



Mrs. Gwendolyn Olympia Barnes

February 7, 1948 - May 10, 2022

It is with great sadness that the family of Mrs. Gwendolyn Olympia Barnes, age 74, announces her passing which occurred on Tuesday, May 10, 2022, at Hock Family Pavilion.

Born February 7, 1948, in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Gwendolyn was a graduate of E. E. Smith Senior High School, Bennett College (Bachelor of Science), and Ohio State University (Master of Science).

Gwendolyn was an active member of Markham Chapel Baptist Church where she served her church and community well. She was also an active member of American Legion Auxiliary Post 175.

Gwendolyn is preceded in death by her husband, Joseph Wallace Barnes, Jr.

She leaves to cherish her memory two sons, Joseph W. Barnes, III and Reginald Brian Barnes; brother, Jerry McRae (Martha); two grandchildren; and a host of extended family members and friends.

A celebration of Gwendolyn's life will be held at Markham Chapel Baptist Church, 3630 Old Chapel Hill Road, Durham, North Carolina 27707 on Tuesday, May 17th; Family Visitation at 12:30 p.m. and Life Celebration Service at 1:00 p.m.

Please keep this family in your thoughts and in your prayers.

Cemetery Details

Beechwood Cemetery

3300 Fayetteville St
Durham, NC 27707
(919) 560-4154

Previous Events

Viewing

MAY 17. 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Markham Chapel Baptist Church
3630 Old Chapel Hill Rd
Durham, NC 27707
[http://www.markhamchapel.com/?](http://www.markhamchapel.com/)

Celebration of Life

MAY 17. 1:00 PM (ET)

Markham Chapel Baptist Church
3630 Old Chapel Hill Rd
Durham, NC 27707
[http://www.markhamchapel.com/?](http://www.markhamchapel.com/)

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Gwendolyn Olympia Barnes*

October 05, 2023 at 11:31 AM



“ *Mr. Reginald Brian Barnes remember to be patient with yourself. Remember life is not about how “perfect” individuals or a situation may seem. But it is a journey that you receive the calling to #Live. Take your time and remember that you and your brother carry your mother’s heart by #Living. Your mother is with you (her #DNA is a part of your #DNA) and because you #Believe (have #Faith) God’s Spirit is in your worship of him via praise <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w2BUG0McWn8> especially when you may not feel like it. Remember the options I gave you. Smile. AngelSalute:. Mrs. Gwendolyn Olympia Barnes. The Barnes Gentlemen have family and friends assisting them in celebrating your life.*

*Ms. Francesica Marie Gaint, B.S., MBA,
Owner/CEO/CFO/COO/CIO/CTO/President*

Francesica Marie Gaint, B.S., MBA, O - August 29, 2022 at 03:08 PM



“ *As a classmate, member and President of the Durham Alumnae Chapter, our prayers are with you; her family, friends and associates. She will truly be missed. We are thankful for having known her.*

Jacqueline B. Anderson - May 19, 2022 at 10:24 AM

MM

“ Again the repost...

Mr. Joseph W. Barnes, III and Mr. Reginald Brian Barnes (it was great to see you on today Reggie), remember

#AFM(AllFamilyMatters).

#MyBlessings <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hc2qiNtUZtU>,

#FamilyReunion <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i6zsg2GbLqc>,

#AlphaAndOmega [https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wEuubBhbl5I)

v=wEuubBhbl5I,

#NewDay <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b9ZMPbLoePk>,

#Pray <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mhmx1ai4hro>,

#ThankTheLord <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mRgReXR25ls>,

#NoFaking <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kAKofH6XfWs>,

Receive the #BetterBenediction <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7pADRPg4b4>. AngelSalute:.Mrs. Gwendolyn Olympia Barnes.

Annuntiate melius,

S/Ms. Francesica Marie Gaint, B.S., MBA

Ms. Francesica Marie Gaint, MBA - May 18, 2022 at 04:37 PM

ES

“ *Deepest condolences for the family of G,O. Find comfort in the presence of the Holy Spirit and good memories that will carry you thru in the days/week/months to come. Blessings to all.*

Eva Sutton, Summerfield, Flolrida, Cousin of Joseph Wallace Barnes

Eva R Sutton - May 17, 2022 at 03:23 PM

FG

“ Barnes Brothers (Mr. Joseph W. Barnes, III and Mr. Reginald Brian Barnes), A heart that forgives <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=in dCvnD4Ji4>. All Family Matters.

