



Baretta Evonna Mercer

April 13, 1955 - August 25, 2012

Baretta E. Mercer, daughter of the late Helen M. Gales and the late Ernest Gales, was born on April 13, 1955. She was called to God's Kingdom suddenly on August 25, 2012.

Baretta E. Mercer graduated from Frederick Douglas Senior High School and the Ron Thomas Hair School. She later on was certified as a Nursing Assistant. At an early age she gave her life to Christ.

Baretta had a passion for singing, she started singing at the age of ten years old. Her first audience was in church. She had a voice that would take your breath away. Since Baretta was such a perfectionist, in everything she put effort into, she became a Senior Cosmetologist Instructor. This led her to managing and teaching inside of her own hair salon, Baretta's Unisex Hair Salon. She began singing professionally in her early twenties and became the lead singer for the group M.D.F. which was the start to her stardom. In following her dreams to become successful, she sang her way to the top; selling out seats at huge events and touring all across the East Coast. If you heard her voice, you would not forget her. Her passion for singing was great, for the last eight years Baretta was a lead singer for The Rolex Band, the best band in Baltimore City. The Rolex Band is rated #1 in wedding bands on the Martha Stewart's website.

No matter, rain – hail- snow, she was coming to blow. If she felt a little sick, she would stand up tall and sing and dance until the lights clicked. Baretta never missed a show. She was a dancing machine and the life of every party. Baretta was very energetic, her beautiful smile would light up any room she entered. She was the best sister, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother ever made.

She was our backbone, and could be depended upon for any reason. She never said, “No”. She was so caring and kind to everyone. She always helped out, and sacrificed herself no matter what circumstances.

She was married to Robert Mercer, with whom she remained great friends.

Baretta leaves to carry out her legacy: son, Robert Donaldson; daughter, Penny Donaldson; two step-children, Bubsy and Boobie; two brothers, Ernest Gales, Jr. And Kevin Gales; two sisters, Alice Walker and Brenda gales; four half brothers and sisters, Kenda, Crystal, Terrance and Kurt; sister-in-law, Bernice (Shelley) Gales; six grandchildren, Brandon, Tavon, Mariah, Bobbie-Cierra, Kayla and Kennedy; three great-grandchildren, Brandon Jr., Brejah and Blake and two unborn angels waiting; two god-daughters, Earlene and Ashley; four favorite nieces, Nicole, Mickele, Kelly and Chimere; four special friends, Vanessa, Lorna, Vennie and Kevin; and a host of nephews, nieces, close friends and fans.

Cemetery Details

Woodlawn Cemetery

2130 Woodlawn Drive
Baltimore, MD 21207

Previous Events

Public Viewing

AUG 31. 8:30 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
(410) 542-2400
info@marchfh.com

Family Hour

AUG 31. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
(410) 542-2400
info@marchfh.com

Wake

SEP 1. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Douglas Memorial
1325 Madison Avenue
Baltimore, MD

Service

SEP 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

Douglas Memorial
1325 Madison Avenue
Baltimore, MD

Tribute Wall



“ *Baretta Evonna Mercer*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *“Reflections of a Friend”*

For the Past 40 years of my tenure on various Radio stations, 30 of those years I've worked with Baretta on many occasions.

For all of you who had the Pleasure to hear and Witness this songbird of Music, She had a veracious and infectious influence on human Emotions who sang with conviction depth and spoke with great elocution.

She could even stir up the Geriatric blood of the old folks. She had a spiritual and emotional impact on most people.

She was a seeker and songbird of music, her music was bright and upbeat and joyful. Her songs had a purpose.

Just listen to her version of Etta James Song “at Last”

Songs can be powerful when people sing songs they feel very deeply about.

When Baretta sang she produced an audible expression of unity and fellowship of the body, mind and soul.

I salute you Ms. Baretta Mercer a Wonderful human being, good bye my sister good bye my friend.

Amen

JB Brown

JB Brown - September 10, 2012 at 06:35 PM

JB

“ JB Brown lit a candle in memory of Baretta Evonna Mercer



JB Brown - September 10, 2012 at 06:34 PM

TK

“ Baretta will be missed...My family would go an see her the Rolex Band every year for Mother's Day...Who will we go see now??? My prayers goes to her family and fans...Peace and Blessings..and also to the Big Easy and 347 Club where she always known to perform at her best...TKnox...

Tiese Knox - September 06, 2012 at 10:53 AM

MS

“ I'm so sorry for your loss and would like to offer my condolences to your family. Death is such a terrible thing for a family to go through, I actually lost my mom about 3yrs ago. I'm truly grateful that I have the truth about death and look forward to the future when there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the unrighteous.”— ACTS 24:15. I'm sure you would love to see your dead loved one again in the coming Paradise here on earth! Again so sorry for your loss!!

