



## Ms. Bernice Guines Clay

August 29, 1931 - March 31, 2024

BERNICE GUINES CLAY was born on August 29, 1931 in Pearl, Mississippi to the late Sherman Holmes, Sr. (Doc) and Dessree Holmes. Bernice was the seventh child born to their union. Eight of her siblings, Sherman Depo, Eugene, Peter, Rachel, Percy (Sonny), Alberta (Berta), Leroy (Comb) and Mary Ann preceded her in death. Her beloved brother, Sherman, Jr. (Bill), is the only remaining sibling.

She attended Smith Robinson School and Lanier High School, in Jackson, Mississippi. She loved to play basketball. As a student at Lanier, she was an active player on the girls basketball team.

Bernice accepted Christ at an early age. She moved to Detroit, Michigan in the early, 1950's. In Detroit, she attended Cosmetology College. Her specialized style was the gerri curl, earning her the name "Queen of the gerri curl." While in Detroit she continued her Christian walk with Christ, and joined the Wayside Baptist Church. For many years she served as an usher at Wayside, and was known as the "Hat Lady." She definitely loved her hats. Wearing one everyday. While in Detroit, she worked for two doctors, helping to raise their children, as well as, helping maintaining their homes.

In the mid-nineties she returned to Mississippi. Upon her return, she continued her Christian walk, at Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church. There she

served as a Mother on the Mother Board, trustee and chairperson of the Food bank.

Bernice had a variety of hobbies including, gardening, playing cards, camping, playing the lottery, cooking, and shopping. Her travels included traveling abroad with her daughters. Without failing, every year she would donate to her favorite charities: The Red Cross, several churches and museums. She collected and loved her elephants, which she displayed throughout her home.

Bernice was affectionately called 'Bunny' by her father. Throughout her life she was a loving caregiver to her family, her parents, brother, Depo and Aunt Lula Brown. Three of her children preceded her in death, Steve Guines, Richard Guines and Patricia Holmes. She leaves to cherish her loving memories: two daughters, Beverly Holmes and Denise Wright (Edward); sons, Curtis Holmes, Anthony Thompson and Deon Guines. Twenty-one grandchildren, forty-five great grandchildren, and four great great grandchildren, numerous nieces, nephews, and her devoted brother, Bill. Also an abundance of family and friends who absolutely adored and loved her. She has earned a well deserved rest.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 11. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

## Family Hour

APR 11. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dean Memorial Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ms. Bernice Guines Clay*



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**Dean Memorial Funeral Home** - April 11, 2024 at 01:19 PM

GS

*To my cousin Family, I'm truly going to miss THE QUEEN. My visits and talks with this Wise WOMAN, the laughter we shared the CAKES and food. I,ll never forget.  
Shine on QUEEN we love you.  
The Salomon Family*

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**gennell k salomon** - April 11, 2024 at 01:51 PM

RH

“ *Happy Heavenly Mother's Day to you grandma. You are always in my heart. Love you and miss you.*

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**Rhonda** - May 10 at 03:19 PM

RH

“ *Happy Heavenly Mother's Day to you Grandma. I love you* 💕💕

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**Rhonda** - May 11, 2025 at 03:25 PM

RJ

“ Aunt Bernice I will miss your lovely smile and hugs when I come to Mississippi. You will always be in my heart. Love Rosemary n Robert Stamps Johnson 💔🌹🙏🙏



Rosemary Stamps Johnson - April 14, 2024 at 05:47 PM

KM

“ To the family I'm so sorry for your loss. Ms. Bernice was such a beautiful and wonderful lady. I remember back in the day when I would come over to the house with Tweet she treated me like family and I really respected her for that. R.I.H. 🙏🙏🙏❤️😭 From Katrina Mallory

Katrina Mallory - April 13, 2024 at 08:43 PM

MW

“ Madea, many times we share going out to eat and I drove you in many different places we laughed and talked about so much you inspired me to continue with this journey called life and trust God no matter what. So many Sundays, you would say are you coming to the house when u leave church and I will reply I'll meet you there. I would leave church and come straight to we sit and laugh watch TV go to sleep and then go home late evening almost dark. enjoyed every moment with you and I am missing you right now your voice calling my name, your precious smile. we meet in December 2014 and that day started a wonderful relationship I will treasure forever your love and compassion for me, when we always end our conversation, we always say bye for now and I call you tomorrow, Madea. Love you, Margaret R.



