



## Ms. Deborah Ann West

December 26, 1956 - March 15, 2015

Deborah Ann Matthews West was born December 26, 1956 in Bastrop, LA to Annette Matthews and the late Arthur Ford. Deborah received Christ at an early age at the Greater Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church. She received her early education from Morehouse Parish Public schools until the age of 12, when she moved to Kalamazoo, MI with her family. Deborah started her education here in Kalamazoo at Hillside Middle school and later graduated from Kalamazoo Central in 1974. She furthered her education at Kalamazoo Valley Community College and Davenport College.

Deborah has been a hard worker all her life, by taking care of her children and family. She worked many years for Kalamazoo Public Schools, Borgess Hospital, Bronson Hospital, and Hudson's Country Manner until she opened her own daycare called "Kids First".

Deborah had love for everyone that she came into contact with and she left a lasting impression on you. She could light up the room with her smile and wit. Deborah began her battle with cancer in 2007. Although it was an uphill battle, Deborah remained an inspiration and a positive role model for her family and friends.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Donald Ray West Sr.; brother Donald Earl Matthews; sister Linda Sue Ford; maternal grandparents Azzetta

and Matt Matthews; 4 aunts; Evelyn (Roosevelt) Bradford, Solone Matthews, Neil Matthews and Violet (Malcom) Rigdell; 3 Uncles; Jimmy Earl (Lilly Bell) Matthews, Jessie Smith and Buddy Matthews

She leaves to cherish her memory: her mother Annette Matthews; 3 Children, Chesity West, Donald (Jasmine) West Jr., and Sharnice West; 7 grandchildren, Zhanaria West, Da'Vari Jackson West, Quayvion Lampkins, Miracle West, Donald West III and Javarion Boyd; 1 God-daughter, Lashanda (Terrence) Hubbard; 2 extended children: Khiera and Jemari Matthews; 2 brothers, Rictchen (Mary Joe) Matthews and Rev. Glen (Cynthia) Miller; 7 sisters, Wanda Matthews, Cheri Matthews, Mimi Matthews, Tonya Matthews, Theresa Matthews, Lillian Ford and Martha Ann Ford; 1 loving aunt, Brunetta Smith; mother-in-law, Irma Lee Peters; special friends, Liz Hennings and Charlene Super; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

# Cemetery Details

## Mount Ever-Rest Cemetery (North-Drake Road, Kalamazoo, MI)

Kalamazoo, MI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 20. 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home - Chapel  
521 Douglas Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI

## Visitation

MAR 21. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

The Galilee Baptist Church  
1216 North Westnedge Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

## A Service in Loving Memory

MAR 21. 12:00 PM (ET)

The Galilee Baptist Church  
1216 North Westnedge Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ms. Deborah Ann West*

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ *Ms. Deborah Ann West*

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ *Deb it not a day that goes by,that your beloved brother Ritche Matthews doesn't miss you, he is always telling me how he miss you and you knew he loved him some Peaches...He knows you are with him in spirit,continue to watch over him and the FAMILY. You are the glue that held the Family together. .They will stick together for your sake...The Family is Missing U*

**Emily Whyte** - May 31, 2015 at 10:16 PM



“ *Thinking about you my sister...Gone but not forgotten. Continue to rest my sister...We all love you but GOD loves you best...*



**Emily Whyte** - May 31, 2015 at 10:10 PM



“ *Quèèn Wimes lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Quèèn Wimes** - April 15, 2015 at 04:56 PM

CS

“ *Carmen Clark Steward lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Carmen Clark Steward** - March 27, 2015 at 10:18 AM

JO

“ *Joyce Oliver lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Joyce Oliver** - March 23, 2015 at 02:52 PM

KJ

“ *Kimnerly Jones lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**kimnerly jones** - March 23, 2015 at 12:17 AM



“ *Rebecca Naughton lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Rebecca Naughton** - March 22, 2015 at 09:16 AM



“ *Ella Lewis lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Ella Lewis** - March 22, 2015 at 08:50 AM



“ *Angela Stacy lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Angela Stacy** - March 22, 2015 at 06:09 AM



“ *U will truly be missed r.i.h cousin peaches love u always*



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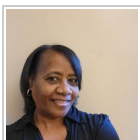
**Sandra Matthews** - March 21, 2015 at 08:36 PM

