



Pamela Beatrice Motley McMullen

October 17, 1954 - October 17, 2021

The sunshine of the incomparable Pamela Beatrice Motley McMullen rose on Sunday, October 17th, 1957 and set exactly 67 years later on Sunday, October 17th, 2021. A being of light, who shone vibrantly and exuberantly on everyone she encountered, her favorite self-descriptor was "I'm special!" and by example gave everyone else around her permission to be special as well.

Affectionately known as Pam, she was born in Richmond, Virginia and spent her first decade in Henrico County, VA until the family relocated to Northside Richmond. Pam's Richmond Public Schools education culminated as a 1973 graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School where she was co-captain of the wildly popular, award-winning Mighty Vikings Cheer Squad. Her fondness for learning compelled her to perpetually continue her educational journey via VSU, VCU (BA, M.ED), JMU, Hampton U., as well as J. Sergeant Reynolds, John Tyler & Randolph-Macon Community Colleges, associates and/or certifications from each institution along the way.

Pamela's final career position as a Special Education Teacher with the Department of Juvenile Justice at Bon Air Correctional Center was one in which she cherished the positive impact she had on the youth that she instructed and the uplifting camaraderie of her co-workers. Her professional life however, spanned many careers. As a Master Seamstress, not only was she exceptionally skilled but was an entrepreneur, launching her sewing business, The Creators, in her early 20's and operated it for over 30 years. One of her favorite and most spoken of work experience was her time at Thalhimers Department Store as a Department Leader and Personal Shopper.

Anywhere there was good eating, game playing, loud singing, tight hugging, hard laughing and bright living, Pam was in the mix. She was a lover of all people, from all of the neighborhood children and currently grown "kids" who call her Mama Pam, to her co-workers and community, she collected friends. Literally all who met her immediately loved her warm spirit and vibrant smile and she always welcomed them in her life, family heart and home. As a natural born leader and visionary her creative juices were limitless. There

was always a design or solution lurking in her mind for any idea, design of concept. She generously fostered and supported the ambitions and projects of her kindness, compassion, wisdom and humor. Her permanent impact on the World around her and the people within it is deeply felt and cherished.

Pamela's transcension was preceded by her adoring parents, Joseph Motley, Sr. and Beatrice Viola Tyler Motley Cole. Left to bask in her light is her husband, Wilbur "Billy" McMullen, Sr., her four beloved children, aka her "elements": Nichole "Nickey"-water, Ayanna-earth, Wilber "Billy", Jr.-air & Jada McMullen- fire and six doting grandchildren, Micah, Joi, Jonah, Jaden, Zoe & Josiah. She also leaves eight siblings by birth, Joseph "Chucky" Motley, Sr., Michael Motley, Sr. (Billie), Deborah Boldin, Alexander Motley, Sr. (Sandra), Wayne Motley, Sr. (Cassandra), Ervin Tyler Cole & Carol Vergara (Rafael), six siblings by love, Gary Cole (Fay), Larry "Kirk" Cole, Sheila Fowlkes, Carrie Lloyd, Sabra Green (Frank) & Monica Thomas (Allen), a dear sister-in-law Shirley McMullen, an extensive array of loving nieces, nephews, cousins, adopted family and a multitude of valued friendships that spans decades.

Pam was, is and forever will be a cherished and valuable presence in our lives.

Cemetery Details

Roselawn Memory Gardens

13389 Mountain Road
Glen Allen, VA 23059

Previous Events

Public Viewing

OCT 25. 9:30 AM - 4:30 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home-Laburnum Ave.
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.
Richmond, VA 23222

Family Hour

OCT 25. 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home-Laburnum Ave.
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.
Richmond, VA 23222

Celebration of Life with live streaming

OCT 26. 10:00 AM (ET)

March Funeral Home -Laburnum Chapel
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.
Richmond, VA 23222

Tribute Wall



“ To View the Webcast of the Funeral for Pamela Beatrice Motley McMullen, Please Click the Link below.



