



# Marsena G. Harris-Barber

October 16, 1956 - August 6, 2025

## Birth

MINISTER MARSENA G. HARRIS-BARBER, daughter of the late Mark and Beulah Harris, was born on October 16, 1956 in Brooklyn, New York. On August 6, 2025, Marsena received her well-deserved wings, and our Father God carried her to her heavenly home.

## Education

At an early age, Marsena and her parents relocated to Newark, New Jersey. Marsena attended the Newark New Jersey Public School System graduating from Arts High School in 1974. Marsena had a true gift for singing and because of that, she furthered her education at Westminster Choir College earning a Bachelor of Arts in Music (Vocal). Having the desire to get closer to God, she also attended Pinecrest Bible Training Center earning a certificate of completion. In later years, she returned to school and earned a master's in organizational leadership from Liberty University.

## Holy Matrimony

In 2006, Marsena met the love of her life at the bowling alley. Marsena and Derek united in holy matrimony on March 3, 2012.

## Career

Marsena worked at ICF International for many years as a Data Consultant.

After retiring, she held part-time positions at the Enoch Pratt Free Library, Johns Hopkins Medical System, Trinity Episcopal Church, and Babcock Presbyterian Church.

### Religious Affiliation

Marsena joined Gospel Tabernacle Baptist Church in 2010. Shortly after joining, she became a part of the music ministry. She sang on the Mass Choir, the Women of Praise, and the Victory Choir. Marsena was a gifted soprano who was sought after for solo performances, which will always be remembered. In May of 2017, Marsena received her license to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ under the leadership of Bishop Reginald Kennedy. She continued to be an ambassador of Christ until the end

### Associations

Having a passion for helping others, Marsena was also a part of various faith-based organizations which included Catholic Charities, The Milt Mathews Foundation, Walbrook Vicinity of Churches, and she faithfully participated with the GTBC Diamond Club. Marsena was also a member of the Baltimore Ministers Conference.

### Cherished Loved Ones

Marsena leaves to cherish her memory: her beloved husband, Derek; her brother; mother-in-law, Mrs. Virginia Barber; brother-in-law, Mr. Dana Barber; one sister-in-law, Glynis Barber, PhD; two aunts, Aunt Bea and Aunt Eunice; three nieces, Mashyra Durden, Jamila Curry and Izeta Akeem; three great-nieces, Aaron, Margaret and Teyanna; nephew, Eric; five great-nephews, Isaiah, Matthew, Maxwell, Michael and Trintin; godchild, Chris; special friends, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Carey, Minister JoyAnne Richardson, Mrs. Cynthia Henley, Mrs. Nelly Montgomery, Ms. Sarah Newsome, Mr. and Mrs. John Ellis; as well as a host of other family members and friends.



# Cemetery Details

## Private

Baltimore, MD

# Previous Events

## Wake

AUG **22**. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Gospel Tabernacle Baptist Church  
3100 Walbrook Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21216

## Funeral Service

AUG **22**. 10:30 AM (ET)

Gospel Tabernacle Baptist Church  
3100 Walbrook Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21216

# Tribute Wall

JC

“ Jessica M. Coker lit a candle in memory of Marsena G. Harris-Barber



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**Jessica M. Coker** - August 30, 2025 at 01:03 AM

JC

Marsena and I would spend time talking about family and nutrition. I love her and I miss talking with her

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**Jessica M. Coker** - August 30, 2025 at 01:06 AM

CT

“ Humbly remembering our cheer leader and friend who encouraged us to use our gifts to glorify God....

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**Chaplain Carla "Joy" Thompson** - August 22, 2025 at 11:43 AM

CT

“ A kind and encouraging Sister in Christ, who reflected love, grace and patience.

I am so grateful to God for the Gift of this Special Precious Sister who loved in tangible ways.



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**Chaplain Carla "Joy" Thimpson** - August 22, 2025 at 11:41 AM

UJ

“ Ulysses Brown Jr. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marsena G. Harris-Barber.

Ulysses Brown Jr. - August 20, 2025 at 03:57 PM

UJ

“ Ulysses Brown Jr. purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Marsena G. Harris-Barber.



Ulysses Brown Jr. - August 20, 2025 at 03:57 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Marsena G. Harris-Barber.

August 20, 2025 at 10:23 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Marsena G. Harris-Barber.



