



Mother Mary Lena Porter

July 14, 1926 - December 11, 2023

***A FUNERAL SERVICE IN LOVING MEMORY FOR MRS. MARY LENA PORTER WILL BE HELD FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2023, AT OUR FUNERAL HOME.

****NOTE: PLEASE SEE VISITATION & FUNERAL SERVICE TIMES LISTED BELOW****

****NOTE MASKS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST. WE WILL PROVIDE HAND SANITIZER WHEN ENTERING OUR BUILDING.

****If you have any questions, please contact us at: (269) 342-1000

THE OBITUARY

Mother Mary Lena Porter went home to be with the Lord, December 11, 2023 in Kalamazoo, Michigan. She was born July 14, 1926 in Como, Mississippi, the daughter of Houston King, Sr. and Lou Ella Wilborn. She accepted Christ at an early age and was baptized at Independence Missionary Baptist Church in Mississippi. She attended Pilgrim Rest Elementary School.

Mother Porter united in marriage to Matthew Porter and to this union a daughter was born, Gladys. She later added to her family and gave birth to

seven children: Mack, James Arthur, Bruce, Sherry, Luedora, Donald, and Tracy. She later migrated to Michigan with her aunt, Dollie McGrew and resided in Kalamazoo.

Mother Porter enjoyed being a homemaker and spending time with her family. She was also community minded and was involved as a member of the Merry Maker's Club of Kalamazoo. She enjoyed working with them in setting up fundraisers, etc. She was a warm, caring woman of God who was very humble. She was very independent and strong minded but had a very generous giving heart. She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

She was preceded in death, by her husband, Matthew Porter; sons James, Bruce, Mack and Tracy, parents, Houston King Sr. and Lou Ella Wilborn, a brother, Joe Willie Freeman, and aunts, Gracie Simmons, E. Margie Phillips, Ardella White, Mary Wilson and Dollie McGrew

She leaves to cherish her memory: 4 children, Gladys Carter of Chicago, IL, Sherry Porter and Luedora Porter both of Kalamazoo, and Donald Cain of Grand Rapids, Michigan; several grandchildren, great grandchildren and many relatives and friends. Also, very special grandson, Jerome Kin, a special goddaughters, Mamie Day and Emma Jean Bailey.

Cemetery Details

Riverside Cemetery

1015 Gull Rd
Kalamazoo, MI 49048-1733
(269) 337-8227

Previous Events

Visitation For Family & Friends

DEC **22**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home - Chapel
521 Douglas Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

A Service in Loving Memory

DEC **22**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home - Chapel
521 Douglas Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

Tribute Wall



“ *Jacqueline Queena lit a candle in memory of Mary Porter*



Jacqueline Queena - January 04, 2024 at 05:17 PM

DD

“ *Debra Donald lit a candle in memory of Mary Porter*



Debra Bonds Donald - December 22, 2023 at 08:03 PM

PG

“ *Paulinr Gardner lit a candle in memory of Mother Mary Lena Porter*



Paulinr Gardner - December 21, 2023 at 10:34 PM

RB

“ *Reva Bell'Woodard lit a candle in memory of Mother Mary Lena Porter*



Reva Bell'Woodard - December 21, 2023 at 01:57 PM

TM

“ Tina Johnson Menser lit a candle in memory of Mother Mary Lena Porter



Tina Johnson Menser - December 21, 2023 at 01:19 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mother Mary Lena Porter.



December 21, 2023 at 12:01 PM

YR

“ Yvonne Reese lit a candle in memory of Mary Porter



Yvonne Heltzel Reese - December 20, 2023 at 03:56 AM

CB

“ Claudia Barbee lit a candle in memory of Mary Porter



Claudia Barbee - December 19, 2023 at 11:43 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mother Mary Lena Porter.*



December 19, 2023 at 12:44 AM



“ *Donald C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mother Mary Lena Porter.*

Donald C. - December 19, 2023 at 12:44 AM



“ *Ethel Smith lit a candle in memory of Mary Porter*



Ethel (Jones) Smith - December 18, 2023 at 02:50 PM



“ *Helen and Barbee family lit a candle in memory of Mary Porter*



Helen Brooks and Barbee family - December 18, 2023 at 12:29 PM

SW

“ *Sonia Wilkerson lit a candle in memory of Mary Porter*



Sonia Wilkerson - December 17, 2023 at 08:24 PM

RW

“ *Rj Anita McKinney Wilkerson lit a candle in memory of Mary Porter*



Rj and Anita McKinney Wilkerson - December 15, 2023 at 02:49 PM