March Funeral Homes - October 25, 2021 at 10:40 AM

CD

I was startled this morning to hear of Pam's passing. We attended Chandler Middle School and Thomas Jefferson High School together. Although she was a few years ahead of me, she was always friendly, joyous, always pleasant, and upbeat. Deborah, I'm praying for you and your family, that God's peace would envelope you like a blanket, and the knowledge that you'll be together again one day soon! May God's peace and grace be with you during this difficult time, and know that your family and friends are praying for you. May God be with you. 🙏❤️

Claudia Belle Davis - October 25, 2021 at 12:17 PM

MC

Singing...I gave Jesus all of my troubles and on him I cast my every care. He took away my troubles and RIGHT NOW I feel alright. I feel alright...alright, alright, alright, ALRIGHT. Alright, alright...RIGHT NOW, I feel alright! I can hear her singing this song at my baby shower after helping me pray, for years, to get pregnant. I can hear her words of wisdom and encouragement ringing in my spirit as she coached so many of us through our joys and pain at Hanover Juvenile Correctional Center. Pamela IS an amazing, God-fearing, compassionate, and honest woman. She has transitioned from here to glory and if WE live right, WE will meet again. May the peace and comfort of our Father keep you in this moment of loss. Know that we are praying for you all.

Marjorie Charles-Ramos - October 26, 2021 at 11:24 AM

MT

“ Maxine Thompson lit a candle in memory of Pamela Beatrice Motley McMullen



Maxine Thompson - October 26, 2021 at 02:46 PM

VI

“ I'm still saddened by the passing of my Big Sister❤️ Loved her smile and her spirit. We fellowshipped with one another, spoke on the phone, she was see so positive about anything we spoke about. We were co-leaders in the music department and we worked well together!!!! Her smile was a ray of sunshine and we had a chance along with Debra and my other sisters to spend time together in August❤️ Had a great time continued prayers for The Motley Family

Victoria - October 26, 2021 at 09:48 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Pamela Beatrice Motley McMullen.



October 25, 2021 at 02:02 PM

PB

“ I so enjoyed you.
My Mentor, my coworker,my friend, my mix it and let's think it again! Creative mastermind!
I so cherish every time you scolded,molded, and nurtured me through work, life,experiences, and detail.
You are one of the most influential people I've ever worked with.
So, so, so, many lesson you shared with me, and I know you will continue to be my angel. Keeping me focused and calm, speaking to my heart!
I will forever cherish you in memory and life!
You are such a Diva girl!
Love you
P2

p brewer - October 24, 2021 at 08:39 PM

JD

“ There are so many memories I can share about Pam...however one that sums up what I know and love about her is how she came to our last Yvonne B. Miller High School Halloween Party in 2019. While everyone was dressed in their outrageous, comedic, or superhero costumes, Pam showed up in all white with a beautiful olive branch headband...and she approached everyone at the event and she would give a slight bow and say "I Come In Peace" and she gave out these cards to the partygoers that had words of peace and comfort on them. That is how I will always remember Pam, spreading love, peace and words of encouragement to everyone she came in contact with. That is how she lived her life. I looked up to her like a big sister and will always cherish the memories we built and the advice she gave. The world is a better place because of what she gave to it. God bless the children and the family that she so adored.



Jonathan Davis - October 24, 2021 at 05:50 PM

KR

Looking like the special goddess that she was!!!

Kathy L. Reed - October 25, 2021 at 10:11 AM

MM

“ Mary Morris lit a candle in memory of Pamela Beatrice Motley McMullen



Mary Morris - October 24, 2021 at 02:00 PM

MM

Mr. Mac, you and your Family have my deepest condolences at this difficult time. Praying for peace and comfort in time to come.

Mary Morris - October 24, 2021 at 02:04 PM

PC

“ *Patricia Carrington lit a candle in memory of Pamela Beatrice Motley McMullen*



Patricia Carrington - October 24, 2021 at 01:27 PM

PC

My thoughts and prayers are with you. Peace be with you.

