



Barbara Jean Waddell

October 24, 1947 - August 6, 2011

Barbara Jean Mary Washington Wyche Waddell

Barbara Jean Mary Washington Wyche Waddell, devoted wife, dedicated mother, loyal sister, cherished family member and Registered Nurse died August 6, 2011. She was 63 years old. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 A.M. Saturday, August 13, 2011 at Holy Ghost Catholic Church in Opelousas, LA. Visiting hours will be observed from 5:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. Friday, August 12, 2011 at Williams Funeral Home in Opelousas, LA. Visiting hours will resume on Saturday, August 13, 2011. Burial will be in St. Landry Catholic Cemetery in Opelousas, LA. Barbara was born on October 24, 1947 to the late Raymond and Velma Washington. She is survived by her siblings - Loretta Ann Melancon, John Raymond Washington and Doreatha Washington Dillon (James), husband - David J. Waddell, Sr., children - Maya Denise Wyche, Nikki JaNean Wyche-Ricks (Thomas IV), step-children – Demetria Waddell-Smith (Ennix), David Waddell Jr. (Regina) and DeNair Waddell, nieces – Cherylynn Sam (Elliot), Jacqueline Melancon-Brooks (Lawrence) and Rosalyn Melancon, nephew – Karson Jenkins (Jinny) and granddaughters – Cydney Leah Ayana, Cierra Alexis, Dinah and Tia Nicole, a God mother, Evenolia Forbes, numerous great nieces, great nephews, cousins and a host of other family members. An Opelousas, Louisiana native, Barbara's educational achievements include receiving her high school diploma from Holy Ghost High School, Bachelor's degree in Nursing from the University of Southwestern Louisiana (now ULL) in 1969 and Master of Science degree in

Health Services Administration from University of St. Francis (Joliet, Illinois). Her years of employment expanded from a Nurse Manager at Southern Baptist Hospital in New Orleans, to instructor at Charity School of Nursing, Family Practice Office Nurse, Public Health Nurse, Director of Health Services at Delgado Community College, Supervisor at Excelth Inc. Family Health, Infection Control Nurse at Lakeview in Covington, Louisiana, PACU Registered Nurse at Ochsner in Baton Rouge and Associate Director of Nursing at Gulfport Rehabilitation Center in Hammond, Louisiana. Among her many achievements and activities, her memberships included induction into the Omicron Lambda Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Being such a family person, she loved to worship the Lord and did so by participating as a Lady of Knights of Peter Claver, Lay Carmelite, lector and Eucharistic Minister as well as second grade religious instructor in First Communion preparation and innovator of graduates in St. Maria Goretti's parish. As a devoted mother, throughout the years she volunteered as Cookie Mom with Girl Scouts of America and served as co-leader of Girl Scouts Day Camp at Joe Brown Park, among many other acts of loving motherhood. Barbara loved life and would enjoy it to the fullest every opportunity she had to do so. She loved to travel – abroad and within the country – with the pinnacle of her travel experiences being her trip to Rome for the canonization of Saint Katherine Drexel. She also loved to express her love to family members and did so with her signature gift – her handmade and often personalized crocheted afghans. Her motto – “No matter what it takes” – exemplified her persistent drive to always do better. She lived this out in her battle with ovarian cancer by gracefully coping with treatments for such. Her will to persevere was relentless and nothing short of being something worthy of admiration and respect. All those who ever came in contact with this earth angel would say that she lived to do what she thought was best for those around her. There is peace in knowing that all of her endeavors helped to make, shape and define her journey of life that centered around keeping up with family matters. Funeral arrangements are entrusted to Williams Funeral

Home of Opelousas, 337-942-2037.

Tribute Wall



“ *Barbara Jean Waddell*

January 28, 2023 at 08:52 AM



“ *Barbara Jean Waddell*

Helen Carriere-Crawford - August 16, 2011 at 05:23 PM



“ *David & Family, Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Another Saint we can pray to.*

Greg & Jan Rochon - August 13, 2011 at 04:59 PM



“ *I met Barbara while we were doing part-time at Southeast La. Hosp. She was a kind compassionate lady. We had conversations about our children, husbands and life in general. We immediately became friends. I am so sorry for your loss, but I know Heaven is a better place for having her there.*

Joy Roberson - August 13, 2011 at 11:58 AM

PA

“ My condolences to David and her family. I selfishly cherish my time with Barbara and am proud to have been called her friend. I am going to miss her and the comfort of her friendship. She was truly an angel to everyone she came in contact with and we are all better individuals for having had her in our lives. She is to be admired for her courage and fortitude never complaining about the cross she bared. I am going to miss you dearly my friend may you rest comfortably in the arms of our Lord!

Paulette Alexis-Barze - August 12, 2011 at 02:23 PM

SG

“ On behalf of the State of Louisiana and the Senate, I wish to express my most heartfelt condolences to the family of Barbara Jean Waddell. As you mourn the loss of your loved one, remember to make time to celebrate the life she lived. The prayers of me and my family are with your family in this time of loss.

Senator Elbert Lee Guillory - August 12, 2011 at 11:20 AM

RN

“ My sincere condolences to the family, especially John-Raymond who was my classmate at Holy Ghost. Your sister was always a warm and loving person.
Rupert

Rupert Nacoste - August 11, 2011 at 07:44 PM

VH

“ I pray the Wadell and Washington families would be strengthened by God's grace as they move forward. The Word of God says "... My grace is enough; it's all you need. My strength comes into its own in your weakness." So, be Strong in the Lord and in the Power of HIS MIGHT.

BLESSINGS,

Valencia Hunt HGHS 1969 Classmate of John Raymond Washington

Valencia Hunt - August 11, 2011 at 04:03 PM

LS

“ To Maya, Nikki, Loretta, Doreatha, John Raymond, David and the entire family, I share your grief. Barbara Jean was a very sweet person and will be dearly missed by all who knew her. I know that you all loved her very much. May God Bless you all.

Linda Sam - August 11, 2011 at 03:46 PM

BC

“ To the family of Barbara Washington Waddell. I am saddened to hear the news of Barbara. My deepest sympathies to all in your loss of someone who was such a wonderful person. I would run across Barbara from time to time in New Orleans and always enjoyed spending time with her. My thoughts and prayers for comfort and strength as you move forward. Bridget

Bridget Bertrand Carter - August 11, 2011 at 02:43 PM

MC

“ My deepest prayers and thoughts are with Aunt Barbara's family. She was a remarkable lady with the biggest heart and someone that always put others first. Her love and concern for others was a defining quality. She will truly be missed.

Mark Carmon - August 11, 2011 at 01:53 PM

IT

“ *Expressing deepest condolences to the Washington family. Barbara and I attended Holy Ghost together in the sixties and she was always a gracious and beautiful person who excelled academically and with others. She was a "people's person" known for her friendliness and kindness to all. May the good memories sustain you during these hard times.*

Isabella Broussard Thompson - August 10, 2011 at 08:36 PM

SB

“ *Dear David and Nikki All of us at Holy Ghost Parish in Hammond are mourning the loss of your wife and mother. Barbara was an exceptional person who touched the lives of many of us. I am grateful to have known her. You and your families are in my prayers. Susan Balisteri*

Susan Balisteri - August 10, 2011 at 05:55 PM

KP

“ *Dear John Washington, I am very sorry for your loss. You and your family will be in my prayers. Sincerely, An old friend from the Clerk's office - Kathy*

Kathy Polvadore-Tickle - August 10, 2011 at 04:49 PM