



## Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard

March 21, 1933 - August 11, 2016

Willie Louise Gothard, 83 years, went home to be with the Lord on August 11, 2016. "Louise", as she was affectionately known by all, was born March 21, 1933 in Hamilton, MS, the daughter of the late Jimmie and Corinne Harris. She accepted Christ at an early age and has always trusted the Lord to guide her steps. After high school, Louise moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan where she worked and attended beauty school.

On January 23, 1960, Louise married the love of her life, William ("Bill") Gothard, and to this union they were blessed five children: Ozell, Teresa, Craig, Christine, and Sandra. Louise and Bill were also loving foster parents to over 20 children.

Louise was a member of Second Baptist Church in Kalamazoo, and later connected to Christian Life Center (now known as Stones Church). She was a faithful member of CLC/Stones Church for 27 years, serving in many capacities, which included the Bereavement Ministry.

Louise was the owner and operator of Louise's Beauty Salon. She opened the salon in 1965, and celebrated its 50th anniversary in September of 2015.

Louise was a loving and caring wife, mother and friend who touched the many lives of the people who were blessed to come in contact with her. She will be

greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Louise is preceded in death by her parents, Jimmie and Corinne Harris; 2 sisters, Flossie and Jessie Harris and 3 brothers, James Harris, Gene Harris and Bennie Harris.

Louise is survived by her loving husband of 56 years, William Gothard; her daughters, Teresa Nelson of Lansing, MI; Christine (Irvin) Beverly of Kalamazoo, MI; Sandra (Cleveland) Moore of Lansing; sons, Ozell (Michelle) Gothard of Waterford, MI and Craig Gothard of Grand Rapids; 20 foster children, which includes Ms. Gwen Lanier, who has remained a part of the Gothard Family; her sisters, Verona Askew, Maggie Ramirez, Martha Jones, Vera Carlton, Janie Johnson and Sheila Harris; one brother, Montez Harris; 12 grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

# Cemetery Details

## Prospect Hill Cemetery

Paw Paw, MI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG **19**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

CLC Stones Church  
1225 W. Paterson Street  
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

## A Service in Loving Memory

AUG **19**. 12:00 PM (ET)

CLC Stones Church  
1225 W. Paterson Street  
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

# Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard



Harper Funeral Home - August 18, 2016 at 07:41 AM



Beautiful, my condolences to the family, Mrs Louise will be greatly missed!

Lula Ligon - August 19, 2016 at 11:56 PM



One of the sweetest" Women i'v ever known. Gonna miss her.

Evelyn Henry - August 25, 2016 at 09:30 PM



“ Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM

BW

“ *Brenda Wolterink lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**Brenda Wolterink** - October 29, 2016 at 11:00 AM

BW

*Louise was my light in many parts of my life, she co-signed for my first car and all the many advice on being a productive person ..she was a beautiful woman inside & out..she would often tell me to keep God first & all would be fine..she reminded me so much of my mother her dear friend whom she called Gipson. As they both now RIH together, I have two angels watching over our families. I pray that our families will continue to honor our mothers special memories and to keep God first and one day we will see our them again, Much Love!!*

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**Brenda Wolterink** - October 29, 2016 at 11:24 AM

LB

“ *Loretta Bates lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**Loretta Bates** - September 13, 2016 at 01:15 AM

LB

*Thanks for all your years of service...You will be missed...God Bless from the Campbell Bates Family...1LOVE*

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**Loretta Bates** - September 13, 2016 at 01:17 AM

SH

“ Sam Haywood lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard



Sam Haywood - August 30, 2016 at 05:41 PM

LB

“ Loretta Bates lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard



Loretta Bates - August 23, 2016 at 11:54 PM

LB

Our community was blessed to have “Mrs. Louise” and her family to serve us. I shall remember a sign on the shop wall...”A beautician is a magician”. Our community will honor, love, and respect Mrs. Louise for Life...Campbell Family and Bennett Family... 1LOVE

Loretta Bates - August 24, 2016 at 12:34 AM

VB

“ Valerie Brooks lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard



Valerie Brooks - August 22, 2016 at 01:08 PM

JD

“ *My condolences to the family.*

*Julia Dungey-Wilbon*

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**Julia Dungey** - August 21, 2016 at 07:04 PM

JT

“ *Jessica Taylor sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**Jessica Taylor** - August 19, 2016 at 08:24 PM

JT

“ *Jessica Taylor lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**Jessica Taylor** - August 19, 2016 at 08:22 PM

JT

“ *Jessica Taylor lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**Jessica Taylor** - August 19, 2016 at 08:21 PM

TT

“ *Mr. Gothard please accept my deepest condolences in the loss of your beautiful loving wife. Gothard Children I thank you for sharing your Mother with me for so long. Please honor her memory with Righteous living and your faith in her example and you may meet her again in the Lord's kingdom. We are praying for God's strength and comfort for you in this hour.*



*God Bless,*

*Tyrone Tarver & family*

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**Tyrone B. Tarver** - August 19, 2016 at 09:07 AM

SF

“ *Sandra Hines And Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**Sandra Hines and Family** - August 19, 2016 at 04:45 AM

JC

“ To the family:

*I think we can all share good memories of Louise. She was kind, generous and a hard working woman who kept all of us Chambers kids in line when we were young just hanging out at the Beauty Shop with her girls. I am truly thankful and my life has been blessed just knowing her and her family. I will miss her dearly.*

*My condolences to the family.*

*Janice Chambers  
Atlanta, GA*

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**Janice L Chambers** - August 18, 2016 at 10:03 PM