Patricia Carrington - October 24, 2021 at 01:28 PM

JB

“ *My deepest sympathy to you and the family. God will take care of you. Love*

Jessie Batchelor - October 23, 2021 at 08:38 PM

LT

My heart truly hurts because I lost a good, honest, joyful, God fearing, friend. Meeting Pamela at Bon Air was Divine and for a purpose. It was a priviledge to pray and talk with her for the month of September. It's hard to find a friend like Pamela. I pray daily for myself also for God to heal my heart because there's no replacement as she would often say. "Nobody can replace me because I'm the best you didn't know that". Pam's humor was contagious and her love for people was genuine, but most of all her love for God was displayed through her Faith. I pray peace and strength to her family and may the joy of the Lord be your strength.

Lora Taylor - October 24, 2021 at 09:22 AM

LL

“ *To her family, my prayers goes out to you all. Pam was truly one of those classmates at TJHS from 1970-1973 that always seemed happy when you saw her. When you looked at her face, she seemed to just bubble all over. I'm happy she passed my way.*

When I was told Tuesday of her passing, I couldn't believe it. It's ways hard to hear the news.

What a thoughtful and amazing person!

With love, LaMone Lewis D. Lewis

LaMone D. Lewis - October 23, 2021 at 02:43 PM

JM

“ Mrs. McMullen was truly like a mom to me at DJJ. I loved her quick witty remarks. I remember so many conversations we used to have and the wisdom she poured into me, especially wisdom regarding raising children and remaining strong. I will forever miss her and she will always rest in my memories forever. May your soul rest in peace❤️.

Jamia Mason - October 22, 2021 at 04:56 PM

CB

“ My deepest and heart felt condolences to your family. Mrs. McMullen it was a pleasure knowing you. I thank you for keeping us abreast of our policies and regulations. I always thought of you as my legal analyst. For the short time I have known you, it has been a blessing. I loved to hear you sing and you always had a smile on your face. There will never be another you. I loved your faith in God and when you spoke things into existence it manifested. And, I dare not forget the time you tried to get me to eat that seaweed. Lol! You will be truly missed and my heart is saddened at this moment, however, I know you are in a better place, resting in the arms of the Father.

Charron Brown - October 22, 2021 at 01:24 PM

CW

“ Nickey, Ayanna, Jada, and Billy...my heart is broken. For a while I was the 5th child. I am not sure how I would have ever survived my teenage years without Pam. She even put me in the choir when she knew I couldn't sing a lick. I will continue to pray for you through this. It certainly is a journey and take time to relish in the memories. They will comfort you through some moments as you navigate life. I love each of you and I will continue to pray for your comfort.
Cassandra "Sandy" Boyd Willis

Cassandra Willis - October 22, 2021 at 12:12 PM

AH

“ Ms. McMullen, my heart is broken. Such a loving, kind, courageous, talented educator, advocate, and mentor. I will always remember your passion, your grace, your regal presence, and wise counsel. Truly the heavens have received a Queen. Thank you to your children for sharing you with us. May your soul forever rest in peace and your legacy reign.

Angela Haule - October 22, 2021 at 10:02 AM

TM

“ Tom and Teresa May pray for God's amazing grace and love be very evident to each of you. She was a treasure in the kingdom. Comfort and peace.

TomTeresa May - October 22, 2021 at 09:25 AM

CW

“ *Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted. Matthew 5:4*

We wish to express our deepest sympathy to the McMullen and Motley Cole family. May God's presence comfort you, and His promise of eternal life sustain you during this time of grief.

James and Charlene Mills Watkins and family

Charlene Mills Watkins - October 21, 2021 at 06:24 PM

CW

“ *“A good woman is worth far more than diamonds. She senses the worth of her work and is in no hurry to call it quits. She's quick to assist anyone in need and reaches out to help others. She always faces tomorrow with a smile. When she speaks she always has something worthwhile to say, and she always says it kindly. She keeps an eye on everyone in her household. Her children respect and bless her. Many women have done wonderful things, but “Pamela” outclassed them all!” Excerpts from Proverbs 31 (The Message Translation, paraphrased)*

Pam and I inherited a rich spiritual heritage long before we met; our connection began through my grandmother Rev. Ethel Virginia Tatnall and Pam's mother, Dr. Beatrice Motley Cole. (my spiritual Mom) Over the years we developed a special friendship and loved each other as “sisters”. Pam was truly a “special gift”; I will miss her dearly and forever cherish the memories we shared.

