



## Barbara McGhee

April 15, 1941 - December 25, 2023

Barbara ( Bobbie) Jean McGhee was born in Memphis, TN on April 15, 1941 to the late Velma Owens and Ben Freeman. In 1948, at the age of seven her family relocated to Michigan. She would receive her education in the Belleville Public School System. On December 28, 1967, she united in holy matrimony to Bodie L. McGhee. To this union, two beautiful daughters were born; Gail Janee' and Kyra Giovanna. Her daughters were the apples of her eye. Her husband, Deacon Bodie McGhee and daughter Kyra McGhee preceded her in death. Barbara affectionately embraced motherhood and worked tirelessly to instill core values while simultaneously encouraging higher education.

As Barbara was family oriented, she naturally enjoyed caring for her home and her family. While she was certainly known for her lovingly prepared, delicious home cooked meals; Barbara was renown for her exquisite cakes and pies. "Barbara's Pound Cake" was anticipated at family gatherings for decades.

Barbara's passion for fashion and impeccable sense of style served as a prelude to a career in the apparel/ accessory industry. She successfully attracted and retained a loyal customer base as a sales consultant and was frequently recognized for her excellence.

Over the decades, Barbara made a difference in the lives of many as a trusted advisor to family and friends. She possessed a magnetic personality and a tremendous sense of humor that facilitated the development of numerous lifelong friendships and created many beautiful memories. Because she was a

music lover with a particular fondness for Jazz and Blues, Barbara looked forward to attending live performances from her favorite artists. As Christmas was her favorite holiday, she immensely enjoyed spending time with family and friends especially during the holiday season.

Barbara was also a woman of faith serving in multiple capacities at the Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Joseph B. Barlow Jr. She served on the Mother's and Deaconess Board, Assignment Committee, sang in the Pastor's Chorus, and worked with the youth in the Sunshine Band and Red Circle. She remained a faithful member until her health would no longer permit. Barbara battled several health challenges in the last seventeen years and departed this life on December 25, 2023.

She leaves to cherish her memory her loving, doting and devoted daughter, Gail McGhee, sisters Patty Williams, Lydia Duckworth, Joyce Enos, Elsie Bell and Theady Freeman; brothers; Leon Freeman, Harold Freeman and Richard Price; sisters-in-law

Bertha King, Lorraine Smith and Lucille Smith; godsons Anthony Moody and Justin Smith; goddaughter, Valencia Smith; friends Elizabeth Page, Myrna Mitchell, and Phyllis Smith and a host of cousins, nieces and nephews.

# Cemetery Details

## Woodmere Cemetery

9400 W. Fort Street  
Detroit, MI 48209

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 5. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services  
24585 Evergreen Rd  
Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 702-5367  
info@kempfh.com  
<https://www.kempfuneralhome.com>

## Family Hour

JAN 6. 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services  
24585 Evergreen Rd  
Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 702-5367  
info@kempfh.com  
<https://www.kempfuneralhome.com>

## Funeral Service

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JAN 6. 12:30 PM (ET)

Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services  
24585 Evergreen Rd  
Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 702-5367  
info@kempfh.com  
<https://www.kempfuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Livestreamed Funeral Service in memory of Barbara McGhee*



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**Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - January 06, 2024 at 12:25 PM

TJ

“ *Mrs. McGhee! I give gratitude for being able to know this wonderful Queen!!! From John F. Kennedy elementary school to Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church and the other wonderful person who connected us was Kyra. I have so many fond wonderful memories and I thank GOD! One memory that stands out the most Mrs. McGhee was taking Kyra and I to career day and Kyra had her mom's pink hard hat, I had never seen a pink hard hat I asked Mrs. McGhee how did you get this in pink? Her reply was "Tara, I am a woman and women wear things to represent being a woman". Those words are still with me even today. Soar high...Rest easy...Keep Laughing.*

*Love,  
Tara Cain-Jones*

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**Tara JONES** - January 06, 2024 at 10:29 AM

RM

“ Our families go a long way back beginning with Kyra and I becoming friends in Kindergarten!  
I still remember the home number..  
lol 313-386-9797!  
You picked us up from school/bus stop many days. Always kind and classy. We share the same birthday month and always remembered each other's birthday. Gail you've done an outstanding job caring for your Mother. You definitely gave her her flowers while she could enjoy them.  
Love  
Racquel Moore

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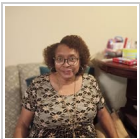
**Racquel Moore** - January 05, 2024 at 05:10 PM

RM

“ McGhee, Friend for over 50 years. We raised our daughters together, You walked me through making lemon icebox pies, You're responsible for me working at Lord&Taylor, We confided in each other, longtime friends and neighbors of my family The Moore's on the 4100 block of 17th street. You will be greatly missed.  
Love Mary Mo.

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**Racquel Moore** - January 05, 2024 at 05:00 PM



“ My dear sister leaves a hole in my heart. She gifted me a mink coat that i will forever cherish. My niece, Gail is an angel on earth that gave her everything she ever wanted and i want thank her. Stay strong and discover who Gail McGhee is and know she's loved!

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**Elsie Rena Bell** - January 05, 2024 at 11:17 AM

CG

“ *Carolyn Gary-Ndoye purchased the Rose Garden Heart for the family of Barbara McGhee.*



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**Carolyn Gary-Ndoye** - January 05, 2024 at 10:10 AM

JP

“ *8:25 A.M. 01/05/2024 A Life Time Of Love and Bliss  
You Barbara Jean, I'm going to miss Your laughter and Your smile  
I've known for a while from a little Girl a little child You showed me  
Motherly Love and as I grew I So admired You I'll make it short and  
I'll make it sweet Thank You Barbara Jean for making My life  
Unique!”  
Love You Forever, Your Baby Sister, Joyce*

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**Joyce Price** - January 05, 2024 at 08:52 AM



“ *Garden Accent - "My Mother kept a garden..."  
was purchased for the family of Barbara  
McGhee.*



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January 04, 2024 at 09:38 AM

FC

“ *Friends in VA Homeless, VCRRC, CWT, CAM  
purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for  
the family of Barbara McGhee.*



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**Friends in VA Homeless, VCRRC, CWT, CAM** - January 04,  
2024 at 09:32 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Barbara McGhee.*



January 03, 2024 at 06:59 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Barbara McGhee.*



December 31, 2023 at 03:01 PM



“ *I remember those Lord and Taylor days. When Barbara and I used to go to lunch together. We also exchange birthday and Christmas gifts every year. I'm really gonna miss her. She such a good friend. 🥺*



**Phyllis Smith** - December 30, 2023 at 07:52 PM



*Praying for your strength and May God comfort you during this difficult time*

**Geraldine Hayes** - January 03, 2024 at 12:39 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Barbara McGhee.*



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December 29, 2023 at 08:04 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Barbara McGhee.*



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December 29, 2023 at 06:02 PM



“ *Wow where can I start.. my aunt Barbara has always been a huge part of my life. She had a heart of Gold!!! She always made me laugh with our inside jokes down though the years.... I know you're watching over me, as I fly up and down the highways!!! Love Always you're Nephew Jonathan aka J.B.*

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**Jonathan Enos** - December 29, 2023 at 04:32 PM