



Mrs. Patsy Ruth Lewis

October 23, 1947 - September 2, 2024

No obituary found for this tribute.

Previous Events

Visitation

Friday, Sep. **13**. 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, Sep. **14**. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Kadesh Baptist Church
20361 Plymouth Rd
Detroit, MI 48228-1266
(313) 272-7887

Celebration of Life

Saturday, Sep. **14**. 10:00 AM (ET)

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20361 Plymouth Rd
Detroit, MI 48228-1266
(313) 272-7887

Tribute Wall

RI

“ Oh Pat- I just now found out about your passing. I met you at a mutual friend of your brother's- Tomas Arenas. I had the most interesting conversation with you and your sister Diane. I still have your phone number on my phone, and I might have a photo somewhere- I will look. Thank you for sharing your gifts with the music world- you made it a happier place.



Rita - December 25, 2025 at 02:03 AM

C(

“ I remember Patsy, and her sister, Diane having talent shows in their garage for the kids in the neighborhood on Hazelwood. We loved to hear them sing and practice before going on the road with Isaac Hayes. R.I.P Patsy You will truly be missed 🕊️💔



Carmen Pepper (Shaw) - September 21, 2024 at 04:19 PM

MT

“ My friend Patsy RIHeaven wonderful vocalist to the music world I knew the whole family. Condolences to her sister Diane, Sons, Grands. Cousins and her music Fans. Gone but never forgotten. ❤️
🙏🎵🎤

Mattie Toney - September 14, 2024 at 01:26 PM

LP

“ A truly wonderful person, talented and kind . Will miss your voice , your smile and your kindness to all , rest in eternal peace will love and treasure the memories of meeting you 🇬🇧

Linda Price - September 14, 2024 at 10:37 AM

AB

“ I am going to truly miss you. From the day I was told to call you auntie Pat. Thank you for your support and love.



Andrea Butler - September 12, 2024 at 10:24 PM

LT

“ Lorene Thomas purchased the Simply Elegant S pathiphyllum for the family of Mrs. Patsy Ruth Lewis.



Lorene Thomas - September 12, 2024 at 07:14 PM

LC

“ Luther and Lula Cowden purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Mrs. Patsy Ruth Lewis.



Luther and Lula Cowden - September 12, 2024 at 03:43 PM

FD

“ From Kim, Phil & Tamla Dick planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Patsy Ruth Lewis.

From Kim, Phil & Tamla Dick - September 11, 2024 at 06:19 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Patsy Ruth Lewis.



September 11, 2024 at 06:19 PM

LH

“ Love, Bishop Gary & Lady Pamela Harper purchased the Heavenly Grace Spray for the family of Mrs. Patsy Ruth Lewis.



Love, Bishop Gary & Lady Pamela Harper - September 11, 2024 at 01:59 PM

PD

“ It's taken me a while to post on here. The loss of Pat has shaken me to the core. She was an absolute titan. A wonderful singer, arranger, performer. And above all a friend. You always knew where you stood with Pat. She didn't sugarcoat things but she was never mean. She would tell me off occasionally in such a way that made me feel like she had paid me a compliment :) She had a smile that could and did light up the room. I'm going to miss you.

Phil Dick - September 11, 2024 at 09:56 AM

LC

“ Pat,
A beautiful and compassionate lady. She was part of my life for over seventy years and that was still not long enough. Pat's passing leaves a lasting emptiness and pain in many hearts. Pat, enjoy a restful peace and share your wonderful voice with all in heaven.
Luther Cowden

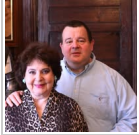
Luther Cowden - September 10, 2024 at 08:34 PM

LM

“ Dear beautiful pat ☐ your legacy will forever live on. You will be so very missed. Queen of northern soul. Love to your family and friends. Sing with the angels pat. All our love lian
Steve and Sharon from the UK xx ❤️🌹🙏



Lian Miles - September 10, 2024 at 04:04 PM



“ IN LOVING MEMORY OF PAT “PATSY” LEWIS - 1947 - 2024
I have written many obituaries for many artists, but nothing was ever as hard and painful as this was.

It is five months away from the fiftieth anniversary of my first song and production.

During those fifty years, I have worked with many hundreds and hundreds of artists.

Pat Lewis recorded far far more songs with me than any other artist throughout those fifty years.

Many other singers, like Evelyn Thomas, Barbara Pennington, and Sidney Barnes, became dear close personal friends, but none so close to me as Pat Lewis.

She used to encourage and praise me for how quickly I could put a melody and lyrics together on the spot.

Cast your mind back to thirty five years ago. It was February 1989, an ice cold winter in Detroit. The snow was piled up high on the streets, six foot high. As soon as you walked out of the car, the bitter cold hit you in the face, like a hard slap. I went to Detroit to hold our Motown Reunion, my grandiose scheme to record new material on the former Motown artists, which grew and grew, until we recorded 108 different artists on 857 songs between 1986 and 1992. I had pulled the Motown backing girls back together, bringing in Louvain Demps from Atlanta to reunite with Jackie Hicks and Marlene Barrow. On March 14th 1989, we had our huge launch outside the Hitsville USA building, with the help and co-operation of Berry Gordy's sister Esther Edwards. The Andantes all turned up with Pat Lewis. “Pat is our lead singer now” Jackie proudly proclaimed, And my close friendship began with Pat, who instantly bonded with me, from that day right up to last week, when we chatted for half an hour. That is why this shock was so unexpected to me.