My sincerest condolences to the McMullen family, Billy, Sr., Nikki, Ayana, Billy, Jr. Jada and Nana's grandkids; The Motley & Cole family, Wayne, Pastor Alexander, Debra, Carol, and the entire village of family and friends who loved Pam. It is my prayer that God will strengthen and comfort you now and always. In sympathy and love.

Charlene Mills Watkins

Charlene Mills Watkins - October 21, 2021 at 06:18 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Pamela Beatrice Motley McMullen.*



October 21, 2021 at 05:11 PM

PA

“ Unbelievable my heart aches, Mrs. McMullen, if I knew last year when I saw you at Mrs Walkers Homegoing service, that I would be saying goodbye a year later, I would have held my hug a little longer..No matter how much time passed, we always picked up where we left off. I am blessed that I did get to see you, blessed to hear you sing to the heavens, blessed that I was able to say "I love you"... You were my co-worker, my friend, my sister forever in Christ..We met at Hanover and have been family from that first greeting. Your smile was as bright as the sun. Your voice was so calming as a soothing pond, no matter the situation and when you sang OH! you saaaaang...I will always remember you as a lady that spoke her truth, respected by all, a passionate lady always wanting the best for any and everyone that crossed your path...until we meet again, may you forever rest peacefully in heaven💕💕💕 love Patricia Abel

Patricia Abel - October 21, 2021 at 04:47 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Pamela Beatrice Motley McMullen.



October 21, 2021 at 03:39 PM

KP

“ How do you summarize in a few words a life so well lived? Mrs. McMullen's marks of wisdom, laughter, amazing voice and so many stories covering so many topics to include spiritual, financial, and most importantly family, touched my life! Her sense of style and culture; her passion for life and education; I will treasure all those heartfelt moments.

To the beautiful family, as the years may turn, Pamela's essence will never fade away. It goes without saying, she was beyond proud of each of you, and the love cannot be measured.

I pray for you that each thought is filled with comfort of the memory of her soothing voice or the memory of one of her reassuring clichés that she was known to provide with a smile or emphasized Pamela ONLY look, "Because She's Special".

Rest in Paradise my friend, you will be sorely missed.

*Ms. Katina Poole-Berry,
Division of Education (DJJ)*

Katina Poole-Berry - October 21, 2021 at 02:16 PM

RT

“ I have only truly known Pamela McMullen for a few years, but she has left some serious footprints on my heart. She was one of the few people able to read me and take the time to really know me. That was the God in her. She would always say, jokingly "I don't care what your mouth says; I know you love me". She was so right. How could you not love her? Rest in Heaven, beautiful angel until we meet again.

To the family I pray God's peace and comfort for you during this time.

Rhonda Tyler - October 21, 2021 at 11:36 AM

TR

“ To the family of Pamela McMullen, my deepest sympathy. She was a loving person and a dedicated educator. She cared so very much for the children and families that she served. There was never a time that anyone would go to her and ask for help or assistance and she did not provide that help with care and compassion. She spoke often of her children and her grandchildren and how proud she was of them. I pray that God comfort you through this time. Please know that Pamela was loved, respected, admired, and will be dearly missed by all of the coworkers, children, and families that she touched. May she rest in heavenly peace.