Cor qui ignoscit
S/Ms. Francesica Marie Gaint, B.S., MBA

Fran Gaint - May 17, 2022 at 03:15 PM

FG

“ Barnes Brothers (Mr. Joseph W. Barnes, III and Mr. Reginald Brian Barnes) I forgot to add a song of reflection, where would we all be <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9hjN4UR9JZk> and trust the process <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TliXJosJyYk>. Angel Salute: Mrs. Gwendolyn Olympia Barnes!

Celebramus vitae cotidianam
S/Ms. Francesica Marie Gaint, B.S., MBA,

Fran Gaint - May 17, 2022 at 11:58 AM

TM

“ Taraji K. McRae lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Gwendolyn Olympia Barnes



Taraji K. McRae - May 17, 2022 at 01:10 AM

TM

Gone, but not forgotten in my heart. As she would say about me, "my niece after my own heart" :-D

Taraji K. McRae - May 17, 2022 at 01:13 AM

BJ

“ *Bishop Terence & Lady Serreda Jenkins purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mrs. Gwendolyn Olympia Barnes.*



Bishop Terence & Lady Serreda Jenkins - May 16, 2022 at 05:01 PM

WT

“ *So very sorry for your loss. My deepest condolences and prayers extended to your family. To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. Her soft spoken voice and warm smile will always be remembered. Rest in peace "G.O."*
Wilma S. Taylor and family, cousins of Joe Barnes from Ft. Lauderdale, Fl.

Wilma S. Taylor - May 16, 2022 at 02:32 PM

JS

“ *Jackie Strother lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Gwendolyn Olympia Barnes*



Jackie Strother - May 16, 2022 at 01:15 PM

JF

“ God looked around His garden and found an empty place, He looked down upon the earth and saw your tired face. He put His arms around you and lifted you to rest. God's garden must be beautiful...He only takes the best. Gwen, I will always remember you as one of the best childhood playmates one could ever have. On cloudy days...you and your family always brought sunshine to the Fisher Street neighborhood and surrounding areas. A life well lived and a Job well done. May God continually and perpetually Comfort and Bless the Family and love ones...He is our strength and refuge. And for Surely, God is Able.



Jackie Strother and Family

Jackie Strother and Family - May 16, 2022 at 01:13 PM

CH

“ Reggie I'm sorry to hear the passing of your mother You're a Great neighbor and a little brother to me my heart goes out to the Barnes Family .Sincerely CLinton L .Hicks

Clinton Hicks - May 15, 2022 at 10:22 PM

JA

“ Joann Adams lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Gwendolyn Olympia Barnes



Joann Adams - May 15, 2022 at 06:10 PM

JA

“Gone but not forgotten. Forever in my heart. So many wonderful memories of you with a very sweet kind spirit and a steadfast faith in God. Your earthly door has closed but God opened the Heavenly door for you to enter and have eternal life. To Joey and Brian, with the help of God, let your Mother's Love direct your path as you continue to navigate life. Aunt Joann

Joann Adams - May 15, 2022 at 06:09 PM

“ Celebrate Barnes Family!

In the Amplified translation of The Bible in John Chapter 11 verses 25-26 it states "Jesus said to her, I am the Resurrection and the Life. Whoever believes in (adheres to, trusts in, relies on) Me [as Savior] will live even if he dies; and everyone who lives and believes in Me [as Savior] will never die. Do you believe this?"

Again I say Celebrate Barnes Family! The celebration never ends because Mrs. Gwendolyn Olympia Barnes left you with the greatest gift you could ever receive from her, you had her presence and she left you with the memories. Cherish them! Guard them! and never ever forget them! Keep the Barnes family strong and united. Protect your family's name during this time of bereavement.

Most importantly, Mr. Joseph W. Barnes, III and Mr. Reginald Brian Barnes, my mother was born in New Orleans, Louisiana and passed in 2010. I believe in Celebrations of Life! I also believe that this is what my mother would tell you that you too will say in the future <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mlkt3-o9VKo>, in the meantime <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6MZ5ytgg418>.