Margaret Williams-Roach - April 12, 2024 at 09:37 AM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Ms. Bernice Guines Clay.



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April 11, 2024 at 08:34 PM



“ The Salomon Family purchased the Solar Angel Statue to Send as Unique Sympathy Gift Remembrance for the family of Ms. Bernice Guines Clay.



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**The Salomon Family** - April 11, 2024 at 02:00 PM



“ The Salomon Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Bernice Guines Clay.

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**The Salomon Family** - April 11, 2024 at 02:00 PM



“ To The Holmes Family,

*I will always remember Miss Bernice and her beautiful SMILE. Condolences to you all, may you find peace and comfort knowing that your mom is at peace now, no more pain or suffering...HOLD ON TO THE BEAUTIFUL MEMORIES YOU HAD WITH HER.*

*Love, Tina Pharr (Detroit MI)*

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**Tina Pharr** - April 11, 2024 at 09:52 AM

AW

“ To the family of Bernice, she was such a beautiful person. Always had such a beautiful smile. Our families have been connected for over 50yrs. from the neighborhood on Holcomb Street. Many great memories and so happy to have known her. We are praying for the family that God gives you strength during this time. We Love You All, The Wilsons and The Pharr Families.

Antoinette Pharr Wilson - April 11, 2024 at 12:28 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ms. Bernice Guines Clay.



April 10, 2024 at 10:49 PM

HB

“ Harun Bilal purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Ms. Bernice Guines Clay.



Harun Bilal - April 10, 2024 at 07:14 AM

HB

“ Harun Bilal planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Bernice Guines Clay.

Harun Bilal - April 10, 2024 at 07:14 AM

HB

“ Harun B. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Bernice Guines Clay.

Harun B. - April 10, 2024 at 06:55 AM

BE

“ I'm going to miss you momma. The phone calls, laughs and talks, just hearing your voice. Love you forever. You'll always be in my heart ❤️



Bernice - April 09, 2024 at 11:52 AM

TI

“ Tiffany lit a candle in memory of Bernice Clay



Tiffany - April 08, 2024 at 02:51 PM

SS

“ Praying for peace and comfort for the Holmes Guines Clay family.



Shonita Shavers - April 08, 2024 at 11:17 AM

GC

“ Noble and Gazelle Carson  
May God bless and comfort the family.



gazelle carson - April 07, 2024 at 10:00 PM

SH

“ Sunni Holmes lit a candle in memory of  
Bernice Clay



Sunni Holmes - April 07, 2024 at 05:22 PM

LA

“ Lakeshia lit a candle in memory of Bernice  
Clay



Lakeshia - April 04, 2024 at 05:11 PM

CA

“ Cathy Alexande sent a virtual gift in memory of  
Bernice Clay



Cathy Alexande - April 04, 2024 at 12:59 AM

MM

“ *Makala Moore lit a candle in memory of Bernice Clay*



Makala Moore - April 03, 2024 at 09:24 PM

EA

“ *Eddie Ainsworth lit a candle in memory of Bernice Clay*



Eddie Ainsworth - April 03, 2024 at 07:22 PM

CM

“ *Gonna miss that smile and the love you've always shown*

Christina Mcfield - April 03, 2024 at 06:28 PM



“ *Peace be still.....loving you always*



A'smile Alexander - April 03, 2024 at 11:05 AM

RH

“ *Grandma I am going to miss our weekly calls and talks. When i didn't call, you were calling me. You are one of a kind. You were beautiful, classy, nice, and blessed. Thank you for all you have done for me. Thank you for being my grandmother and loving me. Thank you for being there. Thank you for being you, my grandmother. Love you grandma.*

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**Rhonda Holmes** - April 02, 2024 at 07:38 PM

RE

“ *Grandma its not enough words to express how much you are loved,I am so blessed to have had you in my life all the memories we made and the countless times you showed up for me and my children especially Destiny!!! I will miss you Grandma your granddaughter RaShawn*



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**RaShawn Ellis** - April 02, 2024 at 06:02 PM