Her skills at arranging backing vocals was second to none. She sang on about 800 of those 857 Motorcity recordings. She worked with the Andantes, and then even more with her two amazing friends, Sandra Feva (aka Sandra Richardson) and Belita Woods. She worked tirelessly night and day for me and Rick Gianatos, my

co-producer. All the Motown writers, Sylvia Moy, Ivy Jo Hunter, Sonny Sanders, Johnny Bristol, just adored her and her remarkable skills. Not only super talented but the kindest, warmest, loveliest lady I ever know in my life. The Godmother of Detroit. She recorded duets for me, with Edwin Starr and with Ronnie McNeir.

She stayed in my house at least twenty or thirty different times, sometimes for three months at a time. She used to go out to play Bingo with my Polish housekeeper Bozena.

When we made our massive documentary "THE STRANGE WORLD OF NORTHERN SOUL", I hired a new assistant, a young guy called Adi Denney. I sent him to Detroit with two video cameras to stay at Pat's house. Every day she drove him all over the city, to film every artist from The Dynamics, to Carl Carlton, all done out of the goodness of her heart. Then she flew to London to stay with me and almost single handedly put the backing vocals onto 132 artist performances for our musical timeless testament to the history of the Northern Soul scene. The one artist we most needed to find was Tobi Legend. Pat heard five seconds of the song and said "That's Tobi Lark". She immediately phoned Tobi and we played the record over the phone. The scream down the phone drowned out the song. Tobi had recorded it as a demo, and never knew that they had changed her name and released it.

Pat was a sensational cook. She insisted that we all taste her smothered chicken. We went out to the supermarket, bought a portable barbecue and charcoal. I swear that was the best chicken of all time. Her sauce could rival a Michelin star restaurant.

Life gives us very very few real true friends. I lost my Mother, I lost Barbara Pennington, I lost Les Cokell, I lost Evelyn Thomas. And now the unthinkable has happened. I have lost Pat Lewis. My world will never be the same again.

Ian Levine - September 10, 2024 at 06:16 AM

LF

“ Lady, Amy and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mrs. Patsy Ruth Lewis.



Lady, Amy and Family - September 09, 2024 at 08:59 PM

LF

“ Lady, Amy and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Patsy Ruth Lewis.

Lady, Amy and Family - September 09, 2024 at 08:59 PM

DJ

“ When your voice went out and we jammed on stage together. Patty Cakes was there. We had a ball

Deblon Jackson - September 09, 2024 at 08:11 PM

KH

“ Pat, it was such an honor to have met you. I love this picture of us from the Detroit-A-Go-Go on October, 28, 2022. You had a smile that would light up the room and a great personality to match. I love you and will miss you until we meet again. 💕💕



Karyn Hatcher - September 09, 2024 at 01:45 PM

DK

“ I really wish that Donna and I could have met you face to beautiful face. You are the Queen of Detroit and Northern Soul. Rest in eternal excellence.

Donna Mccoy/Tim Kinley - September 08, 2024 at 06:26 PM

 Dennis Burr

“ I had the honor and privilege of working in the studio with Patsy. She was a consummate professional and a very nice person. May she rest in eternal peace.

Dennis Burr - September 08, 2024 at 06:19 PM

FL

“ Fay and Les(UK) purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Patsy Ruth Lewis.



Fay and Les(UK) - September 08, 2024 at 11:05 AM

FR

“ My beloved sister not by birth but by heart gone too soon. Not only a multi talented vocalist, musical director. writer, and all round performer but my big sister for almost 60 years. She lit up any room or stage she was in or on. We shared many happy times sad times she was my rock and I need to now stand tall and strong without her presence. But as long as I keep her in my thoughts and heart and speak her name with love, she will never be very far away. God speed Rest in heavenly peace my ever loving sister

Fay Lieben Rushton - September 08, 2024 at 09:50 AM

LM



Lian Miles - September 10, 2024 at 04:05 PM

FR

“ *Fay Lieben Rushton lit a candle in memory of Patsy Lewis*



Fay Lieben Rushton - September 08, 2024 at 08:34 AM



“ *Julie Weatherley lit a candle in memory of Patsy Lewis*



Julie Weatherley - September 07, 2024 at 03:46 PM

ZE

“ *zetty lit a candle in memory of Patsy Lewis*



zetty - September 07, 2024 at 11:53 AM

PK

“ *My heart is heavy, knowing that this great lady has left us! A sweetheart with a powerful voice and oh what a legacy she has left behind.*



Patricia Washington King - September 06, 2024 at 07:33 PM



“ *Pat Lewis was quite simply a legend. But she was so gracious with it. I was honoured to share the stage with her more than once and have her beautiful voice on my records. Gone too soon. Love you Pat x*

Paul Davies - September 06, 2024 at 07:03 PM