



Mrs. Malena Denise Graves

December 17, 1968 - October 28, 2013

No obituary found for this tribute.

Cemetery Details

Detroit Memorial Park West

25200 Plymouth Road
Redford Twp., MI 48239

Previous Events

Visitation

Friday, Nov. **8.** 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

Saturday, Nov. **9.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church
4743 Iroquois
Detroit, MI 48214

Funeral Service

Saturday, Nov. **9.** 11:00 AM (ET)

Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church
4743 Iroquois
Detroit, MI 48214

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Malena Denise Graves*

January 21, 2023 at 09:34 PM



“ *Angela lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Malena Denise Graves*



Angela - March 05, 2019 at 01:56 PM



“ *Thomas E Graves sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Malena Denise Graves*



Thomas E Graves - November 06, 2015 at 10:07 AM



“ *Malena, I will miss ur beautiful smile. May u R.I.P Queen...:-)*

Sharon Mallard - November 08, 2013 at 11:00 PM



“ *My condolences to the family and close friends of Malena, she was a fellow model of whom I had the pleasure to meet! Wonderful woman...*



Jaiden Shephard - November 08, 2013 at 08:32 PM



“ *Lena -- so many ways to describe the wonderful woman who graced this Earth. Beautiful, sweet, loving, cousin -- your life and legacy will always be remembered. May you rest in paradise!*



Love Michelle

Michelle Johnson - November 08, 2013 at 06:43 PM

“To the parents, Mr. Joel and Mrs. Alice Alexander, her sister Nicole, aunt Gerri Ferguson, cousin Alisa, the extended members of the Sanders family and especially to Malena’s beloved sons, Thomas and Joel, on behalf of Mrs. Carmen, Melanie and Charles Fauntroy and the First Baptist Institutional Church family, we share our heartfelt condolences for the loss of Mrs. Malena Denise Graves. One of my most powerful remembrance’s of Malena is in a picture, in First Baptist Institutional Church’s 1970 Membership Guide, comfortably contained in her mother Alice’s Alexander’s arms, seated beside her Aunt Gerri and cousin Alisa in the caring presence of her maternal grandparents, the late Deacon Herbert and Deaconess Inez Sanders. What is most impressive about the picture is that it represents the celebration of family; close familial ties and boldly demonstrates, what it means to love.

I remember as a child, on several occasions, being invited to share a meal in Malena’s grandparents home. It was always an opportunity our family looked forward to, not only because of Malena’s grandmother, Deaconess Inez Sanders’ incredible cooking, but what was most impressive was the warmth of genuine love that pervaded their home. As a youth I marveled at the multiple generations of the Sanders’ family who would gather together in love and Malena was always present with her parents.

This love was demonstrated through Mr. Joel and Mrs. Alice Alexander’s upbringing their beautiful daughters Malena and Nicole. Malena and Nicole were raised by parents who loved them and demonstrated by example, the importance of having faith in God. As little girls, Malena and Nicole traveled with their parents every Sunday to church. They participated in Sunday school, the Howard Fauntroy Jr. choir and they were faithful participants in other activities as well. Church was important in their upbringing and their parents taught them clearly Jesus’ powerful word, when asked in the Gospel of Matthew 22:36-40,

“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said

to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Malena's strong understanding of what it means to love was demonstrated in the love for her children, family, church family, strangers and friends. On the occasion of worshipping in the church of her youth, her sons were always with her. The cycle of love started by Deacon Herbert and Deaconess Inez, continued by Joel and Alice and embraced by Malena, will be eternally anchored in Malena's beloved sons, Thomas and Joel. May the Lord continue to Bless, Keep and Sustain, the Memory of Mrs. Malena Denise Graves, and May the Lord Grant, the Graves, Alexander and Sanders Family, Peace!

Respectfully and with Great Love,

*Howard Fautroy, III
Pastor
First Baptist Institutional Church*

Howard Fautroy - November 08, 2013 at 05:23 PM

KG

“*Karen Greenwood lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Malena Denise Graves*”



Karen Greenwood - November 08, 2013 at 02:25 PM

NR

“ *The Band Pharmacy family would like to express our deepest sympathy for the Graves family. We enjoyed her beautiful smile and pleasant attitude. She will be truly missed.*

natasha ryan - November 08, 2013 at 02:09 PM

SF

“ *Lena was beautiful, loving, and, funny. I enjoyed our Girls Day and Night Out gatherings. I will remember you and your smile. Thoughts and prayers for the sons, sister, Mom & Dad. God bless you all!*




