

Our Sincere Gratitude

To each of you that has called, messaged, stopped by, sent donations of kindness, and sent your condolences and support to our family, we are grateful. Today we send to you our love and a thank you that comes from deep within our hearts. May the fondest memories of our Laverne continue to live on through generations to come.

During these trying hours, the presence of family and friends have truly been a blessing. Your prayers have increased our faith; your words have encouraged our sad hearts: your visits have given us a shoulder to lean on and your phone calls added a touch of beauty to a setting that was full of gloom. We pray that each of you will be showered with God's blessing.

Those that Bear the Bier

Brandon Wilson

Matt Cox

Charney Willis, III

Rodney Darden

Shamon Stinson

Brandon Snyder, Jr.

Those that Bear the Bier in Honor

Charney Willis, Sr.

Donald Ray Willis

Larry Donald Willis

Trennis Earl Willis

And She Shall Rest Until Resurrection Morning

Lewis Chapel Cemetery
Longview, Texas

This Has Been Another Signature Service By:

J.K. Anderson Funeral Group, LLC

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A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Newton, 1779 (1725-1807)

1. A - maz - ing grace! how sweet
2. 'Twas grace that taught my
3. The Lord has prom - ised
4. Through man - y dan - gers,
5. When we've been there ten

aved a wretch like me!
grace my fears re - lieved;
word my hope se - cures;
have al - read - y come;
shin - ing as the sun.

am found, Was blind, but now I see.
ap - pear The hour I first be - lieved!
on be - long - ing en - dured
his far, and we me - come
his praise than we'd be - gun.

Laverne Willis Wilson

With Us: February 18, 1950

With Him: November 5, 2022

Saturday, the Twelfth day of November, Two Thousand Twenty-Two
One Hour after High Noon

Lewis Chapel Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
2400 Airline Road, Longview, Texas 75605

Pastor Peggy Y. Taylor, Officiant
Rev. Sheila J. Willis, Eulogist

The Reflections of Life

“Well done thy good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of the Lord.”

-Mathew 25:21

Laverne Willis Wilson entered this earthly realm on February 18, 1950, to the union of the late Charney, Sr. and Iris Nelson Willis. Laverne was educated in the Longview Independent School District, graduating with the class of 1967 of Mary C. Womack High School. She went on to further her education majoring in Music with a minor in Education in attendance at Texas College, Tyler, Texas. At an early age, Laverne accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as her Savior and joined the Pleasant Hill Christian Methodist Episcopal (CME) Church, where she also served for many years as musician. She later became full-time musician of Lewis Chapel CME Church where she faithfully served until her health no longer permitted. After twenty-seven years of service as musician, Lavern was extremely proud that she became a member of Lewis Chapel CME Church under the leadership of her first cousin and former pastor, Rev. Travis L. Stinson. Laverne was one of the most gifted and recognized musicians in the East Texas and surrounding areas.

In her professional career, Laverne was employed as a Payroll Clerk with National Linen Service and as an Executive Secretary with the American Heart Association. As an entrepreneur, Laverne was the founder and owner of Wilson Custodial Services where she employed numerous family members and friends.

The doors to Laverne's home were always open to receive family and friends and became a place of refuge as well as home for those who needed a helping hand. She was a loving, caring and giving soul who extended assistance to anyone in need. To know Lavern was to love her. Every conversation with Laverne always ended with a heartfelt sentiment, *“I love you baby”*.

Lavern entered her heavenly reward on Saturday November 5, 2022, in Longview, TX. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her sister, Helen Louise Willis Skinner, daughter, Sandra Denise Wilson, and grandson, Benandre' Wilson.

Those left to cherish her memories include two sons, James “Toby” Earl Wilson, Jr. and Brandon Frederick Willis both of Longview, TX; grandchildren, Brandon Ladameon Wilson (Roshea) and Keundra Wilson both of Shreveport, LA, Shayla Gallagher, Devin Wooten, Matt Cox, all of Longview, TX; and nine great grandchildren.

Laverne is also survived by her brothers, Charney Willis, Jr. (Wanda), Donald Ray Willis, Trennis “Trey” Earl Willis (Katie), all of Longview, TX and Rev. Larry Donal Willis (Kathy) of Dallas, TX and sister, Rev. Sheila J. Willis of Longview TX; two aunts, Alice Stinson and Veola Riggins both of Longview TX and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, extended family, and friends.





