, laughs and tears.

Working together most recently was very personal as we got to talk about everything under the sun.

Thanks for your caring words. Thanks for your bravery.
I chose to remember your smile.
Walk good Dorraine.
Love,

Francois St. Juste



TRIBUTE DORRAINE SAMUELS FROM TANYA POWELL-EDWARDS - PRODUCER NUTTY BUDDIES

I met Dorraine in 1997 after joining the production team of RJR 94FM. I was assigned as producer of the morning show. The energy of Dorraine and Alan was truly amazing and the listeners loved them and their interaction with each other. Their fame opened the way for many outside broadcasts across Jamaica, the Caribbean and North America and in each territory Jamaicans even those normally in hiding would emerge from the shadows to greet the 'madnut' and the 'donut'.

Dorraine's commitment to RJR, broadcasting and the people of Jamaica was evident to all. We often reminisced on a shift we did during a hurricane. We were on adrenaline, eager to update the nation and help listeners keep calm during the hurricane. We opened the telephone lines and gave callers the opportunity to tell how they were coping. Some of the island's communication system was disrupted and many Jamaicans could not reach their loved ones by phone. During this shift, we got a call from a husband who could not get through to his wife and was really worried. We took his wife's number and was able to connect them live on air. The husband got assurance from his wife that their family was well and we were delighted to connect families and calm fears during the shift.

Dorraine was the consummate professional. She was competent as a producer, planning and executing her show, reading news etc yet she never imposed her skills on others. She allowed me freedom to research, plan and execute broadcast and guide them through to the end of the show. We work well together except for that one time the guest turned out to be mentally ill.....stringing sentences that made no distinct sense. For that I owe her a mimosa and that other time when for the first twenty years I overslept and they delayed the departure time to accommodate me...yep.. I owe her another mimosa. These mimosa jokes were often between us on locations. Now on reflection I wished we had taken the time at least one mimosa.

Walk good Dorraine, it was my pleasure being your producer for those years.



I first met Dorraine in 2004 when Evergrow landscaped the current RJRGleaner Communications Group offices on Lyndhurst Road- This was the same year she started anchoring the evening news on TVJ .

I was captivated by her infectious smile and impressed with her always positive comments.

Over these many years we remained great associates with many outside broadcasts, interviews and presentations .

Besides her infectious smile, I was most impressed with the attention she paid to details.

It was obvious by the questions she asked that she researched the topics and presenters very well before she came on air. This resulted in her very informative features.

I certainly miss talking with her about gardening as well as her beautiful voice coming through the airwaves.
Sleep well my friend.

Burrell Scarlett

Director

Jamaica Floral Products Ltd

Evergrow Garden Center

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Jamaica

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Dorraine Samuels was my most intimate contact with the world of live radio when I first came into the studios of RJR in the summer of 1985. I was a full-time student at the University of the West Indies and desired to further my experience in the world of radio following on my earlier position at JIS Radio.

After being contracted by Dotty Dean, the then programme director – I was stashed under Dorraine’s arm for tutelage. Along with Neville Willoughby, she made me feel most welcome, as she taught me how to use the self-operating broadcast console in studio, how to present the reading of scripted commercials, take the time signals on time, watch the needle on the sound levels, insert cartridges into the cart machine for the playing of commercials, set up a reel-to-reel tape for on-air playback, introduce and back-announce music played, cue a record on the turntable, use the faders to control volume output and enjoy presenting a live radio show.

That was a lot for me to take in, but she never made me feel as if it was beyond my capabilities to do just as she did. It was like being with a big sister. We sat together in studio doing this for six months before I had my first live on-air show in December of 1985. And wow! I did everything she showed me and that was a beginning of my successful years at RJR. As time progressed I would often fill-in on her radio programmes during her vacation times, hosting both Jamaica Today during the week and Sunday Magazine on, of course Sundays – which meant I had to ensure that her standard of crisp excellence was maintained.

