



Ms. Nona Marie Harris (Hale)

February 18, 1926 - May 9, 2011

Ms. Nona Marie (Hale) Harris was born to the late Simon and Clara Harris on February 18, 1926 in Dermott, Arkansas. The family moved to Chicago, Illinois in 1931 where she attended Corpus Christi grammar school, and later attended Rock Castle Catholic High School for girls in Rock Castle, Virginia. Nona married Melvin Gulley in 1946, and had one son, Bruce "Bunkey" Gulley. In 1955, she relocated to South Haven, MI and married Hershale J. Hale, Sr. and they had two children, Gina (Hale) Vincent and Hershale J. Hale, Jr. Outside her family, she was a political activist involved with Operation P.U.S.H. in the late 60's. Nona was also a Children's International Sponsor contributing to the health and education needs of international children. She also worked in the criminal justice system with youth and as a deputy officer for Kalamazoo County in the late 70's. In 1977, she graduated from Western Michigan University with a Bachelor of Education degree and taught in Michigan Public Schools. Nona was a loyal member of Christian Life Center for the last 20 years. She took great pleasure in riding the city bus, ministering and meeting new people, spending time with her family, and going to casinos. Nona is survived by her sister, June "Pepper" Harris of Toronto, Canada; 3 children: Bruce (Laura) Gulley of Evanston, IL, Gina (Hale) Vincent and Hershale J. Hale, Jr. both of Kalamazoo, MI; 12 grandchildren: Marcus, Ashley, and Sarah Gulley; Dianna (Hale) Jones, Demarra (Curtis) Gardner, Jamaal and Javon Vincent, Antoine (Whitfield) Hale, Hershale J. III, H'lan, Hunter and Hope Hale; 6 great-grandchildren, as well as nieces, nephews and host of

cousins. Also, her best friend Faye Franks; and good friends, Bettye Walker and Kathy May.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Ever-Rest Cemetery

3941 S. Westnedge Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 12. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home, Inc.
521 Douglas Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
(269) 342-1000
info@harperfuneral.com
<https://www.harperfuneral.com>

Visitation

MAY 13. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Christian Life Center
1225 W. Paterson Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49007-1789

Service

MAY 13. 1:00 PM (ET)

Christian Life Center
1225 W. Paterson Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49007-1789

Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ms. Nona Marie Harris (Hale)



Harper Funeral Home - May 09, 2011 at 12:00 AM



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Harper Funeral Home - May 09, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Ms. Nona Marie Harris (Hale)

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ Ms. Nona Marie Harris (Hale)

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM

AW

“ i remember her always @ hardings.. she was always nice n had that smile on her face, may her r.i.p:)

ashley wilson - June 01, 2011 at 10:19 AM

HH

“ Thanks for all the things you have done for me. I know you tried your best to provide me with all the tools I would need to make it in life. I will miss you so much, not as just a MOM, but as a friend as well. Love you, Hershaj jr

Hershaj Hale - May 16, 2011 at 07:18 AM



“ Hey T.T., every time I think of you I remember our special times in the car. We were always going somewhere or coming from somewhere and I learned in order to have special, quality time with you it took place in the car more often than any place else. I'm going to miss driving you around town! I love you so and more than you ever know! Who am I kidding...you know I loved you underneath my tough skin! Mmmuuuaaa! Love Your Eldest Granddaughter, Dianna



Dianna Jones - May 15, 2011 at 11:33 PM

GV

“ Gina V. lit a candle in memory of Ms. Nona Marie Harris (Hale)



Gina V. - May 15, 2011 at 07:37 PM

GV

“ Mom, I am soo grateful that we spent Mother's Day Weekend together, all day on Saturday, May 7 and after church all afternoon and evening on Sunday. I am happy that the family all got together at my house on Mother's Day for dinner versus going out to a restaurant. Jamaal did the video which we will always cherish. This time last week we were still together.

Mom thank you for your love, knowledge, wisdom and since of adventure you will be in my heart forever. Your Daughter Gina

Gina V. - May 15, 2011 at 07:37 PM

DE

“ DebbiJ lit a candle in memory of Ms. Nona Marie Harris (Hale)



DebbiJ - May 13, 2011 at 09:48 AM

BB

“ In Sympathy



My Deepest Condolences to the family of Ms. Nona.

Ms. Nona was a very special person to me. She always talked to me and everyone she came in contact with about God, with inviting them to visit her church (Christian Life Center). Ms. Nona also spoke often of her children. She told me she had spent Mother's Day with the family and had a great time. She said "My children love me, do you know why?" I responded "Because you are an angel". Ms. Nona said, "Because they said I took good care of them". I told Ms. Nona "I believe you did". Ms. Nona Was a classy lady who loved to dress up. She loved the color pink. I went to her home one day, my nail polish had chipped. Ms. Nona looked at them and said, "Either take the polish all of the way off or touch up the polish". We both sat and touched up our nail polish. Ms. Nona kept me laughing, with both her ways and her words. I am going to truly miss talking with her, rubbing her feet (something that she did not like messed with, but enjoyed it at the same time). Putting lotion on her feet and legs, combing her hair and hearing her fuss...."I'm not handicapped", she would say, "I can handle it"! And then she'd turn right around and ask me to do those very same things she had fussed about. I'd tell her "I Love you Nana" and she'd smile and say, "I know you do, I love you too"...then she'd say, I've got a son who's single. He just got his divorce. We'd both laugh and I'd remind her "I am married Ms. Nona". Ms. Nona would just smile. Ms. Nona liked to ride the bus and talk with others. She also liked trying to convince me to take her to the casino.

Ms. Nona will always remain in my heart and in my thoughts.

Birletta Bean-Hardeman

Birletta Bean-Hardeman - May 12, 2011 at 02:05 PM

