



Ms. Sherlean Nutter

January 22, 1943 - January 4, 2026

*NOTE: A SERVICE IN LOVING MEMORY OF MS. SHERLEAN NUTTER WILL BE HELD WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025, AT THE GALILEE BAPTIST CHURCH. THE DOORS OF THE CHURCH WILL OPEN AT 10:00 A.M. FOR VISITATION.

***PLEASE SEE VISITATION & SERVICE TIMES AND LOCATIONS BELOW*

***NOTE: MASKS AND HAND SANITIZER CAN BE PROVIDED BY REQUEST.

***ATTENTION TO THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO VIEW SERVICES ONLINE YOU HAVE (4) OPTIONS TO CHOOSE FROM:

1. Go to Galilee Baptist Church's website at: gbckazoo.org
 - Or
 2. Go to YouTube and type in The Galilee Baptist Church Lives Stream
 - Or
 3. Go to Facebook, if you have a Facebook account. after logging in, type in Galilee Baptist Church
 - Or-
 4. Use the GBC App, Instagram or Twitter
-

***The DVD Memorial Tribute will be available soon

THE OBITUARY

Announcement

Sherlean (Hinton) Nutter, our beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt, cousin, and friend, peacefully departed this life surrounded by love and family and entered eternal rest on Sunday, January 4, 2026.

Early Life and Education

Born on January 22, 1943, in Pickensville, Alabama, Sherlean was the oldest child of Walter Hinton Jr. and Eula V. Curry Lanier. She moved to Kalamazoo in 1952 and attended South Middle School and Kalamazoo Central High School.

Personal Qualities and Interests

Sherlean was the beloved matriarch of her family, known for her strength, resilience, tenacity, commanding presence, and quick wit. She spoke her mind, did not tolerate disorder or disrespect, and was never afraid to correct a situation when necessary.

She often had a saying for everything, one of her favorites being, "Just keep on living, chile." She embodied a unique blend of fire, sass, and determination and had a fondness for bright colors and flowers, both reflections of her vibrant personality. There was truly no one like her.

Sherlean appreciated quality and enjoyed nice cars and music, especially the blues and classic R&B. Her favorite artists included B.B. King, Bobby "Blue" Bland, Barry White, Aretha Franklin, and Jackie Wilson.

Career and Accomplishments

A dedicated and hardworking woman, Sherlean possessed an exceptional

work ethic and was never afraid of long hours or hard work. After graduating from high school, she held several positions throughout her career before retiring from Pfizer (formerly Upjohn), where she worked for many years.

She was highly skilled with numbers and took great pride in managing and saving her money, often remarking that “her money looked just as good in her pocket as it does in yours.”

Hobbies and Enjoyments

Sherlean was also an avid reader who valued staying informed, regularly reading Consumer Reports, Mayo Clinic newsletters, and Harvard publications. She enjoyed visiting garage and yard sales, typically for what she described as a “quick look.”

During her more active years, she found joy in bowling, gardening, and spending time outdoors. She was well known in her neighborhood for walking her beloved Pomeranian, Bella. In her leisure time, she enjoyed word searches, Sudoku, and puzzles and collected items such as baseball cards, marbles, Trolls, Matchbox cars, and Garfield stuffed animals.

She was also a talented baker, best known for her sweet potato pies, which became a cherished staple at family gatherings and were loved by all who had the pleasure of tasting them.

Faith

Sherlean loved the Lord and was a faithful member of Galilee Baptist Church in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Family

Sherlean was preceded in death by her grandmother, Sallie Lawhorn; her

parents; her husband, Earl Nutter; her child, Jamila Bukar; her grandchild, Jamila Yasmin; and three (3) siblings: Charles Hinton, Cassandra Faye Lanier Conner, and Mattie Johnson.

She leaves to cherish her memory the following loved ones:

A daughter, Katrine “Kay” (Alloys) Cabell of Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Ten (10) brothers: Ozie (Eunice) Hinton of Dayton, Ohio; Walter (Sandra) Dickerson of Little Rock, Arkansas; Jimmy Dean Hinton of Pickensville, Alabama; Willie J. (Pat) Lanier of New Jersey; Willie C. Lanier of New Jersey; Samuel Lanier Sr. of Aliceville, Alabama; Carter Frison of Aliceville, Alabama; Rev. Larry Lanier of Carrollton, Alabama; Ricky (Teresa) Lanier of Tuscaloosa, Alabama; and Rodney (Emma) Lanier of Gordo, Alabama.

Eleven (11) sisters: Sallie Prude of Kalamazoo, Michigan; Cedonia (Cornelius) Smith of Queens, New York; Annie P. Wiggins of New Jersey; Emma Summerville of South Carolina; Katie Barber Forte’ of Carrollton, Alabama; Olevia (Otha) Witherspoon of Carrollton, Alabama; Jennifer (James) Gavin of Tuscaloosa, Alabama; Eula “Dell” Lanier (Joe Graves) of Eutaw, Alabama; Ruby (Ricky) Clark of Columbus, Mississippi; Wanda (Carl) Woods of Carrollton, Alabama; and Brenette (Arthur) Gardner of Huntsville, Alabama.

