



Mrs. Barbara White Washington

January 4, 1959 - February 27, 2025

Barbara Jo Washington, affectionately known as "Bobbie Jo," departed this life peacefully on February 27, 2025, following a courageous battle with cancer. A native of Rolling Fork, Mississippi - home of the Teddy Bear Festival and the renowned Chuck's Dairy Bar - Barbara grew up surrounded by the warmth of family. From her early years, Barbara radiated beauty, kindness, and a spirit that uplifted all who knew her. It was in high school that she found the love of her life, Thomas Washington, and the two began a courtship that would lead to 39 years of marriage.

Barbara's Christian journey began at Mt. Herald M.B. Church in Rolling Fork. Upon moving to Jackson for college, she later became a faithful member of Pearl Street A.M.E. Church. She served with dedication on the Stewardess Board, embodying a life of service, faith, and compassion. Barbara's passion for education was her calling, her purpose, and the heart of her life's work. She believed that every child had the ability to learn, grow, and achieve their full potential. Barbara dedicated over 30 years to shaping young minds in the Jackson Public School System. She pursued higher education at Tougaloo College and earned a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education. Later, she earned a Master of Science in Education from Jackson State University, equipping herself to be a transformative educator.

Barbara spent her career impacting students at Casey Elementary and

Wilkins Elementary School. She not only served as a 5th-grade teacher but also took on the role of 5th Grade Team Lead at Wilkins. She went beyond the classroom, often acting as a proxy to her school principal. Barbara also led the afterschool program and dedicated her summers to assisting students - ensuring that no child was left behind. These actions led to recognition as Teacher of the Year (2017/2018), and numerous Certified Teacher of the Month recognitions. Barbara was more than a teacher - she was a mentor, an advocate, and a guiding light for both her students and colleagues. Barbara believed in the power of education to change lives and worked tirelessly to instill confidence, curiosity, and a love of learning in her students. Her legacy goes beyond the lessons she taught, and extends to the lives she changed, the futures she shaped, and the inspiration she passed on. Her classroom may now be silent, but her impact will echo for generations to come.

Beyond the classroom, Barbara was known for her love of shopping. She rarely missed the opportunity to wake up early each year for Black Friday hauls. She enjoyed the excitement of retail. Shopping wasn't just a hobby - it was an experience she cherished. She often planned excursions to her favorite stores and shared the joy with those she loved. Barbara truly loved her family and regularly opened her home to host Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner for her family to enjoy. Barbara was also a true lover of animals. She was a proud pet parent and could often be found nestled on the sofa relaxing with "lil Red", her loyal and loving companion. A long-time breast cancer survivor, Barbara faced her health challenges with grace, strength, and unwavering faith. She was a supporter and advocate for breast cancer awareness and education.

Barbara was preceded in death by her parents, Robert White, Sr. and Elizabeth White. Her love and kindness will continue to be cherished by her husband, Thomas H. Washington; Brothers, Robert (Juanita) White, Willie White (Rolling Fork, MS), Tommy White (Jackson, MS), Ray (Denise)

Robinson (North Carolina); Sisters, Shirley White (Jackson, MS), Delores (Charles) Sanders (Bolton, MS), Joann Smith (Rolling Fork, MS); Sisters-in-law, Linda (Kirk) Wells (Memphis, TN), Sophia Washington (Jackson, MS), Cathy Washington (New Orleans, LA), Rita Washington (New Orleans, LA), Traci (Ronald) Andrews (Olive Branch, MS); and Brother-in-law, Clarence Johnson (Jackson, MS). A host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, colleagues, students, and dear friends will continue to honor her memory and celebrate the life she lived.

