



## Ms. Barbara Woodland

February 22, 1945 - October 2, 2024

Barbara Ann Woodland was born on February 22, 1945, she was the beloved daughter of Mary C. Dorsey and John E. Woodland. She peacefully departed this life on Wednesday, October 2, 2024.

Barbara was the devoted mother of Franklin D. James, Jr. (deceased), Jonathan R. James (deceased), Nicholas J. James (deceased), and Antoinette Battle, wife of James K. Motley. She was a cherished grandmother to Antonio L. Battle, Asia Z. Battle, Amira K. Battle, and Alysha J. Battle (deceased). Her legacy also extends to her great-grandchildren Carter K. Jackson, Honor A. Battle, and Iyla Battle, who is yet to be born.

Barbara was married three times, first to Franklin D. James, Sr. (deceased), followed by Preston Z. Adams, and later Anthony E. Battle, Sr.

Her distinguished career began in humble service as a cafeteria server at the U.S. Pentagon, where her dedication, intelligence, and determination shone through. After acing the civil service exam, she rose through the ranks, eventually securing a position at the U.S. State Department's Office of Protocol. Throughout her 37 ½ years of service, she worked closely with Secretaries of State, contributing to departments like the Office of Management and African Affairs. Her role allowed her to meet numerous foreign dignitaries, including Kings, Queens, Presidents, and Prime Ministers,

but her proudest moment was meeting Nelson Mandela.

Beyond her government service, Barbara was a woman of many talents. She was a certified chef, event planner, bartender, and bridal consultant. In her later years, she pursued a second career at Vidant Medical Center in Greenville, NC, working in the Rehabilitation Department until her retirement after 10 years. Even in retirement, Barbara's love for helping others remained strong. She volunteered at the VA hospital and Vidant Medical Center as a greeter, where her warm spirit comforted countless families during difficult times.

Barbara was a fiercely independent woman, a source of wisdom, and a pillar of strength for her family and all who knew her. Her life was marked by resilience, compassion, and an enduring love for her family and community. She made a lasting impact on everyone she met, leaving behind a legacy of kindness, determination, and service.

Barbara will be profoundly missed by her family, friends, and all those whose lives she touched. Her memory will forever be cherished in the hearts of those who loved her.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life Service

OCT **12**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Congleton Funeral Home and Cremations  
3205 E. 10th Street  
Greenville, NC 27858

# Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

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**Congleton Memorial Mortuary** - October 19, 2024 at 12:21 PM

HH

*Ms. Barbara will forever live in my heart. She was briefly a patient of mine, but we really got to know one another when she was a greeter at ECU Health Rehabilitation. She told me of facinating stories of meeting the queen of England. She had an incredible sense of humor and the light in her eyes will continue to light up that lobby. I will miss her terribly. Farewell my friend. Love Helen Houston.*

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**Helen Houston** - October 21, 2024 at 10:03 PM

HT

“ *Today would have been your birthday Ms. Barbara. I miss you so much, every time I walk through the Rehab lobby at ECU Health Medical Center. I knew you first as a patient of mine, but then as a friend. You shared so many fantastic stories - my favorite was when you met the Queen of England. You had such a fantastic sense of humor and I still smile every time I see your picture. Please know that you leave a huge hole in my life.  
I give the “royal wave” to you in heaven. I love you my friend.*

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**Helen Houston - Occupational Therapist** - February 22, 2025 at 07:34 AM

LIFE

“ *Well done, good and faithful servant.*

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**Maisha Richard** - October 12, 2024 at 12:54 PM

VV

“ I remember when she read the bus we always cross paths and have a break Conversation it was always good to see her but this hurtful to know of her passing good people are hard to come by may Ms Barbara rest in peace Virgie

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**Virgie Denise Vines** - October 12, 2024 at 11:32 AM

AW

“ Please accept our most heartfelt sympathies for your loss...our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time.

*Ann Wilkins*

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**Ann Wilkins** - October 11, 2024 at 07:52 AM

SA

“ I can't find the words to express how sorry I am for your loss. Your mother legacy of kindness and love will continue to inspire us all. Please know that I'm here for you during this difficult time.  
*Sarah Andrews*

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**Sarah Andrews** - October 11, 2024 at 07:39 AM

MC

“ Sending condolences and prayers to the family. Barbara was a woman of integrity, kindness and warmth. May she RIP.



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**Melba Chery** - October 10, 2024 at 08:20 PM

JC

“ It is with a heavy heart that we acknowledge the passing of Mrs. Woodland. With her eight years of service, she brought many gifts and talents to the Volunteer Team at ECU Health Medical Center. She was valued and appreciated more than she would probably know. Thank you for sharing her with us through the years.

Jennifer King Congleton - October 10, 2024 at 02:58 PM

AW

“ Ms Barbra was a great friend to me. She had such a wonderful and caring heart. She will be missed tremendously.

Angela Wooten - October 09, 2024 at 01:00 PM

JF

“ My Condolences to the family. Ms Barbara was such a sweet person she will be missed by many.



Joyce Fulford - October 07, 2024 at 07:44 AM

CS

“ Cecily Sene lit a candle in memory of Ms. Barbara Woodland



Cecily Sene - October 06, 2024 at 08:52 PM

EH

“ *May Jesus Christ Continues To Comfort And Strengthen The Family*



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**Evangelist Gwen Hudson** - October 05, 2024 at 01:55 PM

CS

“ *Cecily Sene lit a candle in memory of Ms. Barbara Woodland*



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**Cecily Sene** - October 05, 2024 at 01:30 AM

CS

“ *Congleton Funeral Home and Staff wishes to express our sincere condolences on the passing of your love one. We light this candle in their memory.*



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**Congleton Funeral Home and Staff** - October 04, 2024 at 02:09 PM