



Ms. Betty J. Lewis

December 13, 1949 - September 19, 2025

Betty Jean (Richardson) Lewis was born on December 13, 1949, in Hollandale, Mississippi, to James Richardson and Mildred (Smith) Eggerson. She was “the eldest child” of her family, a role she embraced with love, responsibility, and fierce devotion. Betty graduated from Roosevelt High School in Gary, Indiana, where she proudly represented her school as Captain of the Panther Majorettes.

As the eldest, she faithfully supported, encouraged, and prayed for her siblings, always championing their success in life and love. Her heart for family extended into her role as a mother, grandmother, and aunt—she delighted in celebrating her children, grandchildren, and nieces and nephews, sharing their accomplishments with pride. A lifelong advocate for education, Betty often declared that she would graduate alongside her grandchildren. She fulfilled that promise at the age of 60, earning a certificate in Fundamentals of Payroll from Ivy Tech.

Betty was a woman of creativity, generosity, and faith. A published author of *A Precious Commodity* with a collection of children’s books awaiting publication, she shared her gift of words just as she shared her gift as a seamstress and maker. She lovingly crafted bridal veils for her daughters and nieces, handmade pillows for her family each Christmas, and many beautiful creations that brought joy to those around her. Her talents also served her church

communities. At Bethel AME Church in Bloomington, Indiana, she supported the Mary E. Nichols Missionary Society by making 100 pillows for a fundraiser and hosting tea parties to expose youth to “the beautiful side of life.” After moving to Saginaw, Michigan, she joined her family at Bethel AME Church there, continuing her devotion to serving others.

Her life was grounded in her love for God and in the words of Matthew 22:37-39:

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself.” Betty lived this commandment fully. She loved her parents, siblings, children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, friends, neighbors, and everyone she encountered.

Betty leaves to cherish her memory and legacy her daughters, Rochelle (Dennis) Laffoon and Teretha (Andre) Coleman; grandchildren, Mark Anthony Brown II, Robert Thomas, Laurence Malik Laffoon, Jalen Rogers, Brittany Laffoon, Jacob Rogers, and Aubrey Xavier Laffoon; siblings, Mary Baylor, Brenda Evans, Gregory Richardson, Karltonn Richardson, and Robin Ifeadi; her sister-cousin, Hattie Mae Rowe; her best friend, Josephine Patterson; and many nieces, nephews, aunts, and extended family members whom she dearly loved. Her parting message to all remains simple yet profound: “I love you; take care of yourself.”

She was preceded in death by her beloved son, Mark Anthony Brown; her father, James Richardson; her mother, Mildred Eggerson; and her stepfather, Acie Eggerson.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to the Covenant Cancer Center, Dr. Nourkeyhani’s office, the Covenant Palliative Care Center, and Covenant Hospice Care for their compassionate service and support to Betty and her loved ones.

A memorial service will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 27, 2025, at Bethel A.M.E. Church, 535 Cathy Street, Saginaw, MI 48601. Rev. Rochelle Laffoon will officiate.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

SEP **27**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethel A.M.E. Church
535 Cathay Street
Saginaw, MI 48601

Tribute Wall

BH

“ Our condolences to Rev Dennis, Rev Rochelle Laffoon’s Family and all connecting family of Mrs Betty j. Lewis. Our prayers remain with you. Barbara Hill & Family



Barbara Hill - October 07, 2025 at 03:45 PM

SM

“ Shender Mckinney lit a candle in memory of Ms. Betty J. Lewis



Shender Mckinney - September 27, 2025 at 11:28 AM

CW

“ Carol Walker-Calhoun lit a candle in memory of Ms. Betty J. Lewis



Carol Walker-Calhoun - September 27, 2025 at 11:01 AM

IT

“ Inez Tyson sending prayers out to the family.

Inez Tyson - September 27, 2025 at 09:23 AM

VJ

“ *Val J lit a candle in memory of Ms. Betty J. Lewis*



Val J - September 26, 2025 at 10:42 PM

BL

“ *Barbara Land-Jones lit a candle in memory of Ms. Betty J. Lewis*



Barbara Land-Jones - September 26, 2025 at 08:25 PM



“ *Joanie Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Betty J. Lewis*



Joanie Williams - September 26, 2025 at 06:50 PM

SG

“ *If there is music, She'll be dancing, and surely there is music: the embodiment of joy/ celebration...play on/dance on...*

Sam Givhan - September 26, 2025 at 11:50 AM

SH

“ Sincere condolences and prayers to the family.



Stephanie Hall - September 26, 2025 at 07:57 AM

BM

“ Beatrice F. McAfee lit a candle in memory of Ms. Betty J. Lewis



Beatrice F. McAfee - September 25, 2025 at 09:32 PM

CW

“ Calvin And. Delores Williams lit a candle in memory of Ms. Betty J. Lewis



Calvin and. Delores Williams - September 25, 2025 at 05:44 PM

AJ

“ Alice Faye Fletcher Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Betty J. Lewis



Alice faye fletcher johnson - September 25, 2025 at 01:35 PM

NT

“ *Nola And Charles Taylor lit a candle in memory of Ms. Betty J. Lewis*



Nola and Charles Taylor - September 24, 2025 at 07:27 PM

BB

“ *Belinda Barlow-Poole lit a candle in memory of Ms. Betty J. Lewis*



Belinda Barlow-Poole - September 24, 2025 at 04:21 PM

VD

“ *Vincent & Chon Dugan sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Betty J. Lewis*



Vincent & Chon Dugan - September 24, 2025 at 02:49 PM

VH

“ *Vanessa Humes-Johnson lit a candle in memory of Ms. Betty J. Lewis*



Vanessa Humes-Johnson - September 24, 2025 at 11:06 AM

KJ

“ *KimberlyFay Jackson-Woodley lit a candle in memory of Ms. Betty J. Lewis*



KimberlyFay Jackson-Woodley - September 24, 2025 at 10:21 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ms. Betty J. Lewis.

September 24, 2025 at 09:47 AM



“ *Healing Tears - Blue and White* was purchased for the family of Ms. Betty J. Lewis.



September 24, 2025 at 09:47 AM

DH

“ *Delta Hawkins lit a candle in memory of Ms. Betty J. Lewis*



Delta Hawkins - September 23, 2025 at 09:18 PM

RW

“ Rodney And Barbara Walker lit a candle in memory of Ms. Betty J. Lewis



Rodney and Barbara Walker - September 23, 2025 at 08:57 PM

JP

“ Janice Powell-Coleman lit a candle in memory of Ms. Betty J. Lewis



Janice Powell-Coleman - September 23, 2025 at 07:58 PM

OC

“ Ona Chaney



Ona Chaney - September 23, 2025 at 03:01 PM

TW

“ So Sorry for your loss, Praying for all of Ms. Lewis Family.



Tracey L White - September 23, 2025 at 02:10 PM

WB

“ *Walsezetta Bennett sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Betty J. Lewis*



Walsezetta Bennett - September 23, 2025 at 12:36 PM

SW

“ *Sara Walker lit a candle in memory of Ms. Betty J. Lewis*



Sara Walker - September 23, 2025 at 08:14 AM

BJ

“ *Brenda Jones lit a candle in memory of Ms. Betty J. Lewis*



Brenda Jones - September 23, 2025 at 01:27 AM



“ *Yvette Wofford lit a candle in memory of Ms. Betty J. Lewis*



Yvette Wofford - September 22, 2025 at 04:57 PM