



Brenda Blackwell

October 15, 1949 - March 12, 2017

Born October 15, 1949 in Portsmouth, Virginia to James Allen Blackwell Sr. and Ruth Anna Barrow Blackwell, Brenda Blackwell was destined from birth to serve others. As a child Brenda grew up in the Douglas Park neighborhood of Portsmouth, Virginia and attended Portsmouth Public Schools and I.C. Norcom High School.

Brenda started her career at Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock in Newport News, Virginia as a Welder and continued until her retirement as a result of severe Carpal Tunnel Syndrome in both hands. During her career, she notably achieved success with proficiencies in stick, MIG, TIG, Flux Core and automated welding processes, interpreted navy drawings and was sought after for her knowledge, skills, and ability. Brenda personally assisted NNS in the building of ships and carriers for the US Navy.

Brenda was a devoted member of the Noble Street Baptist Church where she labored in various ministries. She was a faithful member of Chesapeake & Portsmouth Sunday School Union, Female Usher Board, Food Ministry, Noon Day Prayer, Pastor's Aid, Senior Choir, Senior Missionaries, and Sunday School until her health began to fail.

In the community, Brenda served others by delivering Meals on Wheels, visiting the sick at nursing homes, helping family and friends who were sick

and shut in. Brenda was a member of the Joseph E. Parker Recreation Center in Portsmouth, Virginia where she liked exercising but most of all she loved line dancing three days a week. In addition, Brenda was a member of the line dancing crew at the Portsmouth Department of Social Services and Noble Street Baptist Church and also taught one-on-one tutorials at various family functions. In addition, Brenda was a member of The Red Hatters, "Sassy Snappers" of Portsmouth, VA.

At home Brenda loved gardening and extending love to everyone she came in contact with.

Even though Parkinson's disease and Dementia changed Brenda physically and mentally she continued to have a zeal for quoting scriptures and listening to God's word.

On Sunday, March 12, 2017 Brenda Blackwell departed this life at home surrounded by love ones. She was preceded in death by her parents James A. and Ruth A. Blackwell. She leaves behind to cherish memories and celebrate her life, her son Derick Blackwell (Michelle) and her daughter, Ashley Wright (DeAngelo) of Portsmouth, Virginia; (8) siblings Mary Sallee of Portsmouth, Virginia, Polly DeGruy (Henry) of New Orleans, Louisiana, Bernice Harrell (Earl) of Portsmouth, Virginia, William Blackwell (Debra) of New Orleans, Louisiana, James Blackwell, Melvin Blackwell (Idonia), Michael Blackwell and Cassandra Blackwell of Portsmouth, Virginia; (15) grandchildren Chinita Booth Baker (Marcus), Chris Arrington, Alonte' Booth (Man Man), Ashlee Mitchell, Deshara Harris, Shaniece Stephens, Tykerra Hamlin, Dureka Elliott, Darius Smith, Diamond Battle, Madisyn Wright, Maci Wright, Wallace Vann, Dontez Vann, and Donald Newsome Jr.; (5) great grandchildren Ace Jaxson Arrington, Malique Baker, Alonnie Booth, Davian Vann, and Legacy Marlorie Ervin. Brenda also leaves to cherish, a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, and church family.

Special thank you to her devoted care givers, Mary Sallee, Bernice Harrell, Michael Blackwell, Cassandra Blackwell, Barbara Parker and brother-in-law, Earl Harrell; nursing staff, Maria Brown and Joann Marsh.

Cemetery Details

Greenlawn Memorial Gardens

3920 Airline Blvd
Chesapeake, VA

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 16. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

J.T. Fisher Funeral Services
1248 N. George Washington Hwy.
Chesapeake, VA 23323
(757) 487-3700
info@jtfisherfuneralservices.com
<https://www.jtfisherfuneralservices.com>

Service

MAR 17. 11:00 AM (ET)

Noble Street Baptist Church
100 Noble Street
Portsmouth, VA

Tribute Wall



“ J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Brenda Blackwell



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - March 17, 2017 at 09:32 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Brenda Blackwell.



March 16, 2017 at 01:17 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Life Tributes



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - March 16, 2017 at 11:42 AM



“ 36 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - March 15, 2017 at 05:59 PM



“ *Glorious Grace Bouquet* was purchased for the family of *Brenda Blackwell*.



March 14, 2017 at 11:38 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy to the Blackwell family. God be with you all.*



Ethelyn Whitehead Holley

Ethelyn Holley - March 14, 2017 at 06:30 PM

CG

“ *Carolyn Glover lit a candle in memory of Brenda Blackwell*



Carolyn Glover - March 14, 2017 at 05:20 PM

AL

“ *Anna Laforge lit a candle in memory of Brenda Blackwell*



Anna Laforge - March 14, 2017 at 02:59 PM

RH

“ *We extend our love and compassion to the family of Sis. Brenda Blackwell, her presence will be missed in the assembly. We are so thankful that God gives His children rest from their earthly toils. She transformed in the midst of her storm!*

Bro. James and Rev. Reva Holt

Reva Holt - March 14, 2017 at 01:37 PM

RH

“ *Rhoda And Marvin Harris lit a candle in memory of Brenda Blackwell*



Rhoda and Marvin Harris - March 14, 2017 at 11:15 AM

SG

“ *Shern Godwin lit a candle in memory of Brenda Blackwell*



Shern Godwin - March 13, 2017 at 02:10 PM

TE

“ *Brenda, the last time I saw you and we had a great laugh which I will always remember, rest in heaven I will always love you*



Tea - March 12, 2017 at 07:48 PM

TE

“ *Tea lit a candle in memory of Brenda Blackwell*



Tea - March 12, 2017 at 07:44 PM