ER

“ Erin lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West



Erin - March 21, 2015 at 03:20 PM



“ DM Mathewsmurphy lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West



DM Mathewsmurphy - March 21, 2015 at 12:37 PM



“ you will always be in my heart and I will miss you from Angie



Angela Arnold - March 21, 2015 at 11:50 AM

HT

“ Hazel Tellis lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West



Hazel Tellis - March 21, 2015 at 10:37 AM

BB

“ My condolences and prayers go out to the entire West/ Matthew family. May the Lord give you strength during this difficult time. God bless you ALL!  
Ms. Beverly Brown and family



Beverly Brown - March 21, 2015 at 06:30 AM

MD

“ Sending my Love & Condolence to the Mathew family, I remember being with Deborah, spending nights with her, I haven't seen her in a while, I am so sorry for your loss. God wanted another "Angel" Ms. Deborah Ann West standing by His side. Deborah you will be missed. I will always remember the good times we shared together. As we grew older we apart from one another, never the good memories never the good thoughts. You will be truly missed. Praying for your precious children that they follow good in your foot steps. Love Always Mary Dixon.



Mary Dixon - March 21, 2015 at 06:08 AM

MD

“ Mary Dixon lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West



Mary Dixon - March 21, 2015 at 06:05 AM

MB

“ I just want to send my heartfelt condolences to Deborah's Children, her Mother, and her sisters and brothers. I am thinking about you all this evening. Deborah was a genuinely loving and kind person. Remember, she now lives inside of each one of you. I pray that God continues to keep his arms around you during this most difficult time.

*"The Lord is near to those who are broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." Psalm 34:18*

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**Merry S. Battles** - March 20, 2015 at 07:31 PM

SH

“ Thought and prayers to the family....

*Love, Marcus and Shaneka (Bradford) Brown and family*

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**shaneka** - March 20, 2015 at 03:13 PM

CH

“ Charlene Harkness lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West



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**Charlene Harkness** - March 20, 2015 at 11:23 AM

KM

“ When Chad and I moved to Kalamazoo in 2010 we had no family and were expecting a baby, when my daughter Ni'Ala was about 8 months we found Mrs. West. She did more than take care of my daughter, she became family. Whenever I needed Mrs. West she was there. My mother whom only meet her twice loved Mrs. West and spoke highly of her. I'm so sad to hear that she has past. I can only pray that God looks over your family in this time of need.

Kenyetta Miller - March 20, 2015 at 12:50 AM

KM

“ When Chad and I moved to Kalamazoo in 2010 we had no family and were expecting a baby, when my daughter Ni'Ala was about 8 months we found Mrs. West. She did more than take care of my daughter, she became family. Whenever I needed Mrs. West she was there. My mother whom only meet her twice loved Mrs. West and spoke highly of her. I'm so sad to hear that she has past. I can only pray that God looks over your family in this time of need.

Kenyetta Miller - March 20, 2015 at 12:45 AM

GF

“ Gigi Coleman & Family lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West



Gigi Coleman & Family - March 19, 2015 at 10:26 PM

AS

“ *Alma Snell sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Alma Snell** - March 19, 2015 at 08:31 PM

SP

“ *Sheila Pittman lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Sheila Pittman** - March 19, 2015 at 07:33 PM

SP

“ *Sheila Pittman lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Sheila Pittman** - March 19, 2015 at 07:33 PM

RL

“ *Ramona Seaberry Lumpkin lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Ramona Seaberry Lumpkin** - March 19, 2015 at 07:27 PM

RS

“ Rosemary Johnson & Michael, Snell lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West



Rosemary Johnson & Michael, Snell - March 19, 2015 at 06:35 PM

EH

“ Evelyn Henry sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West



Evelyn Henry - March 19, 2015 at 05:30 PM

EF

“ Earline Fields And Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West



Earline Fields and Family - March 19, 2015 at 04:00 PM

ML

“ MS WEST WAS MY SUGA, SHE HAD THE WHITEST TEETH EVER! IT WAS TRULY MY JOY AND PLEASURE SERVING HER. GOD IS GOOD FAMILY. PLEASE HOLD ON TO THAT. I LOVE AND WILL MISS HER DEEPLY. SHE WAS SUCH A FRIEND. SHE WAS VERY GENEROUS TO ME. WE HAD A LOT OF LAUGHS TOGETHER. I BELIEVED SHE LOVED ME AND THAT'S A GIFT!

MS LORETTA - March 19, 2015 at 02:11 PM

JM

“ Jennifer Moore lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West



Jennifer Moore - March 19, 2015 at 01:22 PM

BP

“ Barbara Phillips lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West



Barbara Phillips - March 19, 2015 at 01:13 PM

BP

Our condolences to the West family. We are sorry for your loss.

