



## Mrs. Helen Perry

October 6, 1942 - May 10, 2021

\*\*\*\*NOTE: The day, time & location for a Graveside Service In Loving Memory for Ms. Perry is listed below\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*MASKS ARE STILL REQUIRED FOR ATTENDING SERVICES INDOORS OR AT CEMETERY\*\*\*\*\*

---

### THE OBITUARY

Ms. Helen Perry, 78 of Kalamazoo, MI passed away Monday, May 10, 2021, in her home surrounded by family and friends. She was born to Lucille Franklin and R. Cophus Perry and later raised by her godmother, Jerlean Sykes-Pierson.

She was a graduated of WMU and worked as a Social Worker with Michigan and Kansas Departments of Social Services. Her second career was as a long-term substitute teacher at Hillside Middle School where she was affectionally known as “Grandma Perry” by the staff and students.

She was a devoted member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for over 48 years. Her proudest achievement was helping her children and grandchildren graduate from college.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her children, 2 sons; 2 daughters; 1 son-in-love, 1 grandson; 3 granddaughters, and a host of loving relatives and friends. Funeral Service will be held at Mt Ever-Rest Memorial Park North 1717 N. Drake Rd, Kalamazoo, at 2 PM.

We would like to thank Rose Arbor Hospice and Nurses Karen, Vashon and social worker Ken and the Galilee Baptist Church Family for their care and support.

# Cemetery Details

## **Mt. Ever-Rest Cemetery (North)**

1717 Drake Road  
Kalamazoo, MI

# Previous Events

## **Graveside Service in Loving Memory**

MAY **20**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Mt. Ever-Rest Cemetery (North)  
1717 Drake Road  
Kalamazoo, MI

# Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Helen Perry



Harper Funeral Home - May 19, 2021 at 09:01 AM



“ Mrs. Helen Perry

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ Mrs. Helen Perry

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ I send my condolences to the family of Mrs. Helen Perry. I pray for comfort and peace for the family during this difficult time. I will miss Mrs. Perry's wisdom and her sense of humor.



Darline L Burch-Clark - May 27, 2021 at 08:25 PM

MC

“ *Melissa Craig lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Perry*



---

**Melissa Craig** - May 22, 2021 at 10:55 PM

LO

“ *My prayers are with the family. Helen's drive and passion to do what God desired of her was evident. She honored her Delta responsibility of community service and lifelong membership. My heart aches.*



---

**Liz O'Dell** - May 21, 2021 at 10:02 AM

LO

“ *Liz O'Dell lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Perry*



---

**Liz O'Dell** - May 21, 2021 at 09:46 AM

SJ

“ *Shashanta James lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Perry*



---

**Shashanta James** - May 20, 2021 at 11:26 PM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Mrs. Helen Perry.*



---

May 19, 2021 at 08:28 PM



“ *Denise Swearngen Dosal purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mrs. Helen Perry.*



---

**Denise Swearngen Dosal** - May 19, 2021 at 02:09 PM



“ *I love you my Aunt Helen Perry. I will truly miss you and our phone calls. You are gone from our presence but you are with the Angels up above. Memories of you and our weekend together will forever remain in my heart. I know God knows best but until we meet again, always know I love you so much ❤️. Denise Perry Swearngen-Dosal*



---

**Denise Swearngen Dosal** - May 19, 2021 at 12:37 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Helen Perry.*



---

May 19, 2021 at 10:12 AM

SC

“ *Sylvester & Herberta Carver lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Perry*



**Sylvester & Herberta Carver** - May 18, 2021 at 03:31 PM

BC

“ *Buffalo Soldiers-Maryland Mother Chapter purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Mrs. Helen Perry.*



**Buffalo Soldiers-Maryland Mother Chapter** - May 17, 2021 at 02:21 PM

EG

“ *Edith Gardner lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Perry*



**Edith Gardner** - May 17, 2021 at 11:58 AM

WF

“ *Woodbridge Pen Fed Credit Union Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mrs. Helen Perry.*



