

God's Garden

By: Melissa Shreve

God looked around his garden and found an empty place
He then looked down upon the Earth and saw your tired
Face. He put his arms around you and lifted you to rest
With the help of his angels, they flew you to your heavenly
place.

God's garden must be beautiful, He always takes the best
He Knew you were suffering; He knew you were in pain
He knew that you would never get well on Earth again.

He saw the road was getting rough and the hills too hard to
Climb. He closed your weary eyelids and whispered "Peace be
Thine" It broke our hearts to lose, but you didn't go alone
For part of us went with you the day God called you home.

Pallbearers

Arzell Tolbert De'Andros Porter
Devante Porter Kenneth Porter
Anthony Porter

Honorary Pallbearers

William B. Jenkins
Sababa Akili
John Porter
Acie Porter

Flower Bearers

Family and Friends

Acknowledgements

The family of Barbara Tolbert wishes to thank everyone for their kind expressions of sympathy and prayers extended to us during our bereavement. God bless you.

Arrangements Entrusted To:
R. A. Prince Funeral Services
16222 Broadway Avenue
Maple Heights, Ohio 44137
Phone: 216-518-1777 Fax: 216-518-1975
raprince.com

Celebrating the Life Of Barbara Tolbert



Sunrise
July 13, 1950

Sunset
November 22, 2021

Friday, December 3, 2021

Wake: 10:00AM

Funeral: 11:00 AM

R. A. Prince Funeral Services
16222 Broadway Avenue
Maple Heights, OH 44137

Order of Service

- Musical Prelude.....
- Processional.....The Family
- Scripture.....Old/New Testament.....Minister
- Prayer.....Minister
- Solo.....Danny Morgan
- Acknowledgements/ Resolutions.....
- Solo.....Octavia Tolbert
- Special Remarks.....(Limit two minutes please)
Friends and Family
- Obituary.....Read silently
- Eulogy.....Pastor Sears Mitchell
- Closing Prayer.....
- Recessional.....



Interment:
Cleveland Memorial Garden Cemetery
4234 Green Road
Highland Hills, OH 44122

(Those driving in the Funeral Procession turn your headlights on, then off before entering into the cemetery gates.)

Obituary

Barbara Tolliver (Tolbert) and her siblings were born in Clarksdale, MS. Her mother Willoughby Tolliver (Willie B) was the daughter of WWI military Veteran Acy Tolliver. Barbara was born in MS on July 13, 1950. Six years later her mother would relocate the family to Cleveland, Ohio, following the brutal lynch and murder of 14 year old Emmett Till, which occurred less than fifty miles from where she was raising her toddlers.

In Cleveland, Ohio Barbara would grow up in a loving family that consisted of her eight siblings from Mississippi, her grandmother Adell Tolliver, grandfather Acy Tolliver, and Aunt Helen and her children. The family made sure they stayed together by frequently renting large duplex homes until they could afford to purchase a home big enough to house them all.

Soon the family would experience additional growth as Madea gave birth to another daughter, son and a set of twin girls, bringing the total number of children to thirteen. Barbara seemed to cherish the idea of being the seventh of 13 children, perhaps reasoning that as a middle child, it allowed her to chart her own course, develop hobbies and habits that the others were too young to pursue and the older siblings too busy to investigate. Within that context she became a unique sister to everyone. She exhibited our mother's determination, and an independence that served all her pursuits.

Barbara gave birth to three children Lakitha (Tolliver) Tolbert, Arzell (Tolliver) Tolbert and Jermaine (Tolliver) Tolbert. She adopted two daughters Angelique (Tolliver) Tolbert and Tatiana (Tolliver) Tolbert and she has five grandchildren Donte, Kajonna, Octavia, Daylon, Dahlya and Zariya Simone Tolbert-Hill.

Barbara graduated from East High School in 1968. Barbara was as volunteer for the Cleveland Board of Education –Division of Early Childhood Education of the Cleveland Public Schools.

Barbara enjoyed putting together puzzles, she found that doing jigsaw puzzles improved cognition and visual-spatial reasoning. Puzzles required concentration and improves short term memory and problem solving, she wore the title "Puzzle Lady" proudly.

Our sister was a homemaker who loved to cook, and bake, her favorite was chocolate chip cookies. She also loved clipping coupons and using those coupons to shop enjoying the bargains that she was able to take advantage of and was given the name "Coupon Queen", by her siblings and those who knew her.

Her sisters (Helen Porter and Darlene Porter), mother (Willie B. Porter) and brother (New Jean Porter) preceded her in death..

She leaves to cherish her memories: five brothers: William Jenkins, Sababa Akili (Ne' Akili), Acie Porter (Barbara Porter), John B. Porter, and Kenneth Porter, and four sisters: Louella Coats, Lula King, and Prinsetta Hughes, grandchildren: Barbara will forever be remembered by her numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins throughout the USA and her extended family and dear friends..

Barbara honorably bore her mother's maiden name, in honor of her grandfather, Acy Tolliver. A typo was made in the spelling of our mother's maiden name by officials of the Mississippi Bureau of Health & Vital Statistics– it was never corrected. All historical records show that her father's name as recorded by the United States Army Services is spelled Tolliver.