Sherrie Flowers - November 08, 2013 at 10:06 AM

LO

“ *I have known Malena, who I called "Lena" since Nursery school. My son and I are deeply saddened by the passing of her. I am asking that God wrap his loving arms around you during this very difficult time. I wanted to share something with the family about Malena. Lena taught me many things. I remember how she introduced me to getting my nails professionally done, the Mac Store, my first cell phone. At first when she would tell me I would always be reluctant, but after I would do it, I would always be glad I did. Lena taught me glamour and how to be thoughtful and kind with the cards of encouragement she would always send. She taught me how to stay youthful. She was a beautiful soul, and I am honored to have met such a beautiful lady inside and out. Now she is spreading her wings like the angel she really is...*



Lori - November 07, 2013 at 10:49 AM


Onyaka
Tiggart

“ *Onyaka Tiggart lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Malena Denise Graves*



Onyaka Tiggart - November 07, 2013 at 07:19 AM

LO

“ *Lori lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Malena Denise Graves*



Lori - November 07, 2013 at 02:13 AM

KI

“ *Kisha lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Malena Denise Graves*



Kisha - November 06, 2013 at 01:03 PM

ME

“ *May God wrap his loving arms around the family. My heart is broken over the loss of our beautiful sweet Malena. I know your love of the Lord will help bring you through this sorrowful time and help to ease the pain*

mercedespoe711@gmail.com - November 06, 2013 at 10:53 AM

KA

“ I met Malena during a fashion show rehearsal. We talked alone in a corner of the room just about her cell phone. she had the latest one and I was telling her I was thinking about getting the one she had. Just from that conversation she seemed to had a very sweet and kind spirit about her. I met with her again this time during a photo shoot the theme was 80s wear we both were in the same photo. She wore a beautiful red dress along with her stunning smile. I will cherish that photo. Rest in peace beautiful my prayers are with the family. God bless

Keisha Armstrong-Lewis - November 05, 2013 at 06:19 PM



“ Colour MyStyle lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Malena Denise Graves



Colour MyStyle - November 05, 2013 at 05:24 PM



“ Nechantenique Myree lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Malena Denise Graves



Nechantenique Myree - November 05, 2013 at 05:15 PM

RI

“ Prayers from the Carter family in Virginia!!

Rick - November 05, 2013 at 03:43 PM

LB

“ We send our condolences to Joel, Alice & Family.....We are very grateful to have been in a small portion of your Family's life...very honored to have had the opportunity to meet your Daughter.... Our Memories are that you are a loving Family! We express our comfort to you and want you to know that you are in our prayers..... We Love you!

Reginald & Lynne Bryant

Lynne Bryant - November 05, 2013 at 03:06 PM



“ JazMonique Chapman Nunez sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Malena Denise Graves



JazMonique Chapman Nunez - November 05, 2013 at 12:05 PM



2Cor. 1:3,4

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of tender mercies and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those in any sort of tribulation through the comfort which we ourselves are being comforted by God".

JazMonique Chapman Nunez - November 05, 2013 at 12:12 PM

LM

“ *Make a was a part of our family for over 24 years and it saddens me that she is gone to soon, may God bless my nephews and comfort them, and I want them to know that auntie love them both and keeping them in prayer, love you all*

Von

Lavon McDaniel - November 05, 2013 at 12:04 PM

LM

Malena was part of our family for 24 years

Lavon McDaniel - November 05, 2013 at 12:44 PM



“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Nechantenique Myree - November 05, 2013 at 11:41 AM



“ *Nechantenique Myree lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Malena Denise Graves*



Nechantenique Myree - November 05, 2013 at 11:36 AM



“ *Malena you were such a joy. your spirit touched so many people including me. you started out to be one of my models friends and you became my spiritual sister'friend. you talked me off plenty of ledges. you made me laugh, we gospelsed, we broke bread together. i appreciate you and your worth. i am missing you so much.
Rest In Paradise*

Nechantenique Myree - November 05, 2013 at 11:36 AM

JB

“ *Malena was my daughter-in-law and the mother of my two grandsons, Thomas and Joel. It is so sad when you lose your mother at such a young age. I pray that they are blessed and will be alright. We will all miss her deeply and she will be in our hearts forever. Sooooo sad!!! Gone to soon! Love to all.*

Judi and Edward Barnes - November 05, 2013 at 12:24 AM

SH

“ *Just a note to say that I extend my deepest sympathy in the loss of Lena. I will always remember her beautiful smile. May it comfort you to know that others share in your sorrows.
God Bless you all
Auntie Sheri*

Sheri - November 04, 2013 at 08:50 PM



Onyaka
Tiggart

“ *I just wanted to stop by and let all of the family know that I am deeply sorry for the loss of Malena. Malena was my sister for 24 years and we had the best times as sister in laws. We had fun during every encounter. We would laugh, joke, scream and cry!!! I loved her with all of my heart and I knows she's shining up in heaven as she did on earth. To my nephews, may God continue to watch over you two. May God place peace, understanding and love on the hearts of the family she left behind. I love you all, Onyaka!!!!*

Onyaka Tiggart - November 03, 2013 at 10:51 AM