Precious Memories



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2400 Airline Road, Longview, Texas 75605

Pastor Peggy Y. Taylor, Officiant
Rev. Sheila J. Willis, Eulogist

The Eternal Coronation

Processional.....The Funeral Cortège

Congregational Hymn of Comfort.....*Going Up Yonder*

The Reading of the Scriptures

The Word Foretold (Old Testament).....Rev. Osmond Oliver

The Word Fulfilled (New Testament).....Apostle Randy Writt

Prayer of Comfort.....Evangelist Linda Writt

Ministry of Music.....The Nelson Family Choir

Resolutions.....Lynn Hall Elder

Acknowledgments.....Latissia Willis

Tribute to our Aunt.....Shani Wilson

Ministry of Music.....The Nelson Family Choir

Homily of Comfort.....Rev. Travis Stinson

St. Mark CME Church, Longview, Texas

Ministry of Music.....The Nelson Family Choir

The Eulogistic Oration.....Rev. Sheila J. Willis

As We Bid Adieu to Laverne.....Rosewood Memorial Funeral Home

May the Word I've Done Speak For Me

Precious Memories

A Tribute to Our Sister

We can shed tears that you're gone
Or we can smile because you have lived.

We can close our eyes and pray that you'll come back
Or we can open our eyes and see all that you have left.

Our hearts can be empty because we can't see you
Or we can be full of the love you shared.

We can turn our back on tomorrow and live yesterday
Or we can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.

We can remember you and only that you're gone
Or we can cherish your memory and let it live on.

We can cry and close our minds, be empty and turn our backs
Or we can do what you'd want: smile, open our eyes, love and go on.

*We love you,
Your Siblings, Charncy, Sr; Donald, Larry, Trennis & Sheila*

A Tribute to My Sister

Time has come to say Farewell but I am reluctant to let you go
For all my life I've had you here and Sis I love you so.
God has called you home to Him though I wanted you to stay
What I must do now is live my life to see you again some day
We will miss your love, your laugh your smile and all you had to give
I know how hard a fight you fought because you had a will to live
Rest on Laverne we'll miss you so, and I'll try hard not to cry
I'll say Farewell till we meet again because it's too hard to say
Goodbye.

*Love You,
Your Brother Larry*

Precious Memories

Aunt Laverne, I will always cherish the memories we made together. You were always understanding and had a caring heart for me. No matter the circumstances, you never closed door on me even giving me a spare key. Even though these last couple of months were painful, I was honored to give back to you what you so unselfishly gave to me — unwavering patience. No matter how long it took, it never mattered to you, you did what you could for me, despite your limitations. I would never be able to repay you enough for the heart you had for me. Aunt Verne, rest well, you don't have to worry about Toby and Brandon, I will be there for them. I am my brother's keeper. I will always love and cherish you.

*Love Your Nephew
Charncy, III (Bryant)*

Aunt Verne

Dear Aunt Verne, if I could describe you as anything, it would be a diamond. You were beautiful inside and out, your presence would light up a room. Just like a diamond, you were loved by everyone. When I was a little girl, I would watch you get ready for work, and I would say to myself, I wanna be just like Aunt Verne when I grow up. I enjoyed staying at your house, it was always fun, you treated me as if I were your own. You always said that I was "Your Baby" and you showed it in your actions, not in words alone. When your health had began to fail, you stayed strong, and kept your faith in God. I will always have fond memories of the time we spent together, and I'm gonna miss you so much. The tears may fade away, but my love for you never will. Loving you always and forever,
Your Baby,
Shani

Aunt Verne, I reminisce on the summers I spent with you in Longview, giving me my first job, not requiring me to do anything but still paying me at the end of the day! I will remember you taking me to church, and I would watch you in awe as you played the piano, hoping one day I would have such a gift. I will remember you calling me to see how my days were, not staying on the phone long, just wanting to hear my voice. I have so many memories, but the greatest is how special you always made me feel. Thank you for being good to me and for loving me. I will miss you so much.

*With Love, your niece,
Keye Willis-Hurd*

...Well Done
THOU GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT