



Norma Gulley Jones

October 2, 1941 - January 18, 2025

Norma Gulley Jones was born on October 2, 1941, in Greenville, Alabama to Donald M. Gulley and Ruth Mae Peters Gulley. Norma was the third of their four children and left Greenville at age 16 to attend Fisk University in Nashville, TN. Norma also lived in Philadelphia, PA, where she earned a certificate in x-ray technology, then joined her aunt, uncle, cousin, and two older siblings in Detroit.

On April 24, 1965 she married her sweetheart Paul Jones. Norma and Paul were introduced by Paul's cousin who was also a student at Fisk, and they stayed in touch until Norma moved to Detroit several years later. Norma and Paul welcomed their son Brian while living in Detroit and their daughter Meredith when they moved to Cleveland for a brief period. Eventually the family settled in Battle Creek, MI, where Norma worked for Battle Creek Public Schools. She held many roles over her 20 year tenure including school librarian, special education assistant, and her favorite role of reading specialist. Norma was known for her patient and loving ability to teach children to read. Her grandchildren would often say "it's time to go to Grammy School!" where she taught them phonics and cursive handwriting. Norma was also the head cheerleading coach at Battle Creek Central High School for 12 years, and she enjoyed being with "her girls" at cheerleading camp, football games, and especially basketball games.

In 1999 Paul and Norma retired, moved back to the Detroit area and joined Hope United Methodist Church. Norma served in the Nurturer's Ministry and is a Member Emeritus of the Comfort Giver's Ministry. Norma was an amazing cook, but baking was her specialty. At Christmastime family would always ask, "When is Aunt Norma baking cookies?" Family and friends also remember her love of good music, particularly The O'Jays, Aretha Franklin, and her beloved Fisk Jubilee Singers.

Norma joined the chorus of ancestors on January 18, 2025. Norma leaves a host of family and friends to cherish her memory including her husband of nearly 60 years, Paul Jones; son Brian and daughter Meredith; grandchildren Johnna, Kaya, and Justin; great-grandchildren Dehlani and De'Cairo; and nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends who shared many fun times with her and will miss her dearly. Norma was preceded in death by her parents Donald and Ruth Gulley, and siblings Donald Gulley Jr., Dorothy Gulley Greene, and Linda Gulley Crittenden.

Visitation with the family will be held on Monday, January 27, 2025, from 4-7:00 p.m. at Kemp Funeral Home, 24585 Evergreen Road, Southfield MI. A celebration of Norma's life will be held on Tuesday, January 28, 2025, at Hope United Methodist Church- 10:00 a.m. family hour, 11:00 a.m. service. Interment to follow at Elmwood Cemetery, 1200 Elmwood Street, Detroit. Flowers may be sent to Kemp Funeral Home, and donations can be made in Norma's name to Fisk University.

Tribute Wall

KM

“*Mrs. Jones was my cheerleading coach at Battle Creek Central for several years in high school. She was very personable, she would give me a hard time in a playful way; that was just our connection, she made cheerleading fun and would even offer motherly life advice at times. I genuinely appreciate Mrs. Jones being a part of my life's journey and the impact that she made on our lives as our coach. My sincerest condolences to her family and all of those who loved her, and those whose lives were touched by her. Rest in peace Mrs. Jones. A job well done!*”

Kanika McKinney - January 27, 2025 at 12:41 PM

JA

“*John, Tammy, Jalen, and Jasmyn Ashford purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Norma Gulley Jones.*”



John, Tammy, Jalen, and Jasmyn Ashford - January 26, 2025 at 06:45 PM

IG

“*Always showing up and showing love!*”



Immanuel Greene - January 26, 2025 at 02:00 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Norma Gulley Jones.

January 24, 2025 at 05:32 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Norma Gulley Jones.



January 24, 2025 at 05:32 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Norma Gulley Jones.



January 24, 2025 at 10:48 AM



“ Norma my friend, know that we love and will truly miss you. But you will live on in our hearts and memories. Your battled was long. We know that you are at peace. Take your well deserved rest in the Lord's loving arms. Paul, Brian, Meredith and the rest of the family, know that you are in our prayers. We pray that God will guide you, give you comfort, peace and understanding as you travel this road as he has in the past. Love you all.

Henry and Linda R Johnson - January 21, 2025 at 01:55 PM