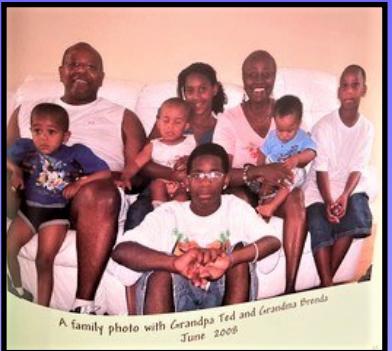


Celebration of Life

Brenda Sheppard



Memories



Pall Bearers

Family & Friends



Acknowledgements

The family of Brenda Holly Sheppard is grateful for the many expressions of love, prayers, concerns and support during her illness and our time of bereavement.

We offer our sincere thanks for your many acts of kindness.

May God bless and keep you always.



In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to:

The Friends of Mills, Inc.

c/o Mr. Steve Dalton

Helene S. Mills Senior Multipurpose Facility, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30312



CARL M. WILLIAMS FUNERAL DIRECTORS, INC.

492 LARKIN STREET, SW

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30313

404-522-8454

WWW.CARLMWILLIAMS.COM

GUINYARD & SONS FUNERAL HOME

756 ALLEN STREET

BARNWELL, SOUTH CAROLINA 29812



July 13, 1949 ~ December 5, 2020

Thursday, December 10, 2020
12:00 Noon

Carl M. Williams Funeral Directors Chapel
492 Larkin Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30313

Brenda Yvonne Holly Sheppard

Sunrise: July 13, 1949 Sunset: December 5, 2020

Mrs. Brenda Yvonne Holly Sheppard was born in Barnwell, South Carolina. She was the daughter and firstborn child of the late John Moses Holly and Lenora Owens Holly.

Brenda spent most of her school years in the Barnwell County School System but graduated from Carver High School in Delray Beach, Florida. She maintained close contact with many members of the Barnwell High School Class of 1967. She joined Jordan Baptist Church at an early age and cherished her years at the church. She especially enjoyed the first Sunday in October Anniversary Celebrations throughout her lifetime.

Brenda began her work career with Bell South as an operator. Her strong work ethic and leadership skills allowed her to fill many different roles within the company. AT&T transferred her to Atlanta in 1981. She joined Cascade United Methodist Church. She was a dedicated member and served in numerous auxiliaries. She was an active member of the Chancel Choir until her health would not allow her to continue to serve. She had a servant's heart and served her family and community in many ways.

Brenda, like her mother, was a good cook. She could bake and make the best roasted chicken. She enjoyed watching cooking shows. After watching one too many, she whipped up a fancy meal with ingredients that her family did not recognize! The men in her home presented a unified front in expressing their desire for food that wasn't so "hoity toity". Her table was the gathering place for many Sunday dinners and holiday meals. There was always an open spot for someone in need of a place to be. Love was fostered and memories were built on full bellies in the Sheppard's house.

Brenda's love for her family was only exceeded by her love for her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. She was a woman of great faith and family was everything to her. She was the glue that held the Atlanta Chapter of the Holly, Hankerson, Price Family Reunion Committee together. She was a wellspring of knowledge when it came to her family's history. She spent a lot of time with her late aunt Roberta Odom, affectionately known as Aunt Bert. They were near and dear to each other's hearts. They are probably looking down on us now, with their heads together exchanging lighthearted banter. Brenda gleaned a lot of what she knew from being at Aunt Bert's feet, walking in her shadow, and ear hustling on her conversations. She learned many things about navigating life as a lady from time shared bonding with her aunt. The family ties were shared with Brenda through conversation and spending time with her grandmother Maggie Hankerson Owens and other relatives over the years. Brenda also spent quite a bit of time in the national archives doing genealogy research. Aunt Bert once warned her to be careful because she might dig up something that she wasn't looking to find. She kept up with all the cousins and relatives from all parts the country. Brenda was the chairperson of the social committee, the sick and welfare committee, and the good news committee. Whatever her family, extended family, and friends needed she wasthere.

After retiring from AT&T, Brenda began her second career as an entrepreneur. Lots O' Goodies baskets, gifts and collectables was her pride and joy. Once her creative juices started flowing there was no stopping her until the masterpiece was completed. Her captivating smile and attention to detail gave her a loyal base of support. She later ventured into real estate working at a mortgage loan office. She was the consummate professional providing exemplary service to her clients. Brenda assisted many on their journeys to become first time home owners. She left no stone unturned to find ways to make her clients' home ownership dreams become realities.

Brenda served as the Chairman of the Board for the Helene S. Mills Senior Center for many years, served as a board member, and the Fundraising Committee. She looked forward to their annual ball that was a crowd pleaser and premier fundraiser for the center. She was dedicated to seeing that the needs of the senior community were met and that there were plenty of adventures for them to experience.

Brenda also loved to travel. She and Ted traveled widely to exotic destinations and national treasures. Whether they traveled by air, land, or sea, the devoted couple enjoyed themselves as a couple, as well as with family or friends. No matter where she met you, Brenda had a way of making you feel important and special. A personal encounter with this wonderful lady left you with the understanding that you were accepted and loved.

Brenda will live on in the memories of her husband, Theodore Sheppard (Atlanta, Georgia), sons Terrence Gilmore (Robin) of Deland, Florida, Todd Gilmore (Atlanta, Georgia), Theodore Louis Sheppard (Tamara) of Ft. Mitchell, Alabama, Brandon Sheppard (Sherie) of Stockbridge, Georgia, Jason Sheppard (Blair) of McDonough, Georgia, daughter Allison Sheppard of Georgia, brothers Rogers Holly of West Palm Beach, Florida, and John Gerard Holly (Patsy) of Atlanta, Georgia, aunts Nadine B. Holly (Williston, South Carolina) and Mamie Nell Owens (Delray Beach, Florida), three sisters-in-love, three brothers-in-love, and a host of grandchildren, cousins, nieces, nephews, and other relatives and devoted friends.



Order of Service

Prelude

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

Mr. Jarvis Wilson Musician

"O Come, Let Us Adore Him"

Reverend Karen Webster Parks
Executive Pastor, Cascade UMC

"Blessed Assurance"

Hymn of Celebration

Scripture Reading

Old Testament. Psalm 23
New Testament. I Corinthians 15: 50-55, 57-58

Prayer

Reverend Karen Webster Parks

Celebration in Song

"The Lord's Prayer"

Reflections

Ms. Rosalene King, Retired Program Coordinator
Helene S. Mills Day Center

Ms. Deidra Hankerson, Family

Words of Comfort

Reverend Dr. Walter L. Kimbrough

Musical Reflections

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"
"Order My Steps"
"It Is Well With My Soul"

Acknowledgements

"Goin' Up Yonder"

Recessional

Interment
Jordan Baptist Church Cemetery
Barnwell, South Carolina