



Ms. Barbara Jean Howard

November 29, 1951 - May 23, 2025

Honoring the Life of Barbara Jean Cannon (Howard)*

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With deep love and heartfelt remembrance, we honor the life of Barbara Jean Cannon, who passed away peacefully on May 23, 2025, at the age of 73. She was born on November 29, 1951, in Detroit, Michigan, to Leroy and Juella Cannon, both of whom preceded her in death. In 1969, Barbara married Cecil Howard. A lifelong Detroiter, her life was marked by love, service, and unwavering devotion to her family.

She was a proud graduate of the Detroit Public School system, and her name can be found in the alumni history books of Cass Technical High School.

As an entrepreneur, Barbara pursued multiple ventures. In the 1980s, she

owned a cleaning service with several contracts across the metropolitan area, often putting her sons to work early by taking them alongside her. She also worked as an interior decorator, beautifying many homes and businesses throughout Detroit. In the 1990s, she operated several resale shops set up in two major flea markets on the city's west side.

Eventually, Barbara's career shifted to caregiving—a profession that perfectly reflected her nurturing spirit and selfless heart. She embodied grace, humility, and kindness, always ready to care for others and offer support, no matter the circumstance.

Winner of the Cannon Family Fun Day 2023 “Big Sister Support Award “ and the “Momma Bear” for her willingness and ability to protect those around her, making others feel safe, holding others accountable, and doing what's needed to protect the Cannon name and those who carry that name.

Also the winner of the 2024 “Mighty Mindset Award“

For believing the best, expecting the best and demanding the best. Thank you for demonstrating what a mighty mindset looks like.

Barbara is preceded in death by her daughter, Alisa Cannon; her son, Cecil Cannon; and her siblings, Shirley Houge and Bernard Cannon.

She leaves to cherish her memory: her son Kevin a.k.a. Falah (Tiffany a.k.a Hanifah)

Cannon; her daughter Christina (Lamarca) Graddy;

five siblings—Leroy Cannon, Carolyn Ward, Al Cannon, Vanessa Cannon, and Greg (Wanda) Cannon; sister-in-law Lanette Cannon; 18 grandchildren;

and 31 great-grandchildren. Barbara's loving spirit also lives on through a host of nieces, nephews,

extended family, and friends. Her compassion and care were the foundation of her legacy, and her memory will continue to inspire all who know her.

“Her love knew no limits, her heart welcomed all—she gave the kind of care that only comes from a soul truly devoted to others.”

Cemetery Details

Parkview Memorial Cemetery

34205 5mile Rd
Livonia, MI 48154

Previous Events

Visitation

Thursday, Jun. **5**. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home
17600 Plymouth Road
Detroit, MI 48227
(313) 838-9770
info@pyefuneralhome.com

Family Hour

Friday, Jun. **6**. 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home
17600 Plymouth Road
Detroit, MI 48227
(313) 838-9770
info@pyefuneralhome.com

Celebration of Life

Friday, Jun. 6. 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home
17600 Plymouth Road
Detroit, MI 48227
(313) 838-9770
info@pyefuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ms. Barbara Jean Howard.

June 05, 2025 at 02:11 PM



“ Heartfelt Memories was purchased for the family of Ms. Barbara Jean Howard.



June 05, 2025 at 02:11 PM



“ Jones family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Ms. Barbara Jean Howard.



Jones family - June 03, 2025 at 09:01 PM



“ Ransom Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Ms. Barbara Jean Howard.



Ransom Family - June 03, 2025 at 11:09 AM

RF

“ Ransom Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Barbara Jean Howard.

Ransom Family - June 03, 2025 at 11:09 AM

TD

“ A Tribute to My Beloved Auntie Barbara Jean

In the garden of my childhood memories, one flower blooms brighter than most—my Barbara Jean. More than just an aunt, she was part mama, and a constant source of love and laughter in my early years. She was my primary babysitter, but what she truly gave me was a foundation of kindness, fun, and unconditional care that still shapes who I am today.

Auntie Barbara Jean had a heart as big as the sky—overflowing with love for everyone blessed enough to be in her life. Whether it was the way she made me feel safe when the world seemed too big, or how she always found a way to turn an ordinary day into an extraordinary one, her presence was pure warmth. She had a way of seeing the best in people and making you believe in yourself, just because she believed in you first.

She laughed easily, hugged tightly, and loved deeply. Her kindness wasn't loud—it was steady, warm, and unwavering.

Thank you, Auntie Barbara Jean, for being both aunt and mama when I needed you most. For your big heart, your fun spirit, your endless kindness. You may be gone from this world, but you will never be gone from me. ❤️🌹🌸👉

*With love always,
Tanya D.*

Tanya D - June 02, 2025 at 06:11 AM

TO

“ I have known Barbara Jean almost 38yrs...She has share several fond memories with me & nuggets of wisdom, however the 1st thing that popped in my head when I heard of her passing was the fact that if it wasn't for her I would NOT know how to fry chicken today!!! She taught me when is was 14...she will be greatly missed...kiss Cecil for me soon as ya get there!!!

Tori - May 26, 2025 at 04:33 PM

JD

“ Jeffrey Davis lit a candle in memory of Barbara Howard



Jeffrey Davis - May 26, 2025 at 08:05 AM