



Bernice Pettis

June 23, 1933 - May 13, 2025

In Loving Memory of Bernice Crite Williams Pettis June 23, 1933 – May 13, 2025

On May 13, 2025, our Heavenly Father called home one of His most cherished roses, Bernice Crite Williams Pettis, who peacefully transitioned to her eternal rest.

Bernice was born on June 23, 1933, in Cayce, Mississippi, the fifth of six children born to the late Thurston and Ida Mae Crite. She was preceded in death by her beloved siblings Emma, Louise, James, and Ferline Crite; her son, Aaron Johnson; and two precious grandchildren, JaeDesilyn McCray and Andrea Williams.

At an early age, Bernice accepted Christ as her Savior and became a member of Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church in Barton, Mississippi, under the guidance of Pastor J.T. Thomas. In the 1980s, she joined Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church Boxtown, where she was a devoted and active member under Pastor T.L. McCray Sr. Bernice faithfully served on Usher Board I, the Mission Society, Bible Study, Sunday School, and most devotedly, the Mother's Board until her health declined. She was also a member of the Boxtown Community Choir.

Bernice married the love of her life, Willie B. Williams, and together they were blessed with five children: Barbara, James, Carl, Timothy, and Sandra. After Willie's passing in 1961, Bernice relocated from West Memphis, Arkansas, to Memphis, Tennessee, to be closer to her family. As a devoted mother, she

lovingly raised her children with unwavering faith and unconditional love. Later, Bernice was blessed to find love again. On December 27, 1978, she married A.J. Pettis, and they shared a wonderful union until his passing on July 9, 1999.

A pillar of her family and community, Bernice was known for her strong faith in God. She resided in Cordova, Tennessee, until her peaceful departure. She leaves to cherish her memory five loving children: Barbara Davidson of Cordova, TN; James Ray Williams (Denise), Carl Williams (Linda), both of Memphis, TN; Timothy Williams (Linda) of Lewisville, TX; and Sandra Williams Harrington (Robert) of Cordova, TN. She is also survived by her dear sister, Ida B. Robinson of Douglasville, GA; sisters-in-law Lucille Patterson and Glenda Faye Gipson (Alfred) of Memphis, TN; seven grandchildren: Tara Brown, Toi Williams, Candance Miller (Marcus), Jeremy Williams, Travis Venzant (Erin), Alexis Dailey and Dewayne Allen (Lola); eight great-grandchildren; her bonus daughter, Tammy Wright; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and cherished friends. Her life was a blessing, her memory a treasure. She was loved beyond words and will be missed beyond measure.

Cemetery Details

West Tennessee Veterans Cemetery

4000 Forest Hill Irene Rd.
Memphis, TN 38125

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 20. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (cst)

Snow Funeral Home
1650 E. Shelby Dr.
Memphis, TN 38116

Graveside Service

MAY 21. 11:00 AM (cst)

West Tennessee Veterans Cemetery
4000 Forest Hill Irene Rd.
Memphis, TN 38125

Tribute Wall

RH

“ FOREVER MY QUEEN BEE 🐝 love” that tall girl” Rita 🌹 🌹 🌹

Ritas Hemingway - May 22, 2025 at 09:48 PM

RH

“ Ritas Hemingway sent a virtual gift in memory of Bernice Pettis



Ritas Hemingway - May 22, 2025 at 09:42 PM

RH

“ Ritas Hemingway lit a candle in memory of Bernice Pettis



Ritas Hemingway - May 22, 2025 at 09:40 PM

TI


“ There are not enough words to describe or express how broken I am. My heart is still heavy and my mind is in a lot of places. Death has no timing but God took care of you. You were so loved and never went without anything. This struggle of not seeing you, laughing with you is real. I pray for understanding. If I could have kept you here, I would have. That's selfish of me to say. My life will forever include your memories as I struggle with understanding my own faith and love for you. Missing you is an understatement. Well done, well done ...Until we meet again. Heaven gained a beautiful soul. Love ❤️ Tiffany

Tiffany - May 22, 2025 at 05:43 PM

BJ

I MISS YOU MAMA

BJ BOB BARBARA JEAN - May 30, 2025 at 01:38 PM


Veleska
Lipford

“ My condolences to the Williams' family. I am praying for strength, comfort and peace in this difficult time. 🙏 Veleska Lipford

Veleska Lipford - May 20, 2025 at 11:25 AM

TF

“ The Brady Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Bernice Pettis.



The Brady Family - May 20, 2025 at 10:11 AM

SW

“ Long Live the Precious Memories of Queen Bernice. She was one of my Favorite Clients back in the day (her Beautiful Hair is an understatement), who became my family by way of her Sweet Daughters through the years💕
May GOD'S PEACE Be With You All entire family!

Sharon Wilson - May 19, 2025 at 05:50 PM

SW

“ Long Live the Precious Memories of Queen Bernice. She was one of my Favorite Clients back in the day (her Beautiful Hair is an understatement), who became my family by way of her Sweet Daughters through the years💕
May GOD'S PEACE Be With You All entire family!

Sharon Wilson - May 19, 2025 at 05:50 PM

SS

“ I Met Several Years Ago She Was Such A Sweetie She Use to Love To Get Her Hair Comb😘 When I Visit Her I Would Have My Grandbaby With Me From Time To Time After That Over Short Period Time Mrs Bernice She Couldn't Remember My Name So She Gave Me A New Name THE LADY WITH THE BABY Was My New Name 😊 Mrs Bernice You Will Truly Be Missed ❤️ Always THE WITH THE BABY!!!

Shelia Smith - May 19, 2025 at 09:17 AM

TF

“ The Patterson Family purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Bernice Pettis.



The Patterson Family - May 17, 2025 at 12:07 PM

TF

“ *The Patterson Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bernice Pettis.*

The Patterson Family - May 17, 2025 at 12:07 PM

TL

“ *The Perkins Family, LaPlace, La purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Bernice Pettis.*



The Perkins Family, LaPlace, La - May 16, 2025 at 09:24 PM

YP

“ *Words can't express our sorrow for you and your family. Please accept our condolences, prayers and love. Yvonne Perkins and Family*

“A mother is with us always, first in her lifetime, then forever in our memory.”



Yvonne L. Perkins - May 16, 2025 at 08:58 PM

AA

*Our condolences, Tim & Family.
Peace & traveling mercies to you & family.*

A Delois Hudson Anderson - May 17, 2025 at 11:00 AM

IC

Our prayers and deepest sympathy to Sandra, Barbara, Tim and Family.

*Love and mercy always.
Irene and Charles*

Irene and Charles - May 18, 2025 at 09:29 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bernice Pettis.*



May 16, 2025 at 08:50 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Bernice Pettis.

May 16, 2025 at 08:50 PM



“ *On January 8th 1988. My mother in law and my son's Grandma, Bernice Pettis was at Methodist South hospital caring for me after the delivery of her first and only grandson Jeremy k Williams. Marice Beard.*



Marice Beard - May 16, 2025 at 08:34 PM



“ *Your Orgill Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Bernice Pettis.*



Your Orgill Family - May 15, 2025 at 02:10 PM

YF

“ Your Orgill Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bernice Pettis.

Your Orgill Family - May 15, 2025 at 02:10 PM

SC

“ Prayers and heartfelt condolences to family of Ms. Bernice Pettis from Syma Collins and Family.

syma collins - May 15, 2025 at 08:18 AM