



Barbara L. Brown

October 2, 1932 - March 6, 2020

Barbara Lee Brown, daughter of the late S.J. and Annie B. Irvins, was born Bobbie Lee Irvins on October 2, 1932 in Yazoo, Mississippi. She departed this life on March 6, 2020 after a lengthy illness.

At a young age, Barbara and her family moved to Baltimore, Maryland. She was the older of two daughters. Her sister, Ethel Lee, preceded her in death. Barbara was educated in the Baltimore City Public School system. Although she changed her name, Barbara was affectionately known by family and friends as “Bye”, “Bye Lee”, or “Bobba Lee”.

On November 22, 1953, Barbara married James Willie Brown, a career military man. From this union, one child was born, Carolyn. He preceded her in death.

Barbara briefly worked as an Elevator Operator at Kaufmans. Thereafter, she chose to be a homemaker, raising her six children: one daughter and five sons. She often served as caregiver for the children of family members and neighbors. “Bye” loved to cook, and you could always find pots of food on her stove. Family members and friends would stop by, always counting on finding something to eat. Her mother and uncle would often stop by the house for a bite to eat between church services at Mount Sinai Baptist Church, where her family attended, and she was baptized in 1945. Later in life, Barbara was baptized as a Jehovah’s Witness in 1997.

“Bye” was well loved by family and friends. She enjoyed spending time with her girlfriends, watching soap operas and drinking soda-pop. She

could often be found sitting on the front stoop in the evening chatting and laughing with neighbors. She always wanted to look good when she was going out, making sure she had on her earrings, lipstick, perfume, and nails done.

After suffering a stroke and months of physical and speech rehabilitation in 1990, Barbara went to live with her daughter, Cookie, who was her primary caregiver. She would like to take short walks down the block and sit on the porch. Over the years, and after being affected by other illness, Barbara began to lose some mobility and strength requiring around-the-clock care. In 2015, after twenty-five years of being cared for at home, Barbara went to live in a long-term care facility.

Barbara was preceded in death by sons, Douglas Coles, Jerome Irvins, and Mark Coles; and grandson Melvin Irvins. She leaves to cherish her memory: daughter, Carolyn Jones; sons, Maurice Coles (Charisse) and Marvin Coles; grandchildren, LaShawn Austin (Danny), Marquisha Christian (Dorian), DuWayne Brown, Marquice Coles, Lavonia Irons, Kasaundra Irvins; greatgrandchildren, Brandon Austin, Akira Vessells (Allen), Quinten Austin, Taron Grade, Alyshea Brown, and Joshua Irons; a host of other relatives and friends; and her Pup-Pup Noah

Cemetery Details

King Park

8710 Dogwood Road
Baltimore, MD 21244

Previous Events

Public Viewing

MAR 13. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - East Baltimore
1101 East North Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21202
(410) 727-3300
info@marchfh.com

Wake

MAR 14. 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - East Baltimore
1101 East North Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21202
(410) 727-3300
info@marchfh.com

Service

MAR **14**. 12:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Barbara L. Brown*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *To the Brown, Cole and Irvins family I would like to express my sympathy. Barbara Lee will surly be miss. I have known her for nearly 45 years and she was the grandmother of my daughter. I loved her and she loved me this is going to be hard. All we can do now is remember the happy times, the laughs, smiles and jokes. I will be praying for each and everyone of you all in Jesus Name. Look to the hills from which comes your help because you are going to need it. It's going to be a whole lot of I should have , I wish I did , but let me tell y'all right now, you have done a great job when it came to mother, she love you so much. May God bless you in Jesus Christ Our Lord.*

Gail Jordan - March 13, 2020 at 10:01 AM



“ *Barbara Austin lit a candle in memory of Barbara L. Brown*



Barbara Austin - March 11, 2020 at 06:15 PM



“ 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 - March 08, 2020 at 12:19 PM