



Barbara "Gran" Russell

February 4, 1944 - July 4, 2021

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. "(2 Timothy 4:7) Barbara Jean Wallace Russell fought for over 30 years and on July 4, 2021 she finished her course, all the while keeping her faith and living that faith out day by day. Born February 4, 1944 in Jackson, Tennessee to the late Millard "M.C." and Clara Myrtle Carrington Wallace, Barbara was around 2 years old before she met her daddy, who was stationed in the Philippines in WWII. After his return, the family of 3 gradually grew to become a family of 9! Barbara took great care of her 4 baby brothers and 2 baby sisters, earning her the nickname of "The Boss". She graduated from Lexington High School in 1962 and moved to Memphis to attend Draughon's Business School. While there, she met Hugh Russell and they were married on April 25, 1964 after only 6 short months of dating! The union was blessed with their first daughter, Kimberly Renee, in 1966 and the second, Regina Kaye, in 1972. Shortly after that, Hugh and Barbara decided to return to her home in Darden, where they built their home and have resided for the last 48 years. Barbara went to work for Helms Motor Company in 1975 and after "retiring" to 3 days a week in 2018, she continued there until her health rendered her unable earlier this year. The Helms' and her work family were very dear to her. First diagnosed in late 1990, Barbara fought cancer on and off for over 30 years, working through it all with a smile and with her loving husband always by her side, taking care of her, and never losing their faith. She was raised in and returned to Mt. Ararat Baptist Church in Darden, where she was an active member,

taught Sunday School, was church Secretary, and rarely missed a service. She dearly loved her church and her church family, but most importantly she loved her Lord and wanted others to know Him too. She lived her faith daily with her strength, courage, patience, love, and generosity. Her faith, loyalty, dedication to her family and her church are just some of the things she will be remembered for most, as well as her cooking! She was a fabulous cook and often said that was her “therapy”. She cooked Sunday lunch for her family every Sunday up until the last few months, and insisted that it carry on with her daughters and Hugh taking over the cooking duties. She loved her family, especially her grandchildren and great grandchildren who lovingly called her “Gran”. She was an amazing wife, mother, sister, aunt, and “Gran” and she will be greatly missed.

Barbara was preceded in death by her 2 sisters, Beverly K. Latham and Patricia Ann “Trix” Larsen. Survivors include her husband of 57 years, Mr. Hugh H. Russell; her 2 daughters, Kimberly Renee Ivy (Dale) and Regina “Gina” Kaye Woods (Brian); her 4 brothers, Curtis Lee Wallace (Gina), Donald Wallace, David “Corny” Wallace (Maggie), and M. C. “Junior” Wallace, Jr. (Lou Ann); her 6 grandchildren, Lynleigh Rianna Butler (Lain), Carrington Elizabeth “Caty Beth” Woods, Mason Parker (Destiny), Carson Woods (Camryn Scott), Whitney Funderburk (Jared), and Ashley Whitlock (Dustin); and her 6 great grandchildren, Layton, Avery, Cecelia “CeCe”, Lainey Claire, Laken, and Annie.

The family will receive friends on Monday from 2-8 PM at Pafford Funeral Home in Lexington and on Tuesday 9-11 AM at Mt. Ararat Baptist Church in Darden. Funeral services will be at 11 AM at Mt. Ararat Baptist Church with burial to follow in the church cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family request donations to be made to Tennessee Baptist Children’s Home or The Gideons International.

Pafford Funeral Home

Cemetery Details

Mt. Ararat Cemetery

Mt. Ararat Road
Darden, TN

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 5. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Pafford Funeral Home - Lexington, TN
71 Monroe Ave.
Lexington, TN

Visitation

JUL 6. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Mt. Ararat Baptist Church
Mt. Ararat Road
Darden, TN

Church Service

JUL 6. 11:00 AM (CT)

Mt. Ararat Baptist Church
Mt. Ararat Road
Darden, TN

Tribute Wall



“ *Pafford Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Barbara "Gran" Russell*



Pafford Funeral Home - July 05, 2021 at 12:13 PM

PD

“ *Prayers for the family*



Patti Duke - July 15, 2021 at 06:35 AM

AW

“ *Prayers for the family in the days to come for peace and comfort.*



Amy Williams - July 06, 2021 at 02:08 AM

BT

“ Bobby was telling me how much his dad, Ben Tate, thought of Ms Barbara as they worked together for many years. So sorry for the loss of your Mom, sister, granny and friend. God Bless you all.