August 20, 2025 at 10:23 AM

MB

“ Marsena, Rest in Peace and Rise in Heaven 🙏. Praying that God will cover and comfort the family during this difficult time. Michelle (Muldrow) Burkett Arts High 1974

Michelle Burkett - August 18, 2025 at 11:53 AM

MF

“ Michael F. purchased the Rose Remembrance for the family of Marsena G. Harris-Barber.



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Michael F. - August 17, 2025 at 01:15 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Marsena G. Harris-Barber.



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August 15, 2025 at 08:21 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Marsena G. Harris-Barber.

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August 13, 2025 at 02:09 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Marsena G. Harris-Barber.



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August 13, 2025 at 02:09 PM

PF

“ Marsena! You are loved and will truly be missed! Though you have your "Wings, " your memory lives on in our hearts.

To the family, I'm so sorry to hear of your loss—my deepest sympathies, and may God bless you and your family. My thoughts and prayers are with you in your time of grief.

Patricia Davis Ford  
Arts High - Class of 74

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Patricia Davis Ford - August 12, 2025 at 03:23 PM

FA

“ Marsena, Marsena, Marsena, how i am going to miss our 2hr plus catch up calls. We have kept track of each other since leaving Arts High School. From Westminster to Beaver and all points afterwards. i will miss you my friend because you were truly the one i could count on when i needed a Prayer Warrior to join forces with me. Derrick, she loved you so much and was proud to be your wife. 💕

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Florine Alexander - August 12, 2025 at 02:29 PM

GC

Deepest Sympathy to you Derrick, other family members and friends. Marsena always had a beautiful and kind spirit. Grateful that had to catch-up at our class reunion. 🙏🙏  
Arts High Class '74💕

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Gwen Carmon - August 13, 2025 at 01:37 AM

JB

Marsena, I will cherish my fond memories of us standing shoulder to shoulder in Mr. Howard's early morning chorus class at Arts High School, class of 1974, Newark NJ. I was glad to see you at our 40th class reunion, where we still remembered Latin phrases from Vivaldi's "Gloria!" My sincere condolences your husband, all family and friends. Rest in Peace, Marsena. 💕

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Jacqueline Butterfield - August 15, 2025 at 09:02 PM

MB

*Marsena, Rest In Peace and Rise in Heaven. 🙏 Praying that God will cover and comfort to the family during this difficult time.  
Michelle (Muldrow) Burkett Arts High Class of 74*

**Michelle Burkett** - August 18, 2025 at 11:52 AM

R1

“ *Ruby Sampson MD, Arts High School 1974 planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Marsena G. Harris-Barber.*

**Ruby Sampson MD, Arts High School 1974** - August 11, 2025 at 10:31 AM

R1

“ *Ruby Sampson MD, Arts High School 1974 purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Marsena G. Harris-Barber.*



**Ruby Sampson MD, Arts High School 1974** - August 11, 2025 at 10:31 AM

RF

“ *Rivers Family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Marsena G. Harris-Barber.*



**Rivers Family** - August 10, 2025 at 08:47 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.

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**March Funeral Homes** - August 09, 2025 at 02:06 PM

CS

*Marsena was a great person who loved talking about God and sharing how He was teaching her a better way. Her love to sing was good and stories from her past were interesting and sometimes funny. She will be missed, praying for her husband and family and friends. With a Praying Spirit, Chelsea S*

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**Chelsea Scott** - August 12, 2025 at 06:19 AM

ZC

*May God undergird the family as they travel this journey. Zenola Worrill Campbell Class of "74" Arts High School*

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**zenola campbell** - August 13, 2025 at 09:13 AM

DW

*Marsena was a Sister, roommate and friend. She was always there. She stood firm on her belief. She was whatever God needed her to be for whomever He directed her. She loved her husband, family and friends. One of my favor memories of her was when she was teaching me to drive and I went down a one way street which neither of us notice until we saw cars flashing their lights. She remain calm and keep me calm until we got back on the right street. Then we laugh and was thankful. She has join Sylvia and Sue whom are all now in the bosom of the Father. Miss you already Marsena.*

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**Dottie Williams-Drummond** - August 19, 2025 at 11:37 AM

SN

*Marsena was not only a sister in Christ, but was also a neighbor. She would often call to see if I was going to any store that day. Then we'd do errands together.*

*Or, we'd ride together to Church. During these times, we had some very insightful conversations. We shared information about family, travels, healthy eating, and Church. I'm praying for husband, Derrick and family.*

*RIP Marsena.*

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**Sarah Newsome** - August 21, 2025 at 11:27 AM