



Barbara Ann Hollings

June 25, 1946 - March 28, 2015

The Story of Barbara Ann Hollings.....

What if your dash started as a dot that stretched and lengthened at each of life's stops?

The formation of the dash, just merely a dot, began in Memphis, Tennessee, on June 25, 1946. Lee Birda and Walter Hollings, gazed at the newborn cradled in the arms of its mother, with skin of Porcelain and hair of Silk, she was a beautiful baby girl who made their hearts melt. As she grew and developed, one day she took ill, Scarlet Fever burning her internally, especially her brain. With each breath she took her mother would pray, asking God to allow her baby to stay. The outcome was grim and the doctor did say, "I'm sorry Mrs. Hollings, today is her last day." With one final breath her body was stilled. She covered with the sheet which meant there was no life left, but this Praying mother refused to yield! From under the sheet, a little hand raised, Baby Barbara, at just 18 months old, by God's Grace she was healed and made whole. Not only did this joyous moment restore her life, it became a permanent mark on her dash. Her story doesn't end here there is much more to be told. Barbara was educated in Detroit Public School System and graduated from Eastern High School. She was raised in a Christian household, where she came to know her Savior, The Lord Jesus Christ as a member of Zion Hope Baptist Church. Later, she joined Second Ebenezer Baptist Church where she enjoyed the Sunday School Program.

In her late teens and early twenties, she met Mark H. Smith, the man who

would become the love of her life. From this relationship came a wonderful gift, a baby boy who would be called Darius D. Hollings. She watched him grow and develop into a man who would ultimately become a sought after Thoracic Surgeon. As you suspected and as you should know, her dash just continued to grow, with the birth of her child and her lengthy career (Colonial Merchandise Mart), Barbara was building a legacy that would be remembered for years. Her only son, Darius, the apple of her eye, fell in love with and married Jennifer Kaye Jones. From this beautiful love came a great gift that would bless her life threefold, stirring in her heart a love she had never known, Hannah Grace, Halle Barbara, and Harper Jones was her dream come true. The ultimate joy of her winter years was to be a grandmother and watch them grow, with each one looking or acting like her more and more. In 2013, she relocated to Richmond, Virginia secondary to health challenges. While in Richmond, she built many new friendships and was quite popular while living at Brookdale Imperial Plaza. She was an avid Bingo/Keno player in the game room. She could always be found shooting a round of pool or playing cards in the game room.

When the time came and her dash was complete, her memory lived on in the hearts of her son Darius and his wife Jennifer. For Hannah, Halle, and Harper memories of fun, sweets, and adventures galore left them with memories of a grandmother that they adored. Let us not forget her brothers, who cherished her so and affectionately called her, "Boobie." There is Garnett Brooks, Rico Brooks, and Talmadge D. Cole, III, who remain to remember the life of their sister and friend, the skinny one who would fight for them and defend them to the end. A host of nieces and nephews who will remember the lessons and adventures that never ceased to end. Whether it was her teaching them boxing, lighting fireworks, or playing at the park, she would forever be in their hearts. Then there are cousins, and friends; who will think of her often with a laugh or grin. Barbara is now reunited in peace with her Mother (Lee Birda), Father (Walter), Brothers (James, Robert, and Alphonzo), her only sister (Augusta) and very Best Friend. So as you can see, she lived a great life. So

when you think of her, you may hear her say, "Don't cry for me, I didn't come to stay. Live life to the fullest and enjoy every day. Because the time will come, when your eyes too will close but your Dash will live on and your story will be told. So, love while you can, cry when you should, dance when you want to and live a life that is full."

Cemetery Details

Gethsemane Cemetery

10755 Gratiot Ave
Detroit, MI 48213

Previous Events

Service

APR 2. 10:30 AM (ET)

Grearer Love Tabernacle COGIC
17617 Plymouth Rd.
Detroit, MI 48228

Tribute Wall



“ *Barbara Ann Hollings*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss please find comfort in the fond memories shared and resurrection hope Jesus spoke of in the Bible at John 5 : 21,28,29 when both sickness and death will be no more as promised in Revelation 21 : 3,4*

Delores Allen - April 01, 2015 at 07:50 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 - March 31, 2015 at 10:24 PM



I did not know your mother and grandmother, but this beautiful obituary of her Dash moved my heart. Hilda Phillips, Baltimore, MD

Hilda Phillips - April 02, 2015 at 12:05 PM