**Woodbridge Pen Fed Credit Union Family** - May 17, 2021 at 10:11 AM

GS

“ *Gwendolyn Smith lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Perry*



Gwendolyn Smith - May 16, 2021 at 06:07 PM



“ *Tina Echols Wade lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Perry*



Tina Echols Wade - May 16, 2021 at 02:34 PM



“ *We share in the grief, but also share in the Love and Memories of my Friend and Soror, Helen Perry. Keeping you close in our Hearts FOREVER!! LOVE YOU, Tina and Calvin*

Tina Echols Wade - May 16, 2021 at 02:32 PM

TW

“ *We share in this time of grief, but also share in the Love and Memories of my Friend and Soror. Keeping you close in our HEARTS FOREVER!!... LOVE YOU. Calvin and Tina*



Tina Wade - May 16, 2021 at 02:19 PM

LH

“ Linda T. Hall lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Perry



---

Linda T. Hall - May 15, 2021 at 09:14 PM

JW

“ Grandma Perry was absolutely amazing. Anyone who went to Hillside Middle School was touched by her seriousness of education accompanied by humor. I remember teachers fought over who got to have her in their room as a substitute teacher and students were so excited when she was in their class. Middle schoolers can be a tough crowd but she always combatted that with a mix of tough and humor, nobody messed with Grandma Perry. She made such an impact on so many. There are a lot of middle school teachers that I don't remember, but Grandma Perry was always on the top of my list. She was tough, but fair, and always had a joke and a story that got the attention of the whole class, which is no easy feat when you teach 12-14 year olds. She always had an orange and a peppermint stick, I remember she would tell us how great of a treat it was to stick a peppermint stick into an orange, no one in class really believed her. The next day she brought in 27 oranges and 27 peppermint sticks, for each of us and she told us stories most of the afternoon. She truly loved us, and we loved her.

---

Jenna Witherspoon - May 15, 2021 at 08:19 PM

ML

“ *Malinda Ligon-Whitley lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Perry*



---

**Malinda Ligon-Whitley** - May 15, 2021 at 12:29 PM

GG

“ *Guenetta Gordon lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Perry*



---

**Guenetta Gordon** - May 14, 2021 at 04:02 PM

KF

“ *Dear Soro my heart is broken to know you are gone to heaven. Going to miss you, RIP my friend Ooop*

---

**Kimberly Fisher** - May 14, 2021 at 03:13 PM

PF

“ *PATTERSON FAMILY lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Perry*



---

**PATTERSON FAMILY** - May 14, 2021 at 01:51 PM

DL

“ *Derrick Livingston sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Helen Perry*



---

**Derrick Livingston** - May 14, 2021 at 11:07 AM

AB

“ *Annette Buchanan lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Perry*



---

**Annette Buchanan** - May 14, 2021 at 10:49 AM

GD

“ *Grandma Perry helped form many a mind, both young and old, about how to do things right. In her years of working at Hillside Middle School I had the honor to not only know her, but to cherish her for all she gave to us both heart and soul. She was firm with our students, but showed them unconditional love at the same time. Grandma Perry would come to the rescue of many a sick teacher, and that helped make our Hillside all the better. She will always be a part of my heart, and always a part of Hillside. Love You Grandma Perry...*

---

**Gerald Doutt** - May 14, 2021 at 09:15 AM

GD

“ Gerald Doutt lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Perry



Gerald Doutt - May 14, 2021 at 09:05 AM

BJ

“ Buzette Jackson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Perry



Buzette Jackson - May 13, 2021 at 09:39 PM

AT

“ I'm thankful for the encouragement she was to me. My condolences to her family.



Alice Taylor - May 13, 2021 at 09:37 PM

JH

“ Joan Harris lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Perry



Joan Harris - May 13, 2021 at 09:37 PM

DH

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the Perry family we will all miss Grandma Perry and my Soror Perry. Helen has been apart of our lives for many many years. Lots of love ❤️ Bennie Jr and Denise Hairston



---

**Denise Hairston** - May 13, 2021 at 08:04 PM

MM

“ Mozella Mosley lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Helen Perry



---

**Mozella Mosley** - May 13, 2021 at 12:05 PM