Bobby/Donna Tate - July 05, 2021 at 10:11 PM

DB

“ To: Mr. Russell, Gina and Kim and families,
My heart is with you in this tragic loss Barbara. I always enjoyed visiting with her at the dealership. She could always combine 'taking care of business' with warmth and still make time for friendship. May your sweet memories bring you comfort, and the support of your loving family bring strength and peace in these difficult days.
Sincerely,
Dian Helms Brown

Dian Brown - July 05, 2021 at 04:18 PM

AS

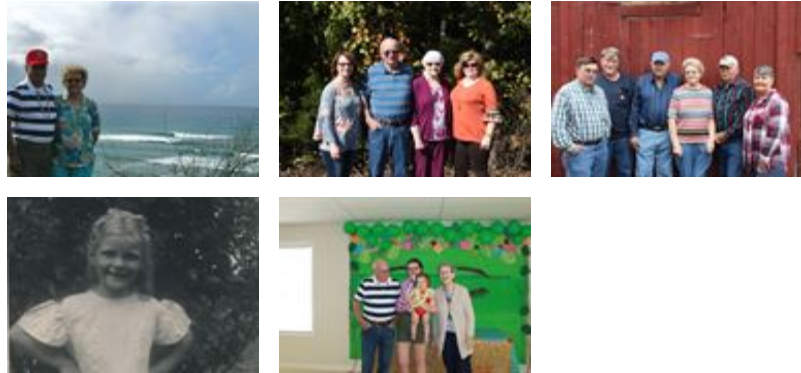
“ Ann Janelle Gilbert Smith sent a virtual gift in memory of Barbara "Gran" Russell



Ann Janelle Gilbert Smith - July 05, 2021 at 03:07 PM



“ 107 files added to the album LifeTributes



Pafford Funeral Home - July 05, 2021 at 12:12 PM



“ Cotton Rhodes lit a candle in memory of Barbara "Gran" Russell



Cotton Rhodes - July 05, 2021 at 10:22 AM



“ Robin Rainey lit a candle in memory of Barbara "Gran" Russell



Robin Rainey - July 05, 2021 at 09:55 AM



Sorry for your loss but at least she is in a better place prayers for your family

Robin Rainey - July 05, 2021 at 09:56 AM

BP

Prayers and peace to all Barbara's family, she was a fine lady and a privilege to know her over the years.

Blair Presson - July 05, 2021 at 12:42 PM

EV

“ *Prayers for you all during the loss of this precious lady. I pray that God will hold you close and give you peace and comfort for the days to come.*



Elizabeth Vineyard - July 05, 2021 at 03:00 AM

DD

“ *Donna Darrough lit a candle in memory of Barbara "Gran" Russell*



Donna Darrough - July 04, 2021 at 10:57 PM

MA

“ *Gina, our prayers are with you and your family in the loss of your mother. I know that she will be missed, and the memories that you have of her will always be dear and near your heart.*

Mike Austin - July 04, 2021 at 10:35 PM

MS

“ Gina, I'm keeping you and your entire family in prayer. May your mom rest in peace.



mike Singleton - July 04, 2021 at 10:09 PM



“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Barbara "Gran" Russell.



July 04, 2021 at 10:06 PM

BC

“ Brenda Casey lit a candle in memory of Barbara "Gran" Russell



Brenda Casey - July 04, 2021 at 09:53 PM

RR

“ Robin Rainey lit a candle in memory of Barbara "Gran" Russell



Robin Rainey - July 04, 2021 at 08:25 PM



Prayers for your loss she is at peace now not suffering anymore

Robin Rainey - July 04, 2021 at 08:27 PM