Dorraine was, and it is hard to say ‘was’, indeed a standard bearer, a professional to emulate, with easy-going but effective interviewing skills, sharing her love of life, and just being a friendly voice to accompany you on your day. What I loved was her warm sunshine-y voice, and I worked hard to reproduce a similar bright spark in my own on-air personality as my career grew over the years.

It was an honor to be amongst several excellent broadcasters during those years, as excellence was the norm for all of them and especially her. For those who don’t know, running a radio programme during prime daytime hours, is like driving a trailer truck, all eyes on the road, being in full control and staying on track, using arms like an octopus to keep everything running while sounding like you are sitting on a lounge chair in the garden chatting with friends. And she did it well.

Dorraine is already missed and I hope she knew just how important she was to all of us.

TOTLYN OLIVER



MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, COMMERCE, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

Tribute to Mrs Dorraine Samuels- The Voice of AgroBuzz

It was in April 2014 that the then Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries aired the first edition of our radio agricultural programme, AgroBuzz.

The intention was to tell about happenings in the sector, from our perspective, and to allow our stakeholders to share that information.

The station we chose was RJR 94FM because we believed that Dorraine's Coffee Break was the perfect programme in which to air it. So, Wednesdays at 9:45a.m. became the spot of choice and for the past five years, we had the great pleasure of working with Dorraine to get our scripts, just words on pages, come alive in the interviews she conducted in her own inimitable style.

Our topics ranged from apiculture through to castor beans, livestock, outstanding farmers, the 4-H Clubs... you name it! Whatever the topic, the constant voice was that of Dorraine Samuels, who not only conducted the interviews, but made the programme her own. Her love of the agricultural subject areas was translated into the engaging, vibrant and sparkly manner in which she conversed with the interviewees. Her empathy and her tone exuded love and understanding.

Dorraine's voice was the voice of AgroBuzz.

She was a member of our team and we will miss her dearly, even as her style will be cherished as the template for the programme.

On behalf of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries, the AgroBuzz team offers our deepest condolences to Dorraine's immediate family and her professional family at the RJRGleaner Communications Group.

Rest in peace, our colleague, our voice.





Dorraine cannot be described but anything than a ‘professional at her very best’, not once, not twice, but on every single occasion. Meticulous in her preparation, an absolute must to deliver the best.

I say, ‘well done, Dorraine. You have contributed significantly to the standards of broadcasting which at all costs must be upheld.

To her family, and associates we continue to keep you in our prayer. Rest in peace!

Norma Brown Bell (Mrs.) OD., JP
Senior Broadcaster - RJRGLEANER Group
RJR 94 FM Roving Reporter &
Community Outreach Officer

TRIBUTE TO DORRAINE FROM THE MAKEUP DEPARTMENT

”Hello, hello, hello” was how Dorraine greeted us almost daily. She was the consummate professional, always prepared and early. Only the “awful traffic” could delay her from her usual promptness, in getting into makeup at exactly 6pm.

She played an important role in all our lives, she attended Birthdays, baby showers, wedding, and parties where she was many times the pastry caterer. She was our confidant, advisor and friend. We miss you Dorraine.

Love, The Makeup Department TVJ:
Mellisa Pinnock
Cameka Smith
Tamika Megghross
Tiffany Gordon





TRIBUTE TO DORRAINE FROM DON TOPPING

It seems like such a short time ago that I met Dorraine Samuels in 1979 at the Miss Jamaica.

World Pageant. It was there that she famously displayed her natural distinctive and stylish elegance that was to follow her throughout a broadcasting career that made her a household name. Dorraine was a performer that was easy to work with, whether you were a colleague or Management - 'perfection' was the applicable word. In this discipline she rose to become the leading newscaster for the RJRGLEANER Group, on both radio and television, and highly beloved partner to legendary morning broadcaster Alan Magnus. This, is what makes her passing such a tragedy and so sad for the station and nation.