Ms Springer - September 01, 2012 at 05:06 PM

RL

“ *Rosalind Lawrence lit a candle in memory of Baretta Evonna Mercer*



Rosalind Lawrence - August 31, 2012 at 05:23 PM

SL

“ *To Penny & Family,
I was very saddened to hear about Baretta's passing. Her spirit and energy has touched many people's lives as it has mine. Please know that you are loved and supported by many who knew her. She often shared with me how blessed she felt to have you in her life. She will certainly be missed. She's always been a songbird but now a singing angel.*

*Love, Peace & Blessings,
Sonia, Melissa & Candiss Little*

Sonia Little - August 31, 2012 at 10:35 AM

GJ

“ *Germaine Jefferson sent a virtual gift in memory of Baretta Evonna Mercer*



Germaine Jefferson - August 31, 2012 at 09:26 AM

GJ

Baretta you are the singing Dove that has always lifted us up with the voice GOD blessed you with, but now it's our turn to "LIFT YOU UP AND MAGNIFY YOUR NAME" and our hearts will forever PRAISE you, the Singing Dove.

Germaine Jefferson - August 31, 2012 at 09:43 AM

WW

“ *Baretta you will surely be missed. I don't know how my next event will be without your wonderful voice and excitement. God has taken our special angel away. Rest In Peace and in Gods arms.*



WILLIE WILLIAMS - August 31, 2012 at 08:56 AM

KQ

“ *Kimberly Quarles lit a candle in memory of Baretta Evonna Mercer*



kimberly quarles - August 31, 2012 at 08:52 AM



“ *May the God of our ancestors be forever pleased with all of your work Baretta, which is immense. May God bless you and give your family the strength to continue on. Peace and love always, Tunjii (Tony), former lead singer of the singing group, The Kendells.*

Muhammad Olatunji Mwamba (Tunjii) - August 31, 2012 at 06:45 AM

RH

“ Rosett Hardges lit a candle in memory of
Baretta Evonna Mercer



Rosett Hardges - August 31, 2012 at 06:35 AM

AW

“ Angela D. White lit a candle in memory of
Baretta Evonna Mercer



Angela D. White - August 30, 2012 at 08:20 PM



“ Manuelita Thornton lit a candle in memory of
Baretta Evonna Mercer



Manuelita Thornton - August 30, 2012 at 06:03 PM



May his peace be with you till we meet again.

Manuelita Thornton - August 30, 2012 at 06:04 PM

PA

“ *ParisHollaway lit a candle in memory of Baretta Evonna Mercer*



ParisHollaway - August 30, 2012 at 06:01 PM

KW

“ *Karen Jarvis Wright lit a candle in memory of Baretta Evonna Mercer*



Karen Jarvis Wright - August 30, 2012 at 05:54 PM

HA

“ *Holliday's Automotive lit a candle in memory of Baretta Evonna Mercer*



Holliday's Automotive - August 30, 2012 at 03:38 PM

CH

“ *Cherita Johnson/Lee Holliday sent a virtual gift in memory of Baretta Evonna Mercer*



Cherita Johnson/Lee Holliday - August 30, 2012 at 03:36 PM

JL

“ *Just For Fun Bowling League lit a candle in memory of Baretta Evonna Mercer*



Just for Fun Bowling League - August 30, 2012 at 02:38 PM

SA

“ *Saundra And Al lit a candle in memory of Baretta Evonna Mercer*



Saundra and Al - August 30, 2012 at 02:36 PM

KJ

“ *Baretta, I Look to You, Rest in Peace*

Karen D. Jones - August 30, 2012 at 02:20 PM

KJ

“ *Karen D. Jones lit a candle in memory of Baretta Evonna Mercer*



Karen D. Jones - August 30, 2012 at 02:18 PM



“ *Tawanna Fisher lit a candle in memory of
Baretta Evonna Mercer*



Tawanna Fisher - August 30, 2012 at 12:37 PM



“ *At last
My love has come along
My lonely days are over
And life is like a song*

*Oh yeah yeah
At last*

*The skies above are blue
My heart was wrapped up in clover
The night I looked at you*

*I found a dream, that I could speak to
A dream that I can call my own
I found a thrill to press my cheek to
A thrill that I have never known*

*Oh yeah yeah
You smiled, you smiled
Oh and then the spell was cast
And there you are in heaven
for you are God's at last.....*

Your song will always be in my heart....Tyrone Thompson

tyrone thompson - August 30, 2012 at 07:59 AM

JW

“ *Janise West lit a candle in memory of Baretta Evonna Mercer*



Janise West - August 30, 2012 at 02:55 AM

AS

“ *You were my special friend. Before I received "that" call, your angel spoke to me and I had listened to your CD hours earlier. I remember the obstacles that you had to move and I am so proud that you chipped them all away. I remember one of your greatest accomplishments and how you stayed steadfast and faithful to that commitment. I know I will see you again. I already miss you, and wish you were still here, but I know GOD has greater plans for you in heaven! give your mom a hug for me. I love you my friend!*
Anita M. Stanford-Curry