CW

“ Carolyn Walker lit a candle in memory of Mrs.  
Willie Louise Gothard



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**Carolyn Walker** - August 18, 2016 at 05:49 PM

CW

*Ms. Louise we always very nice, I remember when she use to do my hair. No one could do finger waves like Ms. Louise.*

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**Carolyn Walker** - August 18, 2016 at 05:52 PM

TF

“ *The Patterson Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**The Patterson Family** - August 18, 2016 at 12:42 PM

KM

“ *To The Gothard Family So Sorry for the lost of your Beautiful Wife, Mother, Grandmother. Louise was always so loving Giving and Caring, Touched So Many Life including mines. As my Foster mom. And I THANK-YOU. SHE STILL with us as Your Angle. Please Take care. Love always Karen Mitchell. Rest in Peace MRS. Willie Louise Gothard. Love*

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**karen mitchell** - August 18, 2016 at 10:13 AM

KM

“ *Karen Mitchell lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**karen mitchell** - August 18, 2016 at 09:41 AM

SW

“ *Sonia Wilkerson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**Sonia Wilkerson** - August 18, 2016 at 09:36 AM

RW

“ *Sending prayers and condolences to the Gothard family.*

*Eldora Williams  
Remenyi Williams*



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**Remenyi Williams** - August 17, 2016 at 02:33 PM

RB

“ *My prayers are with the family of Ms Louise. Ms Louise is my first memory of getting my hair done over 48 years ago. A very kind person that will truly be missed.*

*Rhonda Baker-Smith*



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**Rhonda Baker-Smith** - August 17, 2016 at 11:18 AM

PG

“ *Pauline Gardner lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**Pauline Gardner** - August 17, 2016 at 09:27 AM

WJ

“ *William & Laverne Jones lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**William & Laverne Jones** - August 16, 2016 at 10:36 PM

BS

“ *Barbara Stephenson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**barbara Stephenson** - August 16, 2016 at 10:05 PM

BS

“ *I will always have fond memories of Louise from the beauty salon as well as her family from Paw Paw. I will remember her kind spirit of kindness and generosity. She cared so much for others. Precisely the model left by Christ for us to follow. Family, be comforted in knowing she left a legacy of love and what a privilege to have been a part of her family.*

*Blessings to you all with love,*

*Barbara Stephenson*

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**barbara Stephenson** - August 16, 2016 at 10:03 PM

LD

“ *Louise was one of the the kindest, gracious and wonderful persons that I had the pleasure of knowing. Spending family reunions at she and Bill's home was most enjoyable. Before I had the pleasure of meeting her, my father, Bunchie Morris, always spoke very highly of her.*

*I have no doubt that she is in Heaven right now doing the Lord's work.*

*Rest in peace, Jehovah's child.*

*Lola (Morris) Debardelaben*

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**Lola Debardelaben** - August 16, 2016 at 07:54 PM

LD

“ *Lola Debardelaben lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**Lola Debardelaben** - August 16, 2016 at 07:46 PM

LM

“ *Linda Mcintosh lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**linda mcintosh** - August 16, 2016 at 03:11 PM

KG

“ *Keysha Gardner lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**Keysha Gardner** - August 16, 2016 at 01:51 PM

NC

“ *The Gothard Family*

*Sorry for your loss she will always be in our hearts and forever in our memory. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Mabel (Morris) Walker Family  
The Cook's, Walker's and Yancey Family from Lorain, Ohio*



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**Nancy Cook** - August 16, 2016 at 11:40 AM

LC

“ *Lillie Cotton lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**Lillie Cotton** - August 16, 2016 at 11:38 AM

EB

“ *Elaine Bradley lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**Elaine Bradley** - August 16, 2016 at 10:51 AM

EB

*Our Sweet Louise, your smile Greeting us every Year, You open your Home to Our Family reunion and for that we thank you, and your Family. We are grateful for the loving memory we share, and always will have for your kindness. May God give your Family the Peace, Love ,and strength at their time of need.*

*The Morris Family*

**Elaine , Morris' Bradley** - August 16, 2016 at 01:16 PM

RW

*“ We have many memories, Louise and Bill were our landlords for 3 years 1968,69, and 70 while we lived above the salon and around the corner @ 120 W. Ransom St. upstairs next door to her previous home. She taught me to like broccoli by having me cook it for her children while I babysat for them and of course she was my beautician during that time. She will be missed by the community. Our prayers and thoughts go out to Bill and the children.*



**R. J. and Anita Wilkerson** - August 16, 2016 at 09:05 AM

RL

*“ Ramona Lumpkin lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



**Ramona Lumpkin** - August 15, 2016 at 11:00 PM

RC

“ *Ramona And Amerriel Overton Cunningham lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**Ramona and Amerriel Overton Cunningham** - August 15, 2016 at 10:59 PM

JV

“ *Janie Varnesdeel lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**Janie Varnesdeel** - August 15, 2016 at 08:45 PM

HW

“ *Helen Word lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**Helen Word** - August 15, 2016 at 12:33 PM

HB

“ *Hal & Janet Buchanan lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**Hal & Janet Buchanan** - August 15, 2016 at 07:54 AM

BF

“ *Betty Ford lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**Betty Ford** - August 14, 2016 at 09:24 PM

FB

“ *Frank And Helen Brooks lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Louise Gothard*



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**Frank and Helen Brooks** - August 13, 2016 at 07:00 PM

LM

“ *So many beautiful memories of Louise and the beauty salon. I feel like I grew up there. So loving so supportive so many laughs and so much learning. I have nothing but fond incredible memories. You will be missed. Linda (Jones)McIntosh*

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**linda mcintosh** - August 13, 2016 at 04:08 PM