Cemetery Details

Eden Terrace Memorial

2474 Maddox Road and T.V. Road
Jackson, MS 39209

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 7. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Dean Memorial Funeral Home
745 Highway 468
Brandon, MS 39042
(601) 825-3884
<https://deanmemorialfuneralhome.com/>

Family Hour

MAR 7. 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

"Lovie" Dean Memorial Chapel
745 Hwy 468
Brandon, MS 39042

Homegoing Service

MAR 8. 11:00 AM (CT)

Pearl Street A.M.E. Church
925 Robinson Street
Jackson, MS

Tribute Wall



“ *Dean Memorial Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Barbara White Washington*



Dean Memorial Funeral Home - March 06, 2025 at 06:01 PM

SS

“ *I was her student in fifth grade 2023 at Wilkins elementary she was an amazing teacher and I'm truly heart broken*

Sidnya Stovall - April 10 at 09:32 AM

GC

“ *GLORIA COLEMAN lit a candle in memory of Barbara Washington*



GLORIA COLEMAN - April 08 at 07:38 PM

GC

“ *Barbara Jo was in my graduating class of 1977 she was a beautiful girl inside and out.....i know that you are resting with the Lord. signed Gloria Coleman*

Gloria Coleman - April 08 at 07:26 PM

QD

“ I feel fortunate to have had Mrs. Washington as my fifth grade teacher in 1999 at Wilkins Elementary. She struck the perfect balance between nurturing our individuality and challenging us to grow. It was heartwarming to see her again at a PTA meeting almost twenty years later and witness the enduring impact she had on her students. Her dedication to education has inspired countless young minds.



Gully Dixon - March 10, 2025 at 08:43 PM

SF

“ Mrs. Washington was a beautiful person, an excellent teacher and a good friend/co-worker. Prayers for her family.

S French - March 08, 2025 at 09:46 AM

VD

“ Our Deepest Condolences. We regret to hear of the passing of our Tougaloo College classmate, Class of 1981



Victoria Davis-Green - March 07, 2025 at 10:12 PM

AH

“ I'm truly going to miss this sweet precious woman. It was such a honor and a blessing to have been her 5th grade student at Wilkins Elementary and to become her coworker years later at the exact same school. She truly inspired me as an educator. Many prayers for the family.



Andrea Harris - March 07, 2025 at 09:42 PM

VC

“ Val & Donna Cherry purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mrs. Barbara White Washington.



Val & Donna Cherry - March 07, 2025 at 10:48 AM

AD

“ The 11 Spirits of Purple & Gold (Fall 1997 Omega Psi Phi) express condolences to our Sandz Thomas Washington. Barbara was there with him then until now her end. Omega Love to the whole family as you go through this great loss.

Anthony L. Dawson - March 06, 2025 at 08:14 PM

SC

“ Spr. 88 PE Tougaloo College planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Barbara White Washington.

Spr. 88 PE Tougaloo College - March 06, 2025 at 04:14 PM

SC

“ Spr. 88 PE Tougaloo College purchased the Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Barbara White Washington.



Spr. 88 PE Tougaloo College - March 06, 2025 at 04:14 PM

TM

“ There is so much I can say about her. She was a one of a kind co-worker when we worked together and a one of a kind friend since I have known her. Super funny & just someone you enjoyed being around all the time. She will be forever missed but forever in my heart.



Theresa Smith Mosley - March 05, 2025 at 05:48 PM

DS

“ Doris j short lit a candle in memory of Barbara Washington



Doris j short - March 05, 2025 at 01:55 PM

FS

“ My blessings, prayers and love has been with you all over the years and I will continue to keep you all lifted in my prayers and in my heart today and forever. Bobbie Jo beautiful red hair, freckles, smile, quiet mannerism, distasteful look, when she would buck her she if you did something that we both knew that ain't right, has and will live forever. Family I love you all dearly and pray much comfort and strength to you all in Jesus Christ's name forever Amen. ❤️❤️❤️🙏🙏.



Faye Speed - March 05, 2025 at 06:27 AM

FS

“ Faye S lit a candle in memory of Barbara Washington



Faye S - March 05, 2025 at 05:27 AM

EA

“ Eddie Ainsworth lit a candle in memory of Barbara Washington



Eddie Ainsworth - March 04, 2025 at 05:56 PM

RJ

“ *Robbin Johnson lit a candle in memory of
Barbara Washington*



Robbin Johnson - March 04, 2025 at 11:04 AM