



## Geraldine Trice Surles

August 3, 1951 - December 23, 2014

Geraldine Trice Surles was born on August 3, 1951 in Laurel, Mississippi to Callie Clayborn (mother) and Horace Trice (father), both from Mississippi. Both of her parents preceded her in death. Geri, as she was known to her family and friends, was the eldest of ten children. Geri's parents relocated to Chicago, Illinois shortly after the birth of their second child, and resided there for the next decade.

Geri graduated from Saginaw High School in 1969, and received both a Bachelors and a Master's degree in Social Science from Valley State University. Geri gained compassion for children, which lead to her call to Social Work. In 1973, Geri began a career with the State of Michigan Department of Human Services as an Assistance Payment Worker, and went on to become a Supervisor of the Children's Foster Care Division for Saginaw County. During her tenure, Geri received numerous awards for her dedication and exceptional work ethics spanning more than three decades. She also serviced as the Past President of the Michigan Black Social Workers Union. Geri retired in 2001.

Shortly after relocating to Arizona in 2004, she was re-diagnosed with cancer. Geri met this second round of cancer with courage and conviction believing "nothing is impossible with God." She united with Greater Bethel A.M.E. Church in Phoenix, AZ and was a faithful member until her illness would not

allow her to make the drive any longer. She then went under watch care with Mt. Moriah A.M.E. Church in Maricopa, AZ where she was currently living.

Geri served as the president of the Lay Organization, was a member of the Sunday School, and the Women's Missionary Society. Geri, along with her beloved friend, Rose Houston, completes a Chaplain Certification under the tutelage of Apostle Michael Sterling. She was one of the first members of the Metropolitan Sun Chapter of the National Council of Negro Women. One of her most precious memories was traveling with nine of the NCNW members to Washington, D.C. in 2009 to the last convention hosted by NCNW's famous president, Dorothy Heights, and visiting the White House where Barack H. Obama is President.

Geri is survived by her daughter, Shawn Marie; her son, Chester Bright III (Heather), both of Saginaw, MI; nine brothers and sisters, Johnnie, David, Henry, Anthony, Carolyn, Vanessa and Nina of Saginaw, MI, Kevin and Rev. Maria Lowery of Phoenix, AZ; grandchildren, Antonia, Mateo, Chantreal, Brianna and Chester IV; a host of relatives and friends too numerous to name; and her beloved dog, Lucy.

Arizona: Memorial service will take place at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, January 3, 2015 at Greater Bethel A.M.E. Church, 7040 S. 40th St. in Phoenix, AZ. Arizona arrangements entrusted to Preston Funeral Home, 3800 S. Central Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85040 Telephone: (602) 304-0083.

Michigan: Family hour will take place at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at Evans & Browne's Funeral Home, 441 North Jefferson Avenue, with the funeral service commencing at 11:00 a.m. Pastor Dennis Cotton will officiate with interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery. Friends may call at the funeral home on Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. until time of service.



# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

JAN 13. 11:00 AM (ET)

Evans & Browne's Funeral Home  
441 N. Jefferson Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48607  
(989) 754-0481  
evansbrownes@gmail.com  
<https://www.evansbrownesfuneralhome.com>

## Visitation

JAN 13. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Evans & Browne's Funeral Home  
441 N. Jefferson Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48607  
(989) 754-0481  
evansbrownes@gmail.com  
<https://www.evansbrownesfuneralhome.com>

## Family Hour

JAN 13. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Evans & Browne's Funeral Home  
441 N. Jefferson Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48607  
(989) 754-0481  
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# Tribute Wall



“ Evans & Browne's Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles



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**Browne's Mortuary** - January 13, 2015 at 08:09 AM



“ Evans & Browne's Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles



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**Browne's Mortuary** - January 12, 2015 at 04:10 PM

BP

“ Betty Pruitt-Daily lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles



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**Betty Pruitt-Daily** - January 30, 2015 at 11:31 PM

SS

“ Thank you to all who were there for me and my brother . This is difficult and will hurt for a while but God has everything under control. We miss and love our mom and grandma (10/12/14) mother and daughter. I know they are probably fishing 😊. We love you all!!!

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**Shawn Surles** - January 25, 2015 at 08:19 AM

DS

“ Dora Shaw-McDole lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles



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**Dora Shaw-McDole** - January 15, 2015 at 01:14 PM

PC

“ Peter Cooper lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles



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**Peter Cooper** - January 14, 2015 at 09:56 AM

PC

*WOW! Life, where do the time go? I knew Geraldine from the south side growing up as a kid. I would see her from time to time and she would always have a pleasant smile & warm heart to greet you with. Even though its been years since I saw her my fund memories of her is still in my mind. I never would of though to be reading her obituary, to see people you grew up around transition still bother me. I know as a believer we don't come to this world to stay and I know the word of God promise us a better life those who die in him. But just keeping it real my humanness if this be a word cause me to wonder & realize how short life is. My dear friend rest in the arms of our Lord & Savior. You won cancer didn't, now you're heal in Jesus name! Peter Cooper, Atlanta, Georgia*

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**Peter Cooper** - January 14, 2015 at 10:06 AM

SS

“ *Shannon Surles lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



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**Shannon Surles** - January 13, 2015 at 02:31 PM

SS

“ *Sue Surles-McDole lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



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**Sue Surles-McDole** - January 13, 2015 at 09:56 AM

DM

“ *Daphne McDole lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



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**Daphne McDole** - January 13, 2015 at 09:03 AM

