



Kathryn L. Kelley

June 13, 1950 - January 19, 2022

Kathryn L. Kelley (formerly Garner) was born June 13, 1950 to Tom and Ovella Kelley in Toledo, OH and passed away January 19, 2022 in Mt. Juliet, TN.

Kathy as she was affectionately known, was educated by Toledo Public Schools, graduating from Jesup W. Scott High School in 1968. She obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Education in 1991 from The Univ. of Toledo and started teaching for the Washington Local Schools. Kathy relocated to Columbus, OH where she earned her Master's Degree in Special Ed. from The Ohio State University while working for the Gahanna City Schools.

Kathy was also a devoted Christian woman, who began her walk with Christ in the early 1950's. Just shortly after she found Christ she became a member of Calvary Baptist Church, where she was baptized. As she continued to grow in her faith she became a founding member of New Horizons United Methodist Ministries of Toledo Ohio, and upon moving to Columbus, Ohio, she joined Centenary United Methodist Church, where she became an ordained minister, and was very influential in the childrens department at that church.

Kathy was involved in several organizations such as Jack and Jill of America, Coterie, Inc., Phi Delta Kappa, Inc., and also spearheaded several communities initiatives in both Toledo and Columbus, such as food pantries,

drives, and donations. She also spent lots of time tutoring her students outside of the classroom, helping to further their understanding of the daily concepts she taught.

After retirement, Kathy moved to Nashville, TN to be with her son J. Christopher, and also spent time with her daughter Nicki in Bradenton, FL.

Kathy was preceded in death by her father Tom Kelley and special aunts and uncles.

She is survived by her mother Ovella Kelley, of Toledo, OH, daughter Nicolette Garner, Bradenton, FL, son J. Christopher (Limaris) Garner, grandchildren Jonathon C. Garner II and Nailah Garner all of Nashville, TN, brother Gene (Mary) Kelley of Toledo, OH and former husband Gerald J. Garner of Newman, GA, uncle James Kelley of Chicago, IL and a host of nieces and nephews, special cousins and friends.

In Lieu of Flowers please make donations to The Dementia Society of America in Honor of Kathryn L. Kelley

Cemetery Details

Ottawa Hills Memorial Park

Previous Events

Wake

JAN 28. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Calvary Baptist Church
702 Collingwood Blvd
Toledo, OH 43604-8477

Funeral Service

JAN 28. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Calvary Baptist Church
702 Collingwood Blvd
Toledo, OH 43604-8477

Tribute Wall

JW

“ On behalf of the class of 1968 Jesup W. Scott we would like to offer our deepest condolences to the family. We will miss our classmate and friend very much and she will always be in our heart. The word of God says to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord and we know that she is with our heavenly Father. God Bless you all in Jesus name. Amen Pastor Jo Carol White-Hardison and the entire class of 1968.

Jo Carol White-Hardison - January 30, 2022 at 10:04 PM

SS

“ This hurts my heart, but I know that now, she will be at peace and without pain. I am so blessed to have known her.

She set a great example of what it meant to be a strong woman. I miss her so. The only way to give her loss meaning is to pay forward some of the grace and strength and wisdom she showed me over the years. I will remember her sweet giggle and her voice, always feminine and graceful, but different depending on if we were in church, or if she was teaching Sunday lessons to the children, or if she was lovingly correcting Christopher, or if she was cracking up with my Mom.

As she was fading, one of the words she kept saying was 'joyful.' Somehow she always clinged to that word and that is the feeling I will always associate with her. She was, in the end, striving to be joyful. She succeeded , just in the joy she brought into the world. Thank you, Mrs. Garner, for all the lessons, for all the wisdom, for caring about us, taking time with us, for being a good friend to my mother and father, and for all the ways you made an impact on a young girl's life.

Stacy Noel Simpson - January 26, 2022 at 08:02 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Kathryn L. Kelley.*



January 26, 2022 at 11:02 AM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with Nikki, Chris, Jerry and the entire Kelley and Garner Family. Kathy spread joy to everyone she met. I will forever carry in my heart our special friendship that spanned 46 years, beginning as the first 2 Black Manager's at Hudson's Department Store in the Franklin Mall. Kathy (your angel) loved you all deeply. I will always be here for you. My deepest love and sympathy.....Dr Pamela (Pam) Smith, Muskegon, MI*

Dr Pamela Smith - January 26, 2022 at 01:07 AM