



Barbara Coger

May 14, 1939 - July 6, 2022

Barbara Jean Jefferson Coger was born on May 13, 1939, in Memphis, Tennessee. She was born to the late Miles and Pearl Stucky Jefferson. She was baptized at Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church, where she remained active until she moved her membership to Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church in 1974.

Barbara was a proud 1958 graduate of Booker T. Washington High School. In the same year, she became the first and only Dixie-Homes Cotton Makers Jubilee Queen. Barbara Coger was also the proud mother of five children: Cheryl, Chet, Roni, Tamla, and Sean.

Barbara attended LeMoyne-Owen College and began her career as a Certified Nurse Assistant at St. Joseph Hospital in Geriatric Care. She retired from St. Joseph Hospital after thirty years of loyal service. Barbara was a kind soul who loved people, which led her to seek employment with Sam's Club as a Club Demonstrator for fifteen years. With a smile and her witty personality, she delightfully cooked, served, and engaged all who visited her table. For several years, she was awarded "Employee of the Month and Year" for outstanding sales and performance.

Ms. Coger's hobbies were photography, winning local radio contests, and baking. She loved taking pictures of her family and church members and all

who came in her presence. Her home served as a museum full of wonderful memories. Don't be surprised if you see yourself posted on her "walls of love", as she so passionately called it. When it came to baking, Barbara created a recipe for a Betty Crocker Cookbook and was awarded \$500 for winning the cooking contest! Her recipe was/is called Lemon Delectable Squares. Betty Crocker sold her Lemon Delectable Square Box cake mix at Walmart Stores throughout the U.S. Barbara gladly prepared and shared her Lemon Delectable Squares at many local events here in Memphis.

Barbara was also a humanitarian who cared for and encouraged others. After church, you could oftentimes find her visiting the local nursing homes and hospitals on the weekend. She would decorate patient rooms and entry doors for birthdays and holidays. She aided the nurses in combing the patient's hair and performing other hygiene needs. She would also be seen passing out her famous peppermint soft chews to all the staff and patients. In the community, she was often referred to as the "Peppermint Lady". She was a loyal friend and confidante to many of her friends.

Ms. Coger was also a volunteer community activist who participated in many local marches in the 60s. She believed in equal wages and fair housing for women and African Americans. She was an active member of the NAACP until her demise. She volunteered at phone banks and local campaign headquarters for former Presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama, Hillary Rodham Clinton, Congressman Steve Cohen, former Mayor

Dr. Willie Herenton, former State Representatives Teddy Withers, Larry Turner, and Johnnie Turner. She was dedicated to a life of servanthood whose work was fulfilled on this earth.

She is preceded in death by: three sisters, Ann Watkins, Pearl Dillard, and Johnnie Frye, and two brothers, Theodore Jefferson and Alexander Jefferson.

She leaves to cherish and honor her memories: two daughters, Cheryl Jefferson-Odo and Tamla Coger Bonham; three sons, Chet Jefferson, Roni Jefferson, and Sean Coger; eight grandchildren, Dedrick Jefferson, Rodney Jefferson, Francesca Kinsey, Roni A. Jefferson, Ronnie Bonham Jr., Jaliyah Jefferson, John Odo, and Wilfred Odo; ten great-grandchildren, dearest friends since the first grade, Mrs. Jistine Carter, since five years old, Ms. Josie Albright, special longtime friend, Mrs. Johnnie Turner and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **16**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (cst)

Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church
3636 Weaver Rd.
Memphis, TN 38109

Service

JUL **16**. 11:00 AM (cst)

Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church
3636 Weaver Rd.
Memphis, TN 38109

Tribute Wall



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Barbara Coger.* ”



July 14, 2022 at 11:55 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Barbara Coger.* ”



July 14, 2022 at 09:40 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Barbara Coger.* ”



July 13, 2022 at 08:36 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Barbara Coger.* ”



July 12, 2022 at 07:13 PM

TG

“ *TERRIE GOODMAN lit a candle in memory of Barbara Coger*



TERRIE GOODMAN - July 12, 2022 at 06:33 PM

TG

LOVE U MAMA 💕 LOVE ❤️

TERRIE GOODMAN - July 12, 2022 at 06:34 PM

DR

“ *Barbara Coger she was strong woman. Those we love don't go away, They walk beside us every day. Unseen, Unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed, and always dear. We will keep the family in our prayers. Diane & Harry*



Diane & Harry Rodgers - July 11, 2022 at 08:01 PM

TG

MY DEAR SWEET MAMA I ALWAYS CALL HER MAMA MY SON GRANDMOTHER BARBARA J COGER LOVED HER SO SO MUCH SHE ❤️💕 ALWAYS NEW WERE MY HOUSE WAS EVERYTIME SHE JUST COME WHEN LIKE TO MY LOVE FOR HER IS SO HEAVY RIGHT NOW PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY IN JESUS NAME AMEN LOVE YOUR OTHER DAUGHTER TERRIE

TERRIE GOODMAN - July 12, 2022 at 06:11 PM