***Lookback at the life of***

***Caroline Flack***

Many people are aware of the highs and lows the TV presenter from Enfield experienced. She tragically took her own life on the 15th February 2020.

**Early Life**

Caroline Louise Flack was born 9th November 1979 to Ian and Christine Flack. She was born in Enfield London and was the youngest of 4 children. She also had a twin sister – Jody. Shortly after she was born, she moved to Thetford, Norfolk when her father received a promotion from his job at Coca-Cola.

**Early Fame:**

In 2002 Flack gained her break on television playing Bubbles on the sketch show *Bo' Selecta!* Shortly after, she presented *The International Pepsi Chart Show.* In 2005 She then moved to ITV channel four where she co-presented *The Games: Live at Trackside* with Justin Lee Collins. In 2009 Caroline replaced Kirsty Gallacher as co-host of Gladiators with Ian Wright.

**Big Fame:**

Flack then went on to star in some of the biggest British shows Tv shows including The X Factor and I’m a celebrity. She also went on to lift the Strictly Come Dancing glitterball trophy in 2014 with Ukraine partner Pasha Kovalev. She also hosted Love island since it premiered in 2015. She also starred in the 2018 Christmas special of Strictly Come Dancing, scoring a perfect 40.

**Controversy:**

On Friday 13th November 2019, Flack was arrested and charged with assault by beating. She allegedly hit her boyfriend Lewis Burton, 27, with a lamp in her London residence. Yelling was heard from her home and blood was found. She appeared in court on Monday, 23 December 2019. As a result of this, she was temporarily dropped from the winter series of Love Island and replaced with Laura Whitmore.

**Death and Funeral:**

Unfortunately, after accusations and years of poor mental health, Caroline took her own life on February 15th 2020. She was found just hours later in her London flat. She was laid to rest on March 10th 2020. Her funeral was a small private service attended by close friends and family. No paparazzi attended. Close friend Lou Tisdale and Mollie Grosberg all wore white T-shirts saying “choose love” (these were a take on the 1980’s star Wham ‘choose life’ T-shirts).

**The Aftermath:**

A petition was set up in memory of Caroline called **Caroline’s law**. Caroline’s law is an online petition that has been set up to help protect celebrity’s mental health. For example, Caroline’s trial was heavily publicised and people made accusations against her without knowing the full story. So far it has over 800,000 signatures. Other celebrities such as Olly Murs, Cheryl Cole, strictly come Dancing judges and pro dancers, Dermot O’Leary and Louise Redknapp paid their respects.

Suicide is never the answer and does NOT solve anything. If you ever feel depressed or unhappy these people are here to listen:

Samaritans: 116 123. This is a free number to call and you can ring them any time.

Childline: 0800 1111. This is also a free number to call any time.



***Sources are taken from daily mail, Wikipedia and BBC news***