



Mrs. Billie Jean Harris

March 5, 1925 - January 16, 2026

Billie Jean Harris (born Guillory) was born on March 5, 1925, in Oakdale, Louisiana, the youngest daughter of Arthur and Virginia Guillory. After the passing of her mother, she moved to Detroit, Michigan, where she was lovingly raised by her aunt, Rebecca Smith, who lived an extraordinary 104 years.

From the beginning, Billie Jean was spirited, strong-willed, and full of life. She worked as a young woman at Cunningham Diner, and after World War II she met the love of her life, Nick Harris. Together they built a beautiful life and raised eight children, first in Detroit's historic Black Bottom and later in Northwest Detroit near Wyoming and 8 Mile. Billie Jean and Nick shared a devoted marriage until his passing in 1991.

Billie Jean was a woman of faith who cherished family and the simple joys of life. She loved nature, gardening, especially roses, and could often be found feeding neighborhood birds and squirrels. Many knew her as "The Queen," a name she earned through her bold spirit and unforgettable presence. She enjoyed watching *In the Heat of the Night*, *Jeopardy!*, and *Wheel of Fortune*, and she proudly supported the Detroit Tigers. She was also adventurous, traveling to the Bahamas and throughout Africa well into her 80s. Just shy of her 101st birthday, Billie Jean went home to be with the Lord on January 16, 2026, surrounded by the love of her family.

Billie Jean was preceded in death by her husband Nick Harris; her parents Arthur and Virginia; her brother Shelton; her sisters Eula Mae, Mary, Eunice,

and Iris; her grandson Burt; and her son-in-law Jeff.

She leaves to cherish her memory her children: Leonard (Anatasia), Linda, Deborah, Barbara (Emanuel), Kenneth, Pamela, Craig, and Patricia; her nephew George, whom she loved and raised as a son; her brother Leon; and generations of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren, along with many nieces, nephews, extended family, and dear friends.

Previous Events

Visitation

Wednesday, Jan. **28**. 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/Funeral

Thursday, Jan. **29**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church
2080 W. Grand Blvd.
Detroit, MI 48208
(313) 898-3325

Celebration of Life

Thursday, Jan. **29**. 11:00 AM (ET)

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Tribute Wall

KH

“ *Ecclesiastes 12, verses 1 through 7, remind me in His Word to remember my Creator in the days of my youth. It describes in a poetic way that time will eventually take over and return my body to the earth, while my soul returns to Him. Yet you, Granny, remind me to remember my Creator all the days of my life and dont forsake him even in my golden years. Your example of seeking Him is what I will keep with me when my bones can't hold me up and the usefulness of my youth fades with time. I thank you for turning to Jesus and showing me that it is never too late to give my life to Christ. I shall praise our Creator as long as I have breath. I Thank You and I Love you. Give Grandad a big hug for me and save me a room in your mansion. Until I see you again. Love your grandson, Kendrick Harris.*

Kendrick Harris - January 28 at 01:57 PM

JO

“ *Jodi Ostergren purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mrs. Billie Jean Harris.*



Jodi Ostergren - January 27 at 04:38 PM

LA

“ *Love LaRea, Amber and Arielle purchased the Heavenly Heights Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Billie Jean Harris.*



Love LaRea, Amber and Arielle - January 27 at 01:20 PM

AJ

“ Grandma, you were a force to be reckoned with! You had a presence that commanded attention yet you had a beautiful softness that made everyone around you feel loved. I will miss your stories, your sweet kisses and the way your eyes sparkled when you say “Oh there’s my Am Am hey baby!” You are missed now and will always be. I love you to the moon and back.



Amber Jones - January 25 at 01:30 PM

DL

“ Debby Lovelady lit a candle in memory of Billie Harris



Debby Lovelady - January 24 at 08:49 PM

PE

“ I loved Ms Billie Jean Harris always smiling and full of wisdom! She loved her family. I miss her conversations and her preparing herself for PT when she will get all doll up which was so hilarious. Park Place and I will miss her. She was a blessing. Sending love and continued prayers to her family.

pernell - January 22 at 09:29 AM

JD

“ Jeffrey Davis lit a candle in memory of Billie Harris



Jeffrey Davis - January 19 at 04:45 PM

DL

“ To the families of Mrs. Billie Jean Harris we are very sorry for your loss. Our thoughts prayers and sincere condolences are with you. May God place his arms around you for comfort at this time of bereavement Mrs Harris lived a long life and has left such a rich legacy to all of you She will be truly missed loved and never forgotten I thank God that I had the blessing to meet and know her for 38 years. May she always Rest in Heaven🕊️🕊️🕊️

Debby Lovelady - January 19 at 10:47 AM