A very special great-aunt, Corine Green of Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Ten (10) grandchildren: Audrea (David) Clarke of Fredericksburg, Virginia; Kashim (Ameena) Bukar of Indianapolis, Indiana; Sadiq (Miaa Fisher) Bukar of Columbus, Ohio; Brishen (Elizabeth) Miller of Morrisville, Pennsylvania; Barsen Miller of Kalamazoo, Michigan; Iyakolo (Ali Shafie) Bukar of Dallas, Texas; Bashir (Kendra) Bukar of Dallas, Texas; Zainaba Bukar of Kalamazoo, Michigan; Bazsa Miller of Kalamazoo, Michigan; and Beigh Morgan of

Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Twenty-two (22) great-grandchildren: Ali Kashim, Hawwa, Nana, Aisha, Ali Mohammed, Jamila Annam, Hafsa, Sadiq Ali, Micki, Gunnari, AJ, Mufti, Bilal, Ameenah, Jameelah, Muhammad, Shamar, Elijah, Zainaya, Jaleel, Gabriella, and Bazsa James.

A host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Cemetery Details

Riverside Cemetery

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

Previous Events

Public Viewing For Family & Friends

JAN 14. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

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

A Service in Loving Memory

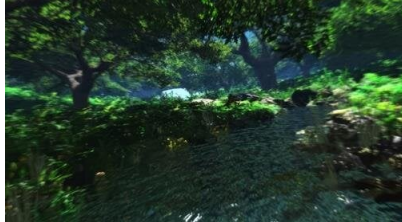
JAN 14. 11:00 AM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Ms. Sherlean Nutter



Harper Funeral Home - January 10 at 09:29 PM

CS

Rest in peace sister you will surely be missed

Cedonia Hinton Smith - January 14 at 09:30 AM

PS

R.I.P Aunty Sherlean.. You maybe gone but you will never be forgotten

Patrick Smith - January 15 at 09:15 AM

KC

We are so sad to hear of your passing. RIP Auntie, until we meet again. Love Ronald & Kichia Chatman Jr.

Kichia Chatman - January 15 at 09:00 PM

KP

Beautiful tribute video. Is this available on YouTube perchance?

Kay Pauley - January 16 at 03:30 AM

TP

Thank you Sherlean for coming into my life . Earl was my. Father-in-law when Colleen passed you were there help me through it . Thank you you will be a beautiful angel God bless you.

Tim pauley - January 16 at 03:40 PM

KP

“ I remember Grandma Sherlean would send me, my mom, and dad a cake around Christmas time. Amish Friendship Cake. These cakes were HUGE! They took a LONG time to make, and they were pretty expensive. Between the ingredients, the labor of cooking the cakes, the cost of shipping them across many states, it was the most intensive dessert I've ever had the pleasure of tasting. She tailored the cakes to our specific likes 🤔 for my dad- the German chocolate cake. For myself, she made the cherry chip. I was really fortunate that I was able to share the cake with my friends in college (which is no small feat, you wouldn't wanna share these cakes with how dang good they tasted!). I can't remember what flavor she made my mom, but I remember them talking on the phone for hours, usually on a Sunday. RIP Grandma Sherlean. I hope Bella is acclimating ❤️

Kay Pauley - January 16 at 03:36 AM

KP

“ RIP Grandma Sherlean. I am immensely blessed to have known you. I loved hanging out at your house, temped to play with your magnets and porcelain dolls 😊 and being in your beautiful garden. I know my grandpa loved you dearly, and seeing you two together made me happy. I saw how you loved my mother like she was your own child, and I'll never forget the stories you used to tell me about your childhood. Sherlean, you were as sharp as a tack! I wish I had more time to learn from you. I love you. Your memory is a blessing ☐🕊️



Kay Pauley - January 16 at 02:55 AM

CB

“ *Carrie Baker lit a candle in memory of Sherlean Nutter*



Carrie Baker - January 14 at 12:23 PM

RB

“ *My condolences and prayers for her family. We went through school with Kim and Katrina.*

Rhonda Baker-Smith

Rhonda Baker-Smith - January 14 at 10:36 AM

CG

“ *Charles & Cea Green lit a candle in memory of Sherlean Nutter*



Charles & Cea Green - January 14 at 08:52 AM

RF

“ *Ruth Williams and family lit a candle in memory of Sherlean Nutter*



Ruth Williams and family - January 13 at 10:50 PM

CA

“ *She was such a kind neighbor. I always enjoyed stopping to admire her beautiful garden, especially the lilies. All my best to her family.*

Catherine - January 13 at 10:05 PM

EG

“ *Edith. Gardner lit a candle in memory of Sherlean Nutter*



Edith. Gardner - January 12 at 10:50 PM

EG

“ *Edith. Gardner lit a candle in memory of Sherlean Nutter*



Edith. Gardner - January 12 at 10:33 PM

AS

“ *Alma Snell lit a candle in memory of Sherlean Nutter*



Alma Snell - January 10 at 11:29 PM

VB

“ *Viola Bentley lit a candle in memory of Ms. Sherlean Nutter*



Viola Bentley - January 09 at 12:13 PM

RW

“ *Rj & Anita Wilkerson lit a candle in memory of Sherlean Nutter*



Rj & Anita Wilkerson - January 08 at 07:43 PM

OH

“ *Olevia H. Witherspoon lit a candle in memory of Sherlean Nutter*



Olevia H. Witherspoon - January 08 at 05:11 PM

OW

I really and truly appreciate the long talks we had. I'm already missing you, but I know that I will see you again. Rest on my dear sister!

Olevia H. Witherspoon - January 18 at 12:48 PM

TF

“ *The Prude Family lit a candle in memory of Sherlean Nutter*



The Prude Family - January 08 at 09:21 AM