Anita M. Stanford-Curry - August 29, 2012 at 11:14 PM

RE

“ *Ronnette Easley lit a candle in memory of Baretta Evonna Mercer*



Ronnette Easley - August 29, 2012 at 07:18 PM

VJ

“ WOW, I cannot believe what God has done. This is a beautiful woman that made my early adult (and midlife) experience amazing. Her music, her kindness and her words of wisdom will never be forgotten. I can still hear her back in the day when we sweat, especially our hairdos and danced at Bill Dotson's in Glen Burnie. Well, God does not make any mistakes. He took her to heaven so she can continue to party and sing to the angels up there. We will miss her! God Bless....Val

Valerie Johnson - August 29, 2012 at 04:24 PM

DH

“ Doreva Hinton lit a candle in memory of Baretta Evonna Mercer



Doreva Hinton - August 29, 2012 at 03:16 PM

MH

“ What an amazing voice! You will surely be missed, Baretta... Take your final bow and rest in eternal peace. -- Michelle, Randallstown

Michelle Huggins - August 29, 2012 at 03:15 PM

C(

“ Cheryl Thomas (Blackie) lit a candle in memory of Baretta Evonna Mercer



Cheryl Thomas (Blackie) - August 29, 2012 at 03:10 PM

C(

May you rest in peace you will be missed you are singing in heaven now!!!

Cheryl Thomas (Blackie) - August 29, 2012 at 03:13 PM

LH

“ *Linda Holmes lit a candle in memory of Baretta Evonna Mercer*



Linda Holmes - August 29, 2012 at 03:08 PM

LW

“ *Lisa Washington lit a candle in memory of Baretta Evonna Mercer*



Lisa Washington - August 29, 2012 at 12:58 PM

TS

“ *Tyrone And Sharon lit a candle in memory of Baretta Evonna Mercer*



Tyrone and Sharon - August 29, 2012 at 11:45 AM

ST

“ Sharon Thompson lit a candle in memory of
Baretta Evonna Mercer



Sharon Thompson - August 29, 2012 at 11:40 AM

TG

“ Bobby,
Although no words can really help to ease the loss you bear, just
know that you are very close in every thought and prayer.

"Gardner & Dorsey Family"

Towanda Gardner-Dorsey - August 29, 2012 at 09:01 AM

PK

“ Baretta what can I say you had a special gift
lady. A voice is silence but the memories will
live on in the hearts of family and friends.
Baretta own the stage when she performed
singing and exciting the crowd you will be
missed by all sleep on Baretta your safe in the arms of God.



Peggy Kellam - August 28, 2012 at 09:04 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 - August 28, 2012 at 11:44 AM

DJ

WOW, WHAT A VOICE, YOU WILL BE MISSED

DENICE JONES - August 28, 2012 at 01:22 PM

LT

I am at a loss for adequate words to express my sadness for Baretta passing. I had the blessed opportunity of knowing her and I know heaven just received one of the most talent angels...Rest In Paradise Baretta....The work that you've done the songs you singed will always speak for you. Our dear Barretta was a God gifted sung bird....her voice and spirit will be sorely missed...rest my friend and sing all over Gods heaven...I am listening.....Will miss you ?

Leona Tucker - August 28, 2012 at 10:37 PM

TP

Baretta the Rollex Band will never be the same. You rocked it every time you performed! I've been a fan since I first discovered you, I have watched you performed at The Champayne room on mother's day about 3 Mother's day in a row two times at The Hard Rock Cafe you always had me on my feet dancing and I had the honor of styling your hair twice with popping in your CD "AT Last" while u song along! Rest my sister! You will be missed!

Teress Palmer - August 28, 2012 at 10:41 PM

AD

BARETTA YOU WILL BE TRULY MISSED. YOU USED TO DO MY HAIR AND IT WAS ALWAYS A PROFESSIONAL JOB WELL DONE. MY PRAYERS GO OUT TO YOUR FAMILY. ALISA

ALISA DABNEY - August 28, 2012 at 10:45 PM

TT

*At last
My love has come along
My lonely days are over
And life is like a song*

*Oh yeah yeah
At last*

*The skies above are blue
My heart was wrapped up in clover
The night I looked at you*

*I found a dream, that I could speak to
A dream that I can call my own
I found a thrill to press my cheek to
A thrill that I have never known*

*Oh yeah yeah
You smiled, you smiled
Oh and then the spell was cast
And there you are in heaven
for you are God's at last.....*

Your song will always be in my heart....Tyrone Thompson

tyrone thompson - August 29, 2012 at 11:27 AM

 Harry
McClelland

On the Sunday prior to her passing, she performed at my brother's car wash, I was truly amazed by her energy and desire to have the crowd of on lookers involved in her performance, I'm sure no one there thought she was on her way home, she will be missed. R.I.P. Baretta you are deserving.

Harry McClelland - August 29, 2012 at 11:32 PM



Just found out, Baltimore has lost such a Wonderful Entertainer!!! We love you and will miss you dearly. Now you're singing in haven. May God bless you and your family.

Michelle Jackson - September 05, 2012 at 12:55 PM