CR

“ *Carl And Rosemary Ruth lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



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**Carl and Rosemary Ruth** - January 13, 2015 at 07:49 AM

LB

“ *Leatrice Bagley and the Michigan Association of Black Social Workers, Inc*



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**Leatrice Baglery** - January 13, 2015 at 01:11 AM

AS

“ *Love you grandma thank you for everything*

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**Antonia Surles** - January 12, 2015 at 04:42 PM

SN

“ Shirley Norman lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles



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**Shirley Norman** - January 12, 2015 at 09:58 AM

LB

“ Lynn Brummell-Presley lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles



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**Lynn Brummell-Presley** - January 10, 2015 at 01:57 PM

DT

“ Dorothy Terrell lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles



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**dorothy terrell** - January 09, 2015 at 05:14 PM

JL

“ Jimmie Logan lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles



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**Jimmie logan** - January 09, 2015 at 05:06 PM

SC

“ Sharon Cotton lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles



sharon cotton - January 09, 2015 at 11:41 AM

PA

“ Shawn and CB I'm very sorry to hear about your mom. You're in my prayers.

Pari Allen - January 08, 2015 at 08:36 PM

JY

“ Jennifer Young lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles



Jennifer Young - January 08, 2015 at 12:50 PM

MT

“ Margo Tyus lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles



Margo Tyus - January 08, 2015 at 10:17 AM

DC

“ My heart is with ya'll in this time of sorrow.

Dortha Certain - January 07, 2015 at 04:33 PM

JC

“ *Janie Cork lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



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**Janie cork** - January 07, 2015 at 09:13 AM

LG

“ *Lynda Goodwin lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



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**Lynda Goodwin** - January 06, 2015 at 06:15 PM

IC

“ *IRMA Chism lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



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**IRMA Chism** - January 06, 2015 at 03:33 PM

GS

“ *Gloria F. Smith lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



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**Gloria F. Smith** - January 06, 2015 at 09:45 AM

MJ

“ *Mattie Davis Jackson lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



**Mattie Davis Jackson** - January 06, 2015 at 07:54 AM

P-

“ *My prayers and condolences to the family of my friend and classmate since the 8th grade. She was smart, fearless and funny and will be greatly missed.*

**Patricia Jones Qualls -Texas** - January 05, 2015 at 08:46 PM

PS

“ *Paulette Sullivan-McCall lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



**Paulette Sullivan-McCall** - January 05, 2015 at 02:00 PM

VF

“ *Valerie Foster-Baker sent a virtual gift in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



**Valerie Foster-Baker** - January 05, 2015 at 07:48 AM

DC

“ *Diana Chaney lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



**Diana Chaney** - January 04, 2015 at 06:11 PM



“ *To The Family Of Geraldine Surles You Have Our Deepest Sympathy For This The Passing Of Your Love One. She Is At Peace. AMEN.*



**Doretta Williams** - January 04, 2015 at 05:44 PM

NM

“ *Naomi Marshall-Carter lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



**Naomi Marshall-Carter** - January 04, 2015 at 02:10 PM

PS

“ *Patricia Spinner lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



**Patricia Spinner** - January 02, 2015 at 07:29 PM

VJ

“ *Vanessa Humes- Johnson lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



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**Vanessa Humes- Johnson** - January 02, 2015 at 02:56 PM

HL

“ *Hazel L lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



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**Hazel L** - January 02, 2015 at 07:49 AM

DA

“ *Dona Austin-Bigby lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



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**Dona Austin-Bigby** - January 02, 2015 at 12:45 AM

TF

“ *The Ford Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



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**The Ford Family** - January 01, 2015 at 08:01 PM

KC

“ Karen L. Cork lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles



Karen L. Cork - January 01, 2015 at 07:15 PM

LW

“ Lillie Williams lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles



Lillie Williams - January 01, 2015 at 05:45 PM

DT

“ Dorothy Terrell lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles



dorothy terrell - January 01, 2015 at 05:06 PM

JB

“ Joyce Murdock Barlow lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles



Joyce Murdock Barlow - January 01, 2015 at 05:03 PM

JW

“ *Joanne L. Walker lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



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**Joanne L. Walker** - January 01, 2015 at 03:21 PM

JS

“ *Janie Surles-Cork lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



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**Janie Surles-Cork** - January 01, 2015 at 11:02 AM

WB

“ *WALSEZETTA BENNETT lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



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**WALSEZETTA BENNETT** - December 31, 2014 at 05:44 PM

TI

“ *Shawn my condolences to you and the family for the passing of your sister. My the love and peace of God continue to be with you and the family during this time. God bless~  
Love Jennifer Young*

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**tina** - December 31, 2014 at 05:28 PM

SO

“ *Sonacarruth lit a candle in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



sonacarruth - December 31, 2014 at 12:03 PM

SO

*To God be the Glory for there is no more pain or sorrow only yhe loving arms of Our Father in Heaven to rock Gerrie in....So fret not your hearts she is in comfort and peace.....*

sonacarruth - December 31, 2014 at 12:06 PM

VJ

“ *Vera Jones sent a virtual gift in memory of Geraldine Trice Surles*



Vera Jones - December 31, 2014 at 06:18 AM

DK

“ *May the family of Geraldine be encompassed by the grace and mercies of the Lord during these dark and trying times. God Bless you all!*



Deacon Larry Kemp - December 30, 2014 at 10:09 PM