A caring mother of three children that became part of the extended RJR family and loved by the whole team who enjoyed watching them flourish and grow.

Gone to soon, we all say, but maybe Dorraine is echoing the words of Khalil Gibran:

“Let me sleep, for my soul is intoxicated with love, and let me rest, for my spirit had its bounty of days and nights: light the candles and burn the incense around my bed and scatter leaves of jasmine and roses over my body” Dorraine my dear friend and colleague, rest in peace, you will be missed.

Don Topping





Long before I met Dorraine, over 25 years ago, a poster of her on a billboard along Constant Spring Road influenced me in naming my first child; Dorraine. The name was the closest I could find to mine, Dorian.

As fate would have it, approximately 9 years ago I joined the Team in the RJR Sales & Marketing Department. Over the period, I sold most of the features in the Programme Dorraine's Coffee Break. This was an easy "sell," as Dorraine also produced her show making the features personalized to the sponsors. During interviews, the clients were at ease due to Dorraine's easy going approach. Dorraine was always well prepared with supporting information on the particular product and company, which was pleasing to the clients.

Even though her show was initially for an hour, the Outside Broadcasts with Dorraine, were also well sought after, given her professional and personalized approach. Eventually, in the last couple of years, her show time was increased to one and a half (1½) hours. I think this was a testament to the quality of her work, hence the high demand to be associated with her despite the already full sponsorship of the features in the hour long program.

The last project in which I worked with Dorraine, was the Cross Country Road Show in Portland on 2 March 2019. There Dorraine was as usual; very professional yet personal. She helped me through the interview, as the representative for that region. While there, we got some time to chat during which she introduced me to her sister and friends. I could not have imagined that would have been our last encounter.

Rest in peace, my colleague and friend.

Dorian Ray Duncan (Mr.)
Marketing Executive





Dorraine has these words at her workstation – “I want to inspire people. I want someone to look at me and say because of you I didn’t give up”

I salute my high school friend and co-worker who found herself in a dark place but she rose above the pain, she continued to stand tall and deliver unwavering service to her listeners and co-workers. Nothing is more beautiful than the smile that has struggled through the tears. Life is full of obstacles that we are not always prepared to handle. What allows us to keep going, is our willingness to push aside excuses and face the day as it unfolds. This was Dorraine. She will be missed by all, she made work for the Marketing Department flow easily as she was always willing to go the extra mile for the client. Her smile, that laugh and her always saying to me “drink some water” whenever I would get upset, these memories and more I will always have.

Rest in Peace my friend

Miss Tanya Thurlow

Snr. Account Services Executive

RJRGleaner Communications Group



TRIBUTE FROM TRAFFIC DEPT. 1988 - 2014

It is hard to fathom why such a beautiful soul has been taken from us. That we won't get to see her or hear her beautiful voice again, saddens us immensely. The ladies in the Traffic Department grew up listening to Dorraine Samuels on the radio, so when we started working with her, it was as if we already knew her and she didn't make us feel any different. She was always courteous, kind and helpful and always greeted us with a big smile whenever we entered the studio. Sometimes she'd crack a joke about how we entered the studio or about a live script we might've forgotten to put in the studio folder. Sometimes we didn't forget and the contract might've expired but she knew her program so well that if a long running commercial was no longer on the log, she'd still present it from memory. She didn't need to check the commercial folder for live time signals because she had them all memorized so we didn't have to worry if we forgot to put one in because it would be done anyway. According to Keisha, "She would be making sure the company didn't lose any money." Trudy calls her the godmother of Traffic, "always looking out for us and making sure we'd leave the studio smiling upon every visit." All the ladies agree that the only other radio personality who came close to Dorraine was the late Neville Willoughby.

Dorraine was the quintessential professional, who took every aspect of her job seriously and that means she also took everyone she had to associate with on the job seriously. Marcia remembers her as being a very organized individual, who always called her ahead of time to request the format for the new sponsor. Audrea recalls her professionalism during the hurricane seasons when we would be "going crazy with a lot of live scripts," how she kept us calm and grounded during those challenging times and was always very encouraging.

