



## Ms. Wannetta Louise Joyce

August 28, 1947 - January 10, 2021

### In Loving Memory Of:

Wannetta Louise Brown was born on August 28, 1947, in the City of Anawalt, West Virginia to the union of Hubert Brown and Wanda Lee Marshall-Brown. Wannetta accepted Christ an at early age, attending Mount Bethel Church and becoming a longtime member of the church's choir. The daughter of a proud coal miner, Wannetta also learned the value of hard work, working as a housekeeper along with siblings for residents outside of town. In her teens, she worked as a candy striper at a local hospital, and in her alma mater's school cafeteria, Gary District High School.

Wannetta graduated from Gary District High in 1965, and later came to Detroit, Michigan. She attended Highland Park Community College, and the Detroit Business Institute. She was employed at Michigan Bell (AT&T) for 30 years working her way up from switchboard operator, payroll clerk, administrator, to a manager in the conference, corporate security, human resources, and training bureaus. She also became active in the Communication Workers of America (CWA). Officially retiring in 1995, Wannetta would return to work as a contractor for Michigan Bell (then SBC) in 2001. In addition to her stellar career at Michigan Bell, Wannetta would go on to serve the citizens of the State of Michigan as the Executive Assistant to the Director of Southeast Michigan and Governor Jennifer Granholm in 2003. She proudly served Directors Robert Davis and Kim Trent until the offices transitioned into another administration in 2011.

Committed to public service, Wannetta continued to serve in Michigan's Unemployment Insurance Agency until her retirement in 2016.

Aside from her careers, Wannetta enjoyed spending time with her family, especially her two boys, Herbert and Hubert. Known for her fashion sense and fine jewelry, Wannetta enjoyed shopping, vintage coin collecting and estate sailing. She also enjoyed volunteering with various church community groups with her friends and family. A southern lady, she believed in cooking during the holidays, and was well known for her whole fryer fried chicken recipe.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ms. Wannetta Louise Joyce*

January 21, 2023 at 09:34 PM



“ *Charlene Lowe lit a candle in memory of Ms. Wannetta Louise Joyce*



**Charlene Lowe** - February 05, 2021 at 01:45 PM



“ *Wannetta was a beautiful person inside and out. Rest now Wannetta, job well done!!!*



**Mary Banks** - January 23, 2021 at 01:54 PM



“ *The Craft Family (Nancy, Leroy, and Quil). purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Ms. Wannetta Louise Joyce.*



**The Craft Family (Nancy, Leroy, and Quil).** - January 22, 2021 at 11:18 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Ms. Wannetta Louise Joyce.*



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January 21, 2021 at 04:40 PM



“ *Ms. Joyce was an amazing lady that was kind, gentle and very considerate. Her willingness to help and aid others was unmatched. I'm so grateful that I was able to work with her during my time in Governor Granholm's Office.*

*My sincere condolences.*

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**Larry C Arreguin** - January 21, 2021 at 03:26 PM



“ *Mr. & Mrs. Rommey Stepney, Jr. (Lil Man & Lori) purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Ms. Wannetta Louise Joyce.*



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**Mr. & Mrs. Rommey Stepney, Jr. (Lil Man & Lori)** - January 21, 2021 at 12:52 PM



“ *Tracey A Peterson lit a candle in memory of Ms. Wannetta Louise Joyce*



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**tracey a peterson** - January 20, 2021 at 10:07 PM

“ I've known Wannetta since the sixties, we met when we were working at Michigan Bell, we were both operators on Bethune. She was a little 4 feet 11 inch, maybe a 100-pound woman with a heart as big as the sky. When you met Wannetta, she would greet you with a smile on her face and cheerfulness in her voice.

Wannetta and I were friends for over 50 years and she has never changed since the first day I met her. When I would call her on the phone, I could hear the cheerfulness in her voice, and I knew she had a smile on her face.

Wannetta was always, always willing to help anyone she could, she had a heart of gold. I never heard her say a cuss word or say anything bad about anyone. If you needed anything and she had it, she'd give it to you with no questions asked.

When I visited Wannetta, she would offer me a cup of tea, (her favorite drink), or a cup of coffee from the pot that Herbie made. It didn't matter what she had, if she had it, you had it too.

Wannetta had two sons, Herbert (Poobie) and Hurbert (Herbie), and her daughter-in-law Vonnie. She loved them all dearly. She always told me how well Herbie and Vonnie took care of her, which they did, as I've witnessed it for myself.

Covid 19 wouldn't allow me to visit Wannetta like I would have liked so I would call her two or three times a week. I don't know how many voicemails I left to let her know I was thinking of her and I loved her. Thank you Herbie and Vonnie for playing the voicemail recordings for your mom to hear.

On January 10, 2021, God told Wannetta it was time to join Him.

Wannetta is at peace. Wannetta is in no more pain. Wannetta is happy in her new home.  
I love her. I miss her.

