



Brenda Smith Hickson

November 7, 1940 - May 15, 2022

On Sunday, May 15, 2022, our Heavenly Father rewarded Brenda Smith Hickson with wings in her 81st season.

Brenda Joyce Smith's sunrise was November 07, 1940, in Portsmouth, VA. She was the first of two daughters of Sally Blizzard Smith and John Henry Smith. Brenda was a strong, confident, smart and loving child. Shepherded by her scholastic mother and spiritual father Brenda developed an undeniable thirst and enthusiasm for learning. Early on her interests and passion included dance, music, fashion, and education. Simply put, she embraced life and lived it to the fullest.

Forever believing, Brenda started her spiritual journey at Fourth Baptist Church where her faith in Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior matured.

She went to Douglass Park elementary school, I. C. Norcom High school, Hampton University and later graduated from Norfolk State University in 1969 obtaining a Bachelor of Science in Business Education. While in college, Brenda pledged Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated and crossed the burning sands on 04/10/1968. After graduating she embarked on a career in Education, working at Elizabeth City State University, Ruffner Middle School, ending up at Booker T Washington High School where she taught Business Education until she retired.

College was also where Brenda met a handsome and suave young man named James Edward Hickson, Jr with whom she fell madly in love. They were married after a passionate courtship on March 7, 1962. The beautiful couple moved to New York City. To this union was born one son, Michael James Hickson. This bond between mother (Brenda) & son (Michael) was like no other. Michael was Brenda's world. Nothing and no one could come between them. Following in the steps of her parents, Brenda poured everything she had into her son, advancing him spiritually, physically, socially and academically. Brenda and her son Michael shared a love of music, dancing, people and travel.

Brenda moved back to Virginia in 1964 to complete her college instruction. She continued her career in education while joining several social groups and community organizations. Brenda gave of her time to others freely. She believed in order, freedom, equality and respect. Brenda was never too busy to lend a helping, caring hand. Marked by her deep-rooted family beliefs & commitment, she counted caring for both of her paralyzed parents in the home while still sending her son to medical school among her greatest accomplishments.

During the years before her sunset, Brenda struggled and battled through heart failure. Remarkably, while never surrendering, she inspired others, maintained her faith in God and cherished the love of her family, friends and especially her beloved son Michael.

She leaves to mourn her passing, to remember her works and to look for her in hope, in a home beyond this world, a loving son, Michael James Hickson MD, a daughter-in-law, Yolanda R Renfroe MD, a stepson Dwayne Hickson (Debra), 3 step grandchildren Thias (Kelii), David Michael (Vanessa) and

Ryann, 2 step great grandchildren, Melannie and Zyann, one sister Jacqueline Blanchard, a host of loving nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, uncles, godchildren and lots of caring & committed friends and acquaintances. Rarely has God given so much to many people through one woman.

Cemetery Details

Greenlawn Memorial Gardens

3920 Airline Blvd
Chesapeake, VA

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 27. 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

MAY 28. 11:00 AM (ET)

Fourth Baptist Church
726 South St
Portsmouth, VA 23704

Tribute Wall



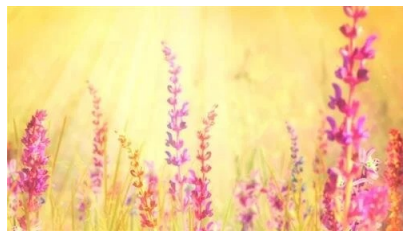
“ *J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Webcast in memory of Brenda Smith Hickson*

**CLICK HERE TO
VIEW SERVICE**

J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - May 28, 2022 at 10:54 AM



“ *J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Brenda Smith Hickson*



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - May 28, 2022 at 10:37 AM



“ *My condolences and prayers to my friend's family. Rest my friend to God be the Glory.*
Phyllis Coston

Phyllis Coston - May 29, 2022 at 12:07 PM



“ 31 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - May 25, 2022 at 05:13 PM



“ So sorry to hear of the transition of my friend *Brenda*. She will be sorely missed. May God bless and keep the family at this most difficult time.



Jacqueline Bradley - May 24, 2022 at 09:11 PM

SS

“Michael and family, there is a profound sadness in my heart to know that my friend, Brenda, has passed. To you, I express my sincere condolences. My friendship with Brenda began over 70 years ago when as children we attended the Fourth Baptist Church. Many Sundays I shared the "after Church" meal with Brenda, Miss Sally B. and Mr. Johnny at their house on Magnolia Street. Brenda and I spent a great deal of time together during our early childhood and throughout our time in high school. We were born in the same year, the same month, about two weeks apart. Our antics and spirited activities caused us to be labeled "the rascals" by Mr. Johnny. But, that was ok. Our closeness in later years was hampered by our different choices in colleges and later careers, time and distance. Nevertheless, whenever we saw or spoke to one another by telephone, or shared holiday cards, the bond between us was still evident. Brenda was always a caring and giving person and friend. I will never forget her and the many memories we shared. Michael, you were a pure joy to your mother. Please hold on to the love she exuberantly had for you and cherish the time you had together. We can't live beyond the time God gives to us, but it's still so very hard when we have to say goodbye to those we love. May God bless all of you and I pray for God's mercy and blessings upon Brenda's soul.

Shirley Smith
Mount Vernon, Virginia

Shirley Smith - May 23, 2022 at 12:55 PM

FF

“Brenda's family was our next door neighbor on Magnolia Street for many years. She was like a sister to us. Condolences from the Faulk family. She will be missed. No more pain and suffering. RIP. Faulk family from Magnolia Street

Faulk family - May 20, 2022 at 05:14 PM



“ To the Hickson Family, I am so sad that my friend Brenda is gone. She was my very special friend and I will always miss her. We had such great times together, my memories of her will be with me forever. I am glad that she is no longer in pain, but will be sorely missed. Please accept my condolences .

Kathleen Fennessey - May 19, 2022 at 12:06 PM

AM

“ To Dr. Michael Hickson, and the rest of the Hickson Family, I was indeed sorry to learn about the passing of your loved one, "Brenda Smith Hickson." Michael, you were the joy of her life. She did not finish any conversation without mentioning something great about you. Her proudest moment was when you became a "Medical Doctor!" Even though I have not seen or spoken with her in a few years, I often thought of her from time to time. Her contribution to the "Educational Arena" was a treasured gift to Norfolk Public Schools-"Booker T. Washington" High School. May the road ahead guide you through this difficult time, and may all the lasting memories you have created along the way, keep her memory alive within you.



Sorrowfully,
ARLENE A. MATTAI

ARLENE MATTAI - May 17, 2022 at 04:51 PM

BC

“ My heart was broken hearing that Brenda had passed. My heart is happy knowing that she is resting in the arms of Jesus Christ our Savior. Absent from us present with the Lord. R.I.H Brenda you will be missed and always loved.

Blondell Hardie ♥♥♥ cousin - May 17, 2022 at 01:36 PM