

‘The passing of Karima Brown huge loss to media’

Family and politicians proud of her achievement

By **Naledi Shange**

The family of the late media personality Karima Brown has expressed their pride in all she achieved in her career.

“We are enormously proud of the fierce determination she had shown, since her early years, to get involved in bringing about a more just, inclusive and anti-racist SA. This determination also shaped her fearless approach to journalism. She was driven by a conviction that journalism must be in service of justice,” read a statement from the family.

Brown died yesterday morning after several weeks of hospitalisation, battling Covid-19 complications.

Her family said she had lived her life to the fullest.

“Karima was not just a prolific and well-known SA journalist and commentator, with deep footprints in print and broadcast media, but also and more importantly a well-loved friend, mentor, mother, colleague, daughter and confidante to countless people throughout a life lived fully, and with deep commitment to her most cherished values and principles.”

Her employer, eNCA, also hailed her for her contribution to the media industry. “She had big voice and didn’t shy away from voicing her opinions.”

The company’s MD Norman Munzhelele expressed his condolences to her family. “For a long time, Karima has been a robust voice in SA’s media landscape. Her years of activism preceded this. She had a big personality and didn’t shy away from voicing her opinions.

“Karima believed in hope. She was also



Karima Brown was buried yesterday

a loving mother, a loyal friend and a committed colleague. Her death leaves a massive void,” Munzhelele said.

“Our thoughts are with her son, family and friends at this sad time,” he added.

A private burial ceremony was held in accordance with Islamic rites and traditions yesterday afternoon. A public memorial service will be held soon.

The ANC also paid tribute to the veteran journalist. “We will join the millions of South Africans who say the passing of Karima Brown is a huge loss to the media world. As the ANC, we will remember her for her selfless commitment to the liberation of the people of South Africa.”

News of Brown’s death flooded social media, with scores of people expressing their shock, including former public protector Thuli Madonsela.

Political leaders were among the first to convey their condolences to Brown’s family. Former DA leader Mmusi Maimane said: “This is sad news indeed. I would like to extend my condolences to the family of Karima Brown and to her colleagues. May her soul rest in peace.”

Public works minister Patricia de Lille also hailed Brown for her work ethics.