



## Mr. Joseph Wallace Barnes, Jr.

June 29, 1946 - September 29, 2020

The passing of Mr. Joseph Wallace Barnes, Jr., age 74, on Tuesday, September 29, 2020, at his home, is being announced by his loving and devoted wife Gwendolyn M. Barnes.

Born June 29, 1946, at Lincoln Hospital in Durham, North Carolina, Wallace was the eldest of four children born to Mr. Joseph Wallace Barnes, Sr. and Mrs. Arnetta Womack "Percolator" Barnes. He was preceded in death by his father and mother and two brothers, Victor Olander Barnes and Richard Alexander Barnes.

Wallace was a graduate of Hillside High School, Durham Business College (Business Administration), and North Carolina A&T State University (B.A. in Accounting). He was an avid Aggie and never hesitated to proudly profess "Aggie Pride" to the St. Joseph members who are NCCU Eagles.

Wallace accepted the Lord at an early age and became an active member of St. Joseph AME Church, where he initially participated in the Children's Choir and later served with the Junior Ushers. During more than 60+ years of faithful service, Wallace worked in many St. Joseph ministries. Because he loved the church so much, no task was too small. He served on the Steward and Trustee Boards and was a "go to person," meeting the needs of the congregation and church facility. He worked with young people in scouting, as

well as the Junior Usher and Altar Worker ministries. He also was one of the church announcers, leading that ministry for several years. His expression, "St. Joseph is a friendly Church" will always be remembered.

He was mentored, in becoming a Senior Usher, by the late Brother Walter G. Rhodes, before going on to serve in that capacity for over 50+ years. As the chief usher, Wallace was seen as the "doorkeeper," also serving many years as president of that ministry. Even when forced to walk with a cane, he still served, moving up and down St. Joseph's aisles. As Wallace's health declined, he continued listening, talking and advising people with his own brand of humor.

Along with his wife, Gwen (aka, G.O.) other survivors are inclusive of sons, Joseph Wallace Barnes, III and Reginald Brian Barnes; two grandchildren, Joseph W. Barnes, IV and N.Brianna Barnes of Pennsylvania; sister, Reverend Margaret Barnes Guy (Leonydas); and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives and friends.

He will also be dearly missed by the St. Joseph Church Family.

A celebration of life will be held at St. Joseph AME Church, 2521 Fayetteville Street, Durham, North Carolina 27707, on Monday, October 5th; Family Visitation at 11:00 a.m. and Life Celebration Service at 12:00 noon.

Mr. Joseph Wallace Barnes, Jr. will be laid to rest in Beechwood Cemetery.

# Cemetery Details

## Beechwood Cemetery

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

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Joseph AME Church  
2521 Fayetteville St  
Durham, NC 27707  
(919) 683-1379

## Celebration of Life

OCT 5. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Joseph AME Church  
2521 Fayetteville St  
Durham, NC 27707  
(919) 683-1379

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Joseph Wallace Barnes, Jr.*

October 05, 2023 at 11:31 AM



“ *Mr. Barnes introduced me to my wife. 11 years and 2 kids later, he is the reason our family exist. RIP Mr. Barnes.*

**Reginald Roundtree** - April 10, 2021 at 11:02 AM



“ *Andrea Bryant lit a candle in memory of Mr. Joseph Wallace Barnes, Jr.*



**Andrea Bryant** - October 28, 2020 at 04:53 PM



*My Deepest Condolences To The Barnes Family, May GOD BLESS You All...Mrs. Mary Daniel's Great Grand Daughter/Mrs. Nettie Bryant's Grand Daughter, Andrea Bryant(Plunkie)*

**Andrea Bryant** - October 28, 2020 at 04:57 PM

W)

“ I was saddened to hear of the transition of Wallace. I will always cherish the wonderful family gatherings, times of fellowship we enjoyed. We would tell funny stories of our up bringing and Wallace would share his latest jokes. Wallace loved to eat good food and his heavy voice and laughter made the rest of us laugh. He would have a twinkle in his eyes and his face would light up. I will always cherish these memories of him. Rest in peace cuz. You fought a good fight and you finished your course. May our heavenly father welcome you home. Peace, comfort and love to the family. All of you are in my prayers. God bless you. Blessings, your cousin Wilma

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**Wilma Southerland Taylor (cousin )** - October 05, 2020 at 11:15 AM



“ Gwendolyn my condolences for your loss. God bless you and yours. Fayanna and Mark Jackson.



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**Fayanna Hodge** - October 04, 2020 at 11:21 AM

ML

“ Rest well Uncle Wally, I shall remember our talks, especially our SC State Bulldogs and Aggie talks... Go bulldogs!! Until we meet again!!

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**Marisa Lee** - October 04, 2020 at 10:01 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mr. Joseph Wallace Barnes, Jr..



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October 04, 2020 at 09:56 AM

PH

“ Gwen you are in the families thoughts and prayers! We love you!  
Let us know what we can do! Paula( The Felder Family)

Paula Herod - October 03, 2020 at 02:54 PM

ES

“ To Gwen Barnes and Family. Heartfelt sympathy and condolences to you. So sorry to hear of Wallace's passing.. Trusting that happy memories will bring peace and contentment to all of you. Remembering the fun times I was in his presence in our adult years brings a smile to me. May God's love and grace be yours. Eva Sutton. 1st cousin, Summersield, Florida.

Eva Sutton - October 01, 2020 at 02:23 PM

EJ

“ To The Family of Joseph Barnes, Jr you have our deepest sympathy and love. Love Elderess Shelley Jackson & Family~Raleigh, North Carolina.



Elderess Shelley Jackson - September 30, 2020 at 10:10 PM

SA

My sincere condolences to the Barnes Family. I remember when Wallace, my 2 sisters, especially Claudine, with little children at St. Joseph. I taught son, Reggie Driver Education. I taught niece Araneetae, (sister Margaret's daughter) at Shepard. As Pastor Jay said recently, "Press on!". Although I'm not able be there in person, I will ALWAYS be with you in spirit & any time you need me--such a PHENOMENAL FAMILY! BLESSINGS TO YOU! Sandra Rogers Alston & Sisters (Claudine Rogers Zimmerman & Carolyn Rogers-Stone

Sandra Rogers Alston - October 05, 2020 at 08:05 AM



“ *We love you Uncle Wallace and you are forever in our hearts. Love  
Arturra*

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**Araneetae Guy** - September 30, 2020 at 03:23 AM



*So sorry to hear of your uncle's passing.  
Tony Rosser*

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**Tony Rosser** - October 07, 2020 at 06:20 PM