



Sarah Berkley

January 20, 1928 - August 22, 2008

Funeral service will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, August 29, 2008 at Faith Harvest Church, 1734 N. Mason. Pastor Ronald E. Chipp will officiate with interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery. Friends may call at the Browne's Mortuary, 441 N. Jefferson Ave. on Thursday from 2:00 until 8:00 p.m. Sarah M. Berkley triumphantly entered heaven to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Friday, August 22, 2008 at the age of 80 years. She was born to Houston and Anna (Lucille) Wells on January 20, 1928, in Nashville, TN. She moved to Saginaw, MI in 1935. She graduated from Saginaw High School in 1946 and from Flemings School of Cosmetology in 1956. She was a beautician at Gaines Barber & Beauty Shop for many years. She attended the University of Wisconsin, Michigan State and Wayne State Universities to begin her study in Early Childhood Development. Sarah received an Associate Degree in Arts from Delta College in August 1983. She began working for Saginaw County Child Development Centers and later worked as the director of Mid-Michigan Child Care Centers (Kinder Kare). Sarah always had a special gift with children, especially those with special needs. She retired after 37 devoted years, and continued to serve her community in which she lived. Sarah participated at First Ward Community Center in the Grandmothers Club, Old Timers and the after school program. She served as a Board Member of the Houghton-Jones Neighborhood Task Force and served as a worker with their summer youth camp and Habitat for Humanity. Mrs. Berkley wrote volumes of beautiful poetry and was inducted into the Hall

of Fame in 1993 by the International Society of Poets in Washington, D.C. Sarah was a faithful servant at Faith Harvest Church, always demonstrating love, encouragement, godly character and wisdom. She leaves to cherish her memory, her children, Roland (Sharon) Berkley and Debra Shelton, Saginaw, MI, Althea (Mark) Denard, Detroit, MI; step-children, Jacqueline Berkley, Houston, TX, Luther (Andrea) Berkley, Shreveport, LA; sister, Alberta (Robert) Culpepper, Saginaw, MI; sister-in-law, Clara Wells; cousins, Dorothy Wright, Saginaw, MI and Hattie Hans, Kerrville, TX; grandchildren, Joshua Shelton, Simone and Justin Denard, Marques and Michelle Berkley, Richard Shelton, Jumaane, Tamara and Yamhill Berkley, Delia, Kendrick and Jonathan Berkley, Robin Williams; 3 great-grandchildren, Jordan, Curtis and Mariah; nieces, Sabrina Hughes and Virginia Jackson; nephews, Robert, Kevin and Eric Culpepper, Daniel Wells and Thomas Jackson; god-children, Dr. Roslyn McQueen, Yvette Wolford, Howard Bennett and Steven Davis; many other relatives and friends including special friends, Helen Hughey, Lucille Surles, Willette Daniels, Vernetta Scroggins, Eloise Powell and Rosa Conway. The family would like to express special thanks to Dr. Delicia Pruitt of Health Delivery Systems, Hartland Home Health Care-Hospice and Faith Harvest Church.

Tribute Wall

VT

“*Roland and family,
I was deeply saddened to hear of the loss of your dear mother. May you always find peace and comfort in having shared life and love with her.*

Veronica Turner - August 22, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BM

“*To the family, I worked with Sarah at Saginaw county Child development centers some years ago and she had such a sweetness about her that you could not help but love her. She will be missed. Stay strong and remember God wants all that is good!*

Betty J. Mitchell - August 22, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SM

“*To everyone in Sister Sarah's family, I will keep you in prayer. Especially you Josh. You will always be my brother in Christ and I will always love you and your family. You know your grandmother was a very sweet lady. Every time I seen her at church, she always had a smile on her face. We will miss her oh so much.*

Love, Shantoria

Shantoria D. Minniefield - August 22, 2008 at 12:00 AM

TF

“*You are in our hearts and prayers. You and your mother were so go to us especially in those college years. God Bless.*

Tania Farmer-Wright - August 22, 2008 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ Dear Family, I wish I were there with you in Saginaw to show my support but, please know I have all of you in my heart and prayers. I know Our Father will continue to keep you strong through this difficult time. Mrs. Berkley was a blessing to so many in ways she may not have realized and will be greatly missed. Her kindness and generosity set an example for all of us to follow. My sincerest condolences.

Love, Kathy

Kathleen (Herd) Brown - August 22, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Roland,

I am truly sorry for your lost.

Delois Smith - August 22, 2008 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ My prayers go out to the family. I have known Ms. Berkley since I was very young because she was my Kinder-Care teacher. Now I have grown to be