*Wannetta was truly a good friend.*

*Rest well and rest in peace my FRIEND.*

*Your FRIEND,*

*Christine*

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**Christine Peterson** - January 20, 2021 at 09:02 PM

EK

“Wow Wannetta it saddens me to know that such a wonderful person as you have left us. I met you when it was Michigan Bell . You me Joyce and Shelia, the 4 amigos. We was so close we knew about our childhoods, kids, marriages and divorces. We knew the good bad and ugly of each other. Our kids grew up together. We shopped and worked together. Doing our lunch time if we weren't eating together at a restaurant, we was hitting some stores. We would visit each other home to sit and talk or go shopping. And boy did we party...we would go to several different clubs. We would call each other to ask "what are you wearing ". Then we would agree what we all was wearing. We all would meet over Wannetta's house. Then all go together in one car. We had so much fun. We told each other our most inner thoughts and problems because we never judged one another. We gave each other advice, help and prayers. Wannetta however was very special. She was a giver. If someone said girl I like those earrings she would say would you like them? We'd say no girl. We just said that we like them. Yet she never wanted you to do or give to her. We would have to assist that she accept our help. It was truly a blessing to have known her. My sister-friend you will truly be missed until we met again. Love you Eddrena Kemp

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**Eddrena Kemp** - January 20, 2021 at 05:31 PM

FG

“ I thank God and I thank Wannetta Louise Joyce for being a life long friend.

Wannetta and I have shopped, walked and talked on the beach and we even did the Cha Cha after work (Smile). This wonderful woman, always had a smile on her face and in her heart. She prepared and groomed me for the corporate world. I will truly miss Wannetta and I have so many great memories to hold close to my heart. I will place Rose petals in the water at the Pensacola Beach. RIP my Sister love you more  
Ferne G

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Ferne Guillebeaux - January 20, 2021 at 05:16 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ms. Wannetta Louise Joyce.



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January 20, 2021 at 12:37 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ms. Wannetta Louise Joyce.



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January 18, 2021 at 06:54 AM

TB

“ *Mrs. JOYCE always had a smile for everyone. She had a giving heart. She was a wonderful mother. In their young years, She was active in her children's lives. She set them on the right path. She participated in their school activities, Boy Scout activities, church activities and more. She will be missed. We will keep her family lifted in prayer.*

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**Ted and Delli Van Buren** - January 18, 2021 at 12:45 AM

MZ

“ *I had the pleasure of working with Wannetta in Governor Granholm's office. She was smart, thoughtful and always happy and kind. Peace to her family and thank you for sharing this wonderful woman with me. -- Mary Zatina*

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**Mary Zatina** - January 16, 2021 at 11:47 PM



“ *Travone Chambers lit a candle in memory of Ms. Wannetta Louise Joyce*



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**Travone Chambers** - January 15, 2021 at 11:55 AM



“ *May GOD comfort and bless the family of Wannetta one of my very best friends. We have been through a lot over the years when we worked at AT&T. She always was proud of her boys and kept a happy spirit no matter what was happening. She helped anyone that she could and did not like asking for help for herself. It was four of us that was always together and we were trying to get together again. I will forever miss my friend and may she rest in peace with no more pain or fear. Joyce Chambers*

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**Travone Chambers** - January 15, 2021 at 11:54 AM

CH

“ Gary and I will miss my friend. My friend that's what we would say to each other "Hey my Friend". She always had a cheery welcome over the phone or if you popped up for a visit. My friend had a heart filled with so much love. She was always helping someone Wanetta will be missed as a member of Blessed Hands sewing Ministry. I remember when she came up with a awesome idea for a fundraiser it was Girls and pearls fashion show she donated so many pearls OMG! We were rolling in pearls the fundraiser was a success! Then there was the I can fundraiser. People donated cans to the church that also was a success I'm so blessed to have known her. We had so much fun especially shopping. She loved to shop you know the saying Shop til You Drop she shopped I dropped lol I remember one time when shavaughn and Hue had left to go grocery shopping. My friend waited till they left and then said come on let's go shopping she said we got to hurry up because the bus will be here soon. She knew what time the bus was coming and she knew what time to get back on the bus to go home when they got home we were sitting in the kitchen drinking tea laughing and talking like we never left they never ever knew we had went shopping LOL I can imagine my friend now in heaven picking out wings and robes saying oh yes Angel girl that looks good on you try these wings with this robe and I love these shoes LOL... I'll miss you My Friend thank you for all the wonderful memories. I'll cherish them forever.

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**Cheryl** - January 13, 2021 at 05:44 PM

TA

“ *To The Brown & Joyce Family  
The Town of Anawalt wishes express our Heart Felt Sympathy to  
Mayor Dorothy Wilson, Mary Allen and Family in the loss of their  
Sister, Mother, and Aunt . Mrs. Wannetta was very Jolly person who  
loved to visit Home and she loved to visit the neighborhood. She will  
be truly missed.*

*Sincerely*

*Town Recorder Brenda Presley  
Mayor Dorothy Wilson  
Citizens of Anawalt*

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**Town of Anawalt** - January 13, 2021 at 05:19 PM

IC

“ *GDHS made us classmates..life made us  
family..I will miss our phone chats..having a  
good laugh!!! R.I.P.  
FLY HIGH ANGEL SISTER FRIEND...*



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**Inez COLVIN-GRAVES** - January 13, 2021 at 04:22 PM