Barbara Phillips - March 19, 2015 at 01:15 PM

RM

“ Rachel Miller lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West



Rachel Miller - March 19, 2015 at 09:40 AM

DW

“ *Dorian Washington lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Dorian Washington** - March 19, 2015 at 04:57 AM

LM

“ *Lori Miller lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Lori Miller** - March 19, 2015 at 04:55 AM

SW

“ *Sonia Wilkerson lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Sonia Wilkerson** - March 19, 2015 at 04:44 AM

SB

“ *cuz I love you so much you always was there for me when no one else cared and told me how it was even if it hurt God Bless and be Good you and mom behave up there*

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**sherwood bradford** - March 18, 2015 at 10:25 PM

PG

“ *Pauline Gardner lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Pauline Gardner** - March 18, 2015 at 09:12 PM

JJ

“ *I will always remember Deborah known to some of us as Peaches. She provided loving care to my two youngest grandchildren, Shawn & Lyric. I have known Peaches and the family for a very long time and I am glad to have been a part of your life. May you rest in peace. To the family trust in God to get everyone through this because He can and He will. Peace.*

*JoAnn Jones*

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**JoAnn Jones** - March 18, 2015 at 08:10 PM

JJ

“ *JoAnn Jones lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**JoAnn Jones** - March 18, 2015 at 08:04 PM

MM

“ *MERRY MITCHELL-BATTLES lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**MERRY MITCHELL-BATTLES** - March 18, 2015 at 06:47 PM



“ *Blackirish Hubbard lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Blackirish Hubbard** - March 18, 2015 at 06:10 PM

SA

“ Our prayers and thoughts are with you during this time of bereavement. I've known Deb a for many years. From school, church, casino and etc. She was always so easy to talk to. With her working at Borgess, during the time my husband had his surgery, I could go down to the cafeteria and she would make sure I would get fresh coffee and sit and talk with me. I really appreciated those talks. Then just last year, I lived at the top of the hill from her. I could walk down the hill and not get home for hours, just talking with her. I invited her to church and she came. She never once told me that she was sick. So to hear of her home going has sadden me. Yet I can still say To God Be The Glory because He has already said in John 14 That he will go away and prepare a place for us and that where He is, we would be also. He will come again and receive us to Himself (paraphrased). So I stand on that promise and my prayer that the family can also stand on the promises of our GOD. So it is my hope that the family can find comfort in Jesus, just knowing that she is at rest. With sincere condolences, Sherry L Anderson (Ozier).



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**Sherry L Anderson** - March 18, 2015 at 02:42 PM

TH

“ Tanya Hollin lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West



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**Tanya Hollin** - March 18, 2015 at 01:43 PM

AQ

“ *Aquanisha lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**aquanisha** - March 18, 2015 at 11:23 AM

MG

“ *May God bless the family*



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**mikey gant** - March 18, 2015 at 11:21 AM

PF

“ *PATTERSON FAMILY lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**PATTERSON FAMILY** - March 18, 2015 at 09:34 AM

EM

“ *Eursla Moore-Doyle lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Eursla Moore-Doyle** - March 18, 2015 at 08:58 AM

SS

“ *Sherry Smith lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Sherry Smith** - March 18, 2015 at 08:39 AM

PS

“ *Percy Smith lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**percy smith** - March 18, 2015 at 08:32 AM

CS

“ *Cindy Phillips Smith lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**cindy phillips smith** - March 18, 2015 at 08:31 AM

DS

“ *Denise Scurry lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Denise Scurry** - March 18, 2015 at 08:07 AM

TH

“ *Tanya Hollin lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Tanya Hollin** - March 18, 2015 at 02:37 AM

AB

“ *Arlene Buchanan lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Arlene Buchanan** - March 18, 2015 at 01:01 AM

GW

“ *SORRY TO HEAR OF THE PASSING OF DEBORAH, ALL POWER IS IN GODS HANDS. . GEORGIA WILLIAMS & FAMILY*



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**GEORGIA WILLIAMS** - March 17, 2015 at 10:02 AM

TH

“ *Tanya Hollin lit a candle in memory of Ms. Deborah Ann West*



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**Tanya Hollin** - March 17, 2015 at 01:42 AM

WJ

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of your mom, praying for the West family in this difficult time that the Lord will give you all strength.

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**William & Laverne Jones** - March 16, 2015 at 09:35 PM

LB

*WE WILL HAVE YOU IN OUR HEARTS FOREVER CUZ*

*LENDA AND BUCK*

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**LENDA AND BUCK** - March 21, 2015 at 07:37 PM