Keisha remembers her as a very private person. "She liked who she liked but was a professional." "I knew something was missing when I saw the studio extension calling, then I'd hear her sing-song tone of voice on the other end." Trudy agrees with Keisha. "She would never allow a commercial or time signal to be missed or a sponsor to miss their credits. When other radio personalities would mark it missing, she's calling the Traffic Department to have it brought to her and she'll find a spot to make it up before her show ends. That's why I saw her as our godmother. She was always looking out for us"

One thing that stands out for Donna was that Dorraine was the first person who gave her an opportunity to speak on air. She recalls, "It was my mother's birthday and I had gone to the studio, running late and breathless, with my little piece of paper asking her to send a shout-out to my mother and she said, 'well, since you're here, why not just do it?'" While the offer was surprising to her, she was

elated to the point where she forgot her mother's name and when she stumbled over her mother's name, Dorraine asked her, "what is your mother's name?" And she responded, "Mama!" She was a professional and a very private person, who could, at times, be misread as being arrogant because she had an air about her, that if you didn't quite understand her, you would think she is extremely aloof. She was someone we could talk to and even after leaving RJR, in her capacity of Marketing for Hardware and Lumber and now Hi-Lo Food Stores , Donna has had reasons to continue the interaction with Dorraine and has found her to be very "down-to-earth and always willing to listen and give the client whatever they wanted."

We have a love for Dorraine that is unmatched and we are surely going to miss her. There are too many pleasant memories to share in this medium but we are praying that her family, friends and the RJR/Gleaner family will find comfort knowing that she lived a good life, doing what she loved right up to the end. Rest in sweet peace our dear Dorraine. Your body is no longer with us, but your spirit lives on with us forever. We love you!

Trudy Haughton-Knockless

Keisha Powell

Donna Taylor-Wright

Audrea South

Marcia Facey-Tully

Georgette Thompson-Downer



TRIBUTE FROM ROSAMOND BROWN FORMER CO-WORKER

Dorraine Samuels was who I wanted to be as a young broadcaster. When I was scheduled for my very first shift at Capital Stereo (am I dating myself?) although I'd had some measure of voice and speech training, I had no idea how to do "personality" radio. I used to listen to Dorraine and I liked the way she made me feel. She brought a gentle, upbeat beat happiness with smooth professionalism. And I decided that's what I wanted to be.

I tuned in to her whenever she was on. I studied her inflections, her phrasing, her pronunciation. I tried to figure out how she managed to always sound so warm and friendly and realized I had to cultivate it within myself. Then I actually got to know her, first it was always a warm greeting along the corridors and then she saved me a few times from complete humiliation. I'll never forget once in studio; I was so very confident in my incorrect pronunciation of 'LaGuardia'. She corrected me so gently but firmly. That was the beginning of several other corrections.

I know it's cliché but truly I am because Dorraine Samuels was. She influenced many of us who came up in the 80s. Thank you Dorraine. You've left a legacy beyond your wildest dreams.





TRIBUTE FROM THE MAYOR OF KINGSTON

On behalf of the administrative and political arms of the Kingston and St. Andrew Municipal Corporation (KSAMC), I am deeply saddened at the passing of veteran broadcaster Dorraine Samuels, a dedicated soul whose contribution has undoubtedly added value to the development of the media and communication landscape in Jamaica and the region.

My heartfelt condolences are extended to her relatives, former colleagues and friends who are no doubt devastated by the loss of a “sweet soul” who was loved and revered by Jamaicans at home and abroad. One cannot but agree that Dorraine Samuels was a stalwart of the media and communication profession who served with unstinting distinction in her field, I mourn her loss, Jamaica is poorer for her passing.

His Worship the Mayor of Kingston
Senator Councilor
Delroy H. Williams





Rest in Peace