

Barbara Jean Purcell
"Peachie"

December 20, 1948 - January 24, 2023





Obituary

On Tuesday, January 24, 2023, Barbara Jean Purcell, 74, of Coatesville, PA was called home by her Lord and Savior, while surrounded by family at the Chester County Hospital.

Born in Coatesville, PA, Barbara was the daughter of Laura W. Folks and the late Harvey Travis Folks. She was affectionately known as "Peachie" by her family and friends.





She received her early education from the Coatesville area public schools. While living in Coatesville, she played on an adult softball team where she served as a first baseman.

She was the widow of the late Minister Ronald Purcell with whom she shared a special love for forty years.

Barbara worked as one of the first black female crane operators at Lukens Steel for many years.

She relocated to Monroe, NC before settling in Emporia, VA where she worked within the healthcare industry. While in Emporia, she also loved singing in her church choir. Upon retiring she returned home to Pennsylvania, where she enjoyed caring for her grandchildren, spending time with family, watching sports and shopping.

Peachie was a devoted and loving mother and grandmother. She loved the Lord and attending church service. She was also known to cut a rug and was a joy to be around.

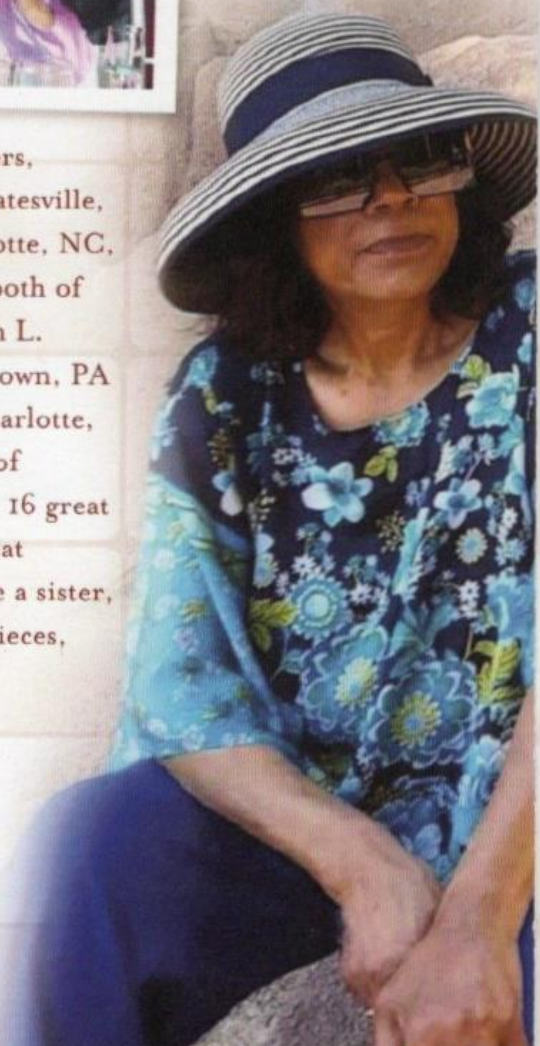
She was preceded in death by her brother Vernon Lee Folks and a best friend Safronia Vincent.



She is survived by her daughters,
Laurie L. Folks (Ricky) of Coatesville,
PA, Tonya L. Smith of Charlotte, NC,
Tamia L. Jackson (Timothy) both of
Charlotte, NC; sons, Kenneth L.
Smith (Johnnay) of Downingtown, PA
, Keith L. Smith (Julia) of Charlotte,
NC; mother, Laura W. Folks of
Coatesville; 16 grandchildren; 16 great
grandchildren and 2 great-great
grandchildren; best friend like a sister,
Renee Peoples and a host of nieces,
nephews, cousins and friends.

Sorrowfully Submitted,

The Family



Order of Service

- Processional** Clergy & Family
- Officiating** Rev. Thelma Wilson
Tabernacle Baptist Church, Coatesville, PA
- Organ Prelude** Mark Keaton
- Final Viewing**
- Opening Hymn** "Blessed Assurance"
- Scripture Readings**
- Old Testament* Psalm 23
- New Testament* John 14:1-6
- Prayer of Comfort**
- Selection** Johnny Smith
- Cards, Condolences & The Obituary** Kisha Cheung
- Poem** Diamond Folks
- Tribute** Kennedy Smith
- Reflections (2 Minutes)** Family & Friends
- Words of Comfort** Clergy
- Selection** Cheri Coleman
- Eulogy** Dr. Selena Stephenson
Greater Harvest Baptist Church, Newark, NJ
- Recessional Directives** Ventnor T. Wright, Funeral Director
- Recessional** Clergy & Family

HOMEGOING SERVICES

Monday, January 30, 2023

9:00 AM Viewing

11:00 AM Service

SERVICE LOCATION

New Generation Outreach Fellowship Ministries

101 North Fifth Avenue

Coatesville, Pennsylvania

Elder Lisa Keaton, Pastor

PALLBEARERS

Kenneth Smith

Anthony Folks

Pierre Folks

Kevin Towles

Keith Smith

Travis Smith

Ricky Oxendine

Marc Wilson

FLOWER BEARERS

Grandaughters & Cousins

COMMITTAL SERVICE & INTERMENT

Zion Hill Cemetery

404 Zion Hill Road

Atglen, Pennsylvania

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*The family extends their gratitude for the many acts
of loving kindness shown during their time of sorrow.*

*Your thoughts and prayers are deeply appreciated
and will always be remembered.*



Wright
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Ventnor T. Wright, Funeral Director, Supervisor