Tamara Randolph - October 21, 2021 at 11:14 AM

VK

“ I miss you dearly Ms. McMullen. Your radiant smile was very contagious and you made the surrounding environment so joyful. I was fortunate to have known a loving person like you. You will always be in my thoughts. My prayers and condolences to the family and loved ones. V. Kaushik

Vani Kaushik - October 21, 2021 at 09:41 AM

MP

“ The Education Division of the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice will feel a professional and emotional void with the passing of Mrs. McMullen. Her many years of service do not begin to measure the impact she has had on the young people she has influenced and the co-workers she has inspired. Working with challenged youth is "heartwork" and takes special people. Doing this "heartwork" for as many years as Mrs. McMullen, takes an extraordinary person. We will miss her experience, her knowledge, her commitment, her persistence, and her patience. We will miss her love, her humor, her stories, her passion, her insights and her support. We all have our individual memories of Mrs. McMullen. Although they may be different, the theme is the same - filled with love, respect, admiration, joy and probably an extended conversation. 😊

Mark Hudson, DOE Principal - October 21, 2021 at 09:39 AM

VB

“ My deepest condolences to the McMullen Family. She was my friend, my confidante, my mentor and my colleague as we shared the same classroom. I will miss her kind and gentle greetings and her life stories. She touched so many students in such manner that in her absence; they would always be concern. I am still transparent from the news, but I know she would say, "Broadnax, I am beautifully at peace". I loved her way of turning all things negative into beautiful positive gestures, scriptures and learning tools. I will miss her beautiful smile and her joking ways to get me to laugh. Rest easy, Pam-me-la (as I would call her) until we meet again. Your friend, Vanessa Broadnax

Vanessa Broadnax - October 21, 2021 at 09:20 AM

SJ

“When you speak of her speak not with tears for thoughts of her should not be sad. Let memories of the times you shared give you comfort for her life was rich because of you.” Author Unknown

My condolences to the family on Pam's passing. Words are weak at times like these but I wish you peace to bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your heart. I will miss her smile and the laughs we shared but I will also cherish those memories.

Steve Jackson - October 21, 2021 at 09:14 AM

JL

“ A beautiful soul.
It's no secret that Ms. McMullen was a spiritual person, that feeling almost being palpable. Sharing her positivity and wisdom, I seemed to always walk away with a broadened perspective after us having a conversation.

It was always a joy to discuss different topics with her as she playfully teased and joked, always providing the banter.

Ms. McMullen will truly be missed.

Jay Lane - October 21, 2021 at 09:11 AM

LR

“ My deepest condolences to Ms. McMullen's family. She was a dedicated teacher to students and co-workers alike. She shared her knowledge and passion with others and that will be very much missed.

Lauren Robinson - October 21, 2021 at 08:41 AM

SB

“ I truly loved Ms. McMullen. Our classrooms were across from each other my first year there. She was intelligent, wise, positive, creative, spiritual, and direct. We would have lengthy conversations on so many topics and I would always learn something from her. When we would be given t-shirts to wear for events she would cut, tie, or do various creative upgrades to hers. I told her how much I loved the creative ways she would make those shirts her own. So she took one of mine and re-created it for me and gave it to me, I will treasure that forever. Till we meet again you will always be in my heart.

Stacey Brown - October 20, 2021 at 10:26 PM

CB

“ Mrs. McMullen was my work nana, always giving me advice, getting on my nerves (she LOVED to get a rise out of me) and sharing her wisdom and stories with me. Our desks are next to each other, and I'm missing her "good morning, sunshine" greetings so much. There will never be another Pamela, but my life is richer for having known her. I send all of my love and strength to her family, friends and my fellow co-workers whose hearts are hurting from this great loss of such an amazing woman.

Carrie Bolton - October 20, 2021 at 08:23 AM



“ We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

March Funeral Homes - October 19, 2021 at 05:55 PM

BC

To the family of Pamela McMullen

My heart aches for you and with you. Mrs. McMullen was a jokester, a sage, and an intuit. Her calmness was a constant that radiated outward when all around her was complete chaos and her commitment to her students was unmatched. I cherish the memories created when our paths crossed. Rest in Paradise Ms. McMullen.

Beverly Carter-Gallop - October 26, 2021 at 11:37 AM

GP

Pamela had a radiant smile & beautiful personality. She definitely made an impact & difference in her students. Her positive attitude was reflected to everyone around her at Oakridge. She was extremely proud of her children. You will be missed by your family & friends. Grace Hawkins

Grace Hawkins, former principal - October 26, 2021 at 02:05 PM