



## Mrs. Mary (Durden) Horace

August 13, 1949 - November 7, 2009

Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Horace was born to the late Leo Durden and Versie Wilbon on August 13, 1949 in Kalamazoo, MI. She was the 2nd child in a family of eleven. She was married to Harold C. Phillips in 1964, and to this union two children were born Troy Alexander Phillips and Diedra Lynn King. She later remarried Harvey J. Horace of Houston, TX, who preceded her in death. She attended Kalamazoo Valley Community College and upon attending she accepted her position for Upjohn Company, in 1971. She gave her life to Christ at an early age and was a member of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church. she and her children moved to Houston in 1977. She was employed at Dow Chemical and later retired after 32 years of service. Soon after her retirement, she relocated to Kalamazoo, Michigan in 2007. Mary also headed the first girls' fast-pitched softball team, on the Northside, in Kalamazoo. Her hobbies included: crocheting, bowling, and in her early days, she enjoyed playing softball. She was a gentle, kind-hearted, and giving person. She was family-oriented and enjoyed spending time with family and friends, especially her grandchildren. She will be truly missed by family and friends. Mary leaves to cherish her memories: her son, Troy A. Phillips; and her daughter, Diedra L. King, both of Kalamazoo, MI; five grandchildren, Laquintin Phillips, Jasmyne L. King, Joseph King, Victroya D. Phillips, and Mayleeza Phillips, all of Houston, TX; one great-granddaughter, Desmyne Elizabeth Randle of Kalamazoo, MI; 6 brothers, Johnny (Shirley) Durden of Comstock, MI; Leo Durden and Leonard Durden, both of Texas; Jimmy

Durden, David Durden, and Anthony Durden, all of Kalamazoo; 4 sisters: Nancy (George) McPherson, and Melanie Durden both of Kalamazoo; two whom preceded her in death Linda Mattox and Carolann Durden; and many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

# Previous Events

## Service

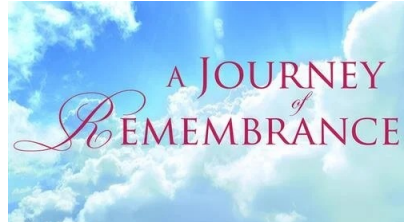
NOV **14**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home - Chapel  
521 Douglas Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI

# Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Mary (Durden) Horace



Harper Funeral Home - November 07, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Mrs. Mary (Durden) Horace

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ Mrs. Mary (Durden) Horace

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ Mary was my secretary and office manager when I was with the Upjohn company. She was very dependable and trustworthy to the degree that I would leave her with signed blank checks, both personal and company when I was on the road , which was almost fifty percent of the time, she ran the office In an efficient and professional manner that all other offices at the Houston Upjohn facility, her loss is irreplaceable to all that knew her.

Merlyn E. Bissell

Merlyn E. Bissell - September 22, 2019 at 02:27 PM



“ I love you aunt mary and will always remember you please watch over all of us##imported-begin##angela durden##imported-end##

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November 24, 2009 at 10:14 PM



“ our prayers are with during your time of grief.may God bless and keep you.##imported-begin##Eydie Hall##imported-end##

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November 19, 2009 at 03:41 PM



“ Hey Aunt Mary,  
I love you so much! When I was "found" you, Dee, Jasmyne, Joe and Tacho, did not treat me like I was a stranger; I was treated like I was in this family all along. You always spoke your mind and told me the truth. You gave me hope and encouraged me to go on even after I lot hope in "finding" my father(Leo). I hate myself because I took life for granted. I did not call you like I should have or spent time with you, but yet and still your kept loving me. I am in college because of you. You all came at a pivotal moment in my life. Thank you for being reassuring me that quitting should always be far from my thoughts. I love you always aunt Mary, and somehow I am going to get that recipe for making apple pie!!!

Nita##imported-begin##ReNita Antoine##imported-end##

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November 15, 2009 at 12:48 PM



“ Keep your heads up, Granny is in a better place smiling down on us.  
Love you guys.##imported-begin##Jabori Jackson##imported-end##

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November 15, 2009 at 12:30 PM



“ *Your loved one is gone. If you no longer have an ingredient to make cookies, it's easy to realize that replacing it with a different ingredient would not make the cookies start tasting like they used to. To expect that you will be able to replace your loved one is also unrealistic. This reality may sound even more depressing. Frankly, I love chocolate chip cookies, and the idea of not ever having one again is quite upsetting! But in time, if I had to, I could grow to love other sweets, like banana bread, sweet potato pie, or brownies. So, even if you aren't going to get over it, in time, you will adapt to the loss and find fulfillment through other experiences and relationships. So, be patient with yourself. Losing someone isn't easy. It turns your life upside down. Naturally, it's going to take a while to pick up the pieces and transition to life without your loved one. Remember, Beethoven composed some beautiful music after losing his hearing, and you will find happiness and fulfillment again in your life after losing your loved one.##imported-begin##WILLIE C WILLIAMS##imported-end##*

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November 15, 2009 at 12:16 PM



“ *To the family  
I met Mary through Nancy Her sister. She introduced me to her & I thought that she was the most friendly person that anyone would want to meet. I know that she is going to be missed by her family and friends. So this is for her children, sisters, brothers and friends.*

*You all have my love*

*May God Bless You All*

*Mary##imported-begin##Mary McPherson##imported-end##*

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November 13, 2009 at 07:35 PM



“ Our hearts and prayers go out to Mary's family. She will be missed##imported-begin##Cordell and Brenda Gardner##imported-end##

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November 13, 2009 at 11:07 AM



“ We had a great friendship, filled with L.O.V.E. ;

Truly missing you. It was great sharing the  
children, grandchildren and greatgrand babies

Hope our families will stay close. Praises to

Dee, for hanging in there for us all.##imported-begin##Jewel M.  
Weekley##imported-end##

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November 10, 2009 at 04:12 PM