



Phyllis Pryor

November 9, 1940 - January 17, 2025

Phyllis Ann (Moore) Pryor born on November 9, 1940, in New Orleans, Louisiana, Phyllis was the fifth child in a loving family of eleven children and shared a special bond as a twin with her brother Phillip. She was also preceded in death by Claiborne Moore (Father), Gladys Gibbs Moore (mother), Phillip Lentwood Moore (twin brother, 2003), Roland Moore (brother), Donald Moore (brother), Sylvia Nicholson (sister), Barbara Littles (sister), Monica Pryor (stillborn daughter) and held her memories close to her heart throughout her life. Leaving behind her siblings Loretta Pittman, Clarice Williams, Kenneth (Debbie) Moore, Sidney Moore, Norweda Carter and a host of niece's and nephews.

Raised in Picayune, Mississippi, Phyllis's brilliance and drive were evident early in life. She graduated as valedictorian of the George Washington Carver High School Class of 1959, earning the admiration of her classmates and community. While in high school, she was a cheerleader, played basketball, sang in Glee Club, was a member of the Drama Club and was a part of the Homecoming Queens court. Following high school, she attended Coahoma Junior College and later transferred to Tennessee A&I State University, where she graduated with honors in 1963 with a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work and a minor in Education. Phyllis continued her education, after receiving a scholarship to attend the University of Iowa, earning her Master's Degree in Social Work in 1967 from Wayne State University. She dedicated over 32 years to a career in mental health and social work, tirelessly advocating for

those in need. Throughout her career, she received numerous honors and established Michigan's first "Relatives for the Mentally Ill" organization, a testament to her unwavering love for her family, dedication to improving the lives of others. Her leadership and compassion left a lasting impact on the field and the countless lives she touched.

In 1966, Phyllis married her beloved husband, James Clifford Pryor Sr., with whom she shared a beautiful partnership until his passing. To this union, there were two children, Monica who was stillborn and James. Together, they raised their son, James Clifford Pryor II, and cherished their family life in Detroit, Michigan.

Phyllis's legacy extends beyond her professional achievements. She was a devoted mother, a loving sister, and a steadfast friend. She embraced her role as a twin, cherishing the unique bond she shared with Phillip, and was a source of strength and love for her entire family. In her later years, she enjoyed a well-earned retirement (2002), dedicating her time to her church, reading, and supporting charitable causes. She was an active member of Conant Avenue United Methodist Church, where she found solace and community.

Throughout her life, Phyllis's generosity and warmth inspired all who knew her. She had an unshakable faith and an indomitable spirit that carried her through life's challenges with grace. Her contributions to her community and her unwavering love for her family leave a legacy that will endure for generations. Phyllis was the "Moore Family" historian. And supported a Moore presence in Picayune MS at the Picayune Carver Cultural Museum.

Phyllis will be remembered for her intelligence, compassion, and tireless dedication to making the world a better place. Her memory will forever remain in the hearts of her family, friends, and all who were fortunate to know her.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **23**. 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 **24**. 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services
24585 Evergreen Rd
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Funeral Service

JAN **24**. 12:30 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Livestreamed Funeral Service in memory of Phyllis Pryor* ”



Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services - January 24, 2025 at 12:09 PM