To the Barnes brothers, please do not be afraid to seek counseling as you move thru the grieving process (#KüblerRossModel). God will take care of you both <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HKymBRvKABY>. If you need a change in your life <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0dmA5Jt9Sao>. There is no greater Love <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-3vjDj5mMBg>. No human being is perfect <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rYOQy3CPCik>. As you move forward <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vd3KWLcFcN4>. Barnes brothers better days are coming <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gd6sRYHGluY>. Receive the #BetterBenediction <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7pADRPg4b4>. AngelSalute:.

*Quoniam ecce venient dies melior,
Ms. Francesica Marie Gaint, B.S., MBA*

Francesica Gaint, B.S., MBA - May 14, 2022 at 04:04 PM

JJ

“ Looking up and talking to you as if you were here

I will miss you my friend and our almost weekly phone calls and texts. You are and always will be one of my best friends, a friendship that began in 1972. Your last text to me was 4/24/22 where you said you would call me back, the next day I called you and heard your voice for the last time. I will keep your text messages for they were always uplifting, funny, and serious. After you are inducted into the halls of Heaven by GOD and as you stroll down the streets paved with gold and embrace your family take time to think about us.

John and Georgia Hunter

John H Hunter JR - May 14, 2022 at 11:57 AM

QH

“ Queen Foy Harris lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Gwendolyn Olympia Barnes



Queen Foy Harris - May 14, 2022 at 11:04 AM

QH

Celebration of Life. Condolences for you in the transition of Gwen. God is the God of all comfort. To be absent from this world is to be present with the Lord. Yours in Christ. (Lois Foy)

Queen Foy Harris - May 14, 2022 at 11:08 AM

RJ

“ Sending condolences to the Barnes' family.
Ruby Campbell Jones
E.E.Smith Class of 1966. 🙏🙏



Ruby Campbell Jones - May 13, 2022 at 02:25 AM

SJ

“ A Beautiful Soul You Are. Love Your Friend,
Shelley



shelley Jackson - May 13, 2022 at 12:24 AM

KG

“ We extend our heartfelt sympathy. My son
and I are saddened by this tremendous loss.
Growing up in the neighborhood would have
not been the same without Mrs. Barnes. She
always greeted me with a loving smile and a
kindhearted spirit. A very devout Born-Again Christian she was, and
she not only knew the word of God, but she lived it. I'm very grateful
that she was a part of my childhood. Her memory will be with me
everlasting. Rest In Heavenly Peace, Mrs. Barnes.



*KZ Grier
Arthur N. Grier III*

KZ Grier - May 12, 2022 at 10:20 PM

SJ

“ Mrs Barnes was truly a beautiful person. Always uplifting; kind; and generous. We love Mrs. Barnes. Rest on my sista 🌹 . Love Elder Shelley Jackson & Family; Raleigh, North Carolina.



shelley Jackson - May 12, 2022 at 07:50 AM

RM

“ My cousin will be missed . All the family gatherings you was there . I will miss your her face . She checked up on me when I was sick . Love you Cousin always in my heart .



Rhonda Marsh - May 11, 2022 at 05:13 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mrs. Gwendolyn Olympia Barnes.



May 11, 2022 at 12:40 PM

KS

“ I will always cherish our talks and moments of laughter, I will forever admire your strength and kind heart you are dearly missed. My condolences and sincerest prayers to Joseph & Family.
Love,
K. Hart Spikes & Family



Kenya Hart Spikes - May 11, 2022 at 12:29 PM

JM

“Gwen was a very loving and supportive sister. I am proud to have been a brother and benefactor of her caring and strong support to our father. She was never too busy to help others bear their load. And she was drinking from a saucer, because her cup had done overflowed.

Jerry McRae - May 10, 2022 at 07:16 PM

SE

Gwen, dear cousin you will be missed! Every memory I have of you involves a smile! You were caring, always appreciative, and loving. I am truly grateful that I was witness to your love of Christ, and there is comfort in knowing He is allowing you to rest peacefully. Sonya Washington Edmonds

Sonya Washington Edmonds - May 15, 2022 at 01:16 PM