



Willie Jean Barnes

JUN 1, 1926 - JUL 14, 2014



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Celebration of the Life of Willie Jean Barnes Sunrise: June 1, 1926 Sunset: July 14, 2014 “A Full, Complete and Perfect Life” Homegoing Services Monday, July 21, 2014 -10:00 AM – Skylawn Memorial Park Highway 92 and Skyline Blvd. San Mateo, CA. 94402 Willie Jean Barnes, (nee Smith) was born in St. Louis, MO. on June 1, 1926. She is survived by her loving husband of over 62 years, Aaron Oliver Barnes, Sr. and her six adored children, Cynthia (Nick) Slater, Waffiyah (Waajid) Ansari-Luqman, Aaron Barnes, Jr., Nommo Diop (Marnitha), Allen Barnes, and Bessie Barnes; her precious grandchildren: Bahiyyudin Ansari, Sean Slater, Ayinde Luqman, Zachary Slater, Nathan Barnes, Isoke Luqman, Lumumba and Kibwe Diop; her two great-grandchildren: Adisa Luqman and Aaron Ansari; her beloved nieces and nephews: Nancy Johnson and Noel, Leon, Annamarie, Raquel and Victoria Smith. She is preceded in death by her parents, Willie Anthony Smith and Serena Aaron Smith, her sister Marion Sams and her brother Leon Smith, Sr. She leaves many true friends and close relatives who knew and loved her dearly. Mama spent most of her early life in Meridian, Mississippi where her parents owned their home. She attended Jackson State University and eventually San Francisco State University (majoring in Early Childhood Education); she was a member of the Delta Sigma Theta sorority. In the late 1940’s, Mama migrated to San Francisco, CA. after her brother was discharged from the Navy at Treasure Island. She met her husband Aaron and married him in 1952 in San Francisco, CA. Our beloved mother chose San Francisco as her home after living in the Jim Crow South proved intolerable. Our “Mama Jean” was a faithful, loyal member of the Western Region of the Meridianites, Inc. and a trusted, adored member of Pilgrim Community Church (United Church of Christ) for over 50 years. She owned and successfully operated Barnes Family Day Care in SF’s Ingleside neighborhood for over 15 years. She was an early supporter of the Ocean View Merced Heights Ingleside Neighborhood Assn., and a member of SF’s African



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American Library and Museum, Museum of the African Diaspora, and the Friends of the SF Public Library. Words cannot adequately express the sorrow, the profound loss her family and many dear friends feel at her passing. Jean Barnes was a dutiful wife, mother, grandmother, friend, educator, colleague, church and club member, PTA and Girl Scout leader; “a virtuous woman” who deeply believed in God, in her family, her many friends, her community and the world. With her husband, she travelled by air and cruise ship many times to West Africa, to the Caribbean, to Asia, Europe and Central America. She rejoiced in the accomplishments and successes of her children and grandchildren, and gave every one of them her unconditional love, attention and support. Our mother was truly a gracious and noble person, who was organized, thoughtful, courageous and forgiving. We thank God that she was in our life as long as the Almighty allowed her to be and we will carry the memory of her in our hearts and minds forever. In lieu of flowers, the Barnes family requests donations to the Nat’l Council of Meridianites/JSC Scholarship Foundation, P.O. Box 531406, Henderson, NV 89053-1406, in the memory of Mrs. Willie Jean Barnes.



Tribute Wall

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RR

Ronald Russell posted:

To family and friends. The Russell family sends their condolences and keeps you in our prayers. My mother ascended into heaven 4yrs. ago and you just find a way to stay strong. God bless

July 28 at 6:07 AM

RJ

Robert W. Jones posted:

Mrs Willie Jean Barnes was an amazing queen, and I feel privileged to acknowledge her contributions to all that knew her and the lives she changed for the better of the community. I know you will miss her deeply. I'll be keeping you in my thoughts and prayers for the love she shared and gave is stronger than death and the grave. Robert W. Jones

July 20 at 2:00 PM

BD

Blanche And Helen Dilworth posted:

We will always cherish Willie Jean Barnes' sweet, kind, loving spirit, her dedication to her family, her church, and her community. She has long been a gentle warrior on the Lord's battlefield, a woman of valor, in short, a phenomenal woman! Blanche and Helen Dilworth

July 19 at 10:17 AM

PS

Paula Smith posted:

My Love and Prayers are with the family. Sincerely, Paula Farley Smith

July 18 at 2:30 PM

GC

Gc posted:

Please accept my sincere condolences to the family. May your many fine memories of her bring you comfort during this difficult time. Our loving heavenly Father is the God of all comfort and if you allow him, he can and will help you because he cares for you (1 Peter 5:7)

July 18 at 11:46 AM

SE

Serena posted:

All of the greats in one pic

July 18 at 9:04 AM



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SE

Serena posted:

Love this.

July 18 at 9:03 AM

DB

Dr. Margie Baker posted:

Her quiet, loving, kind, and selfless manner were truly divine. My friend, Aaron and those wonderful children are blessed to have her. Dr. Margie Baker

July 18 at 7:50 AM

VL

Vilma Lumley posted:

I am sorry for the loss of this beautiful lady. Looks to me like she was a good person close to her family. Just remember the Word of GOD says "absent in the body but present with the Lord" where he is not more suffering, evilness, peace and joy for eternity. God comfort your hearts it's my prayer. Vilma Lumley

July 18 at 6:29 AM

CB

Carl Barnes posted:

Hebrews 12 New International Version (NIV) 12 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

July 17 at 12:41 PM

CB

Carl Barnes posted:

Psalms 116:15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful servants.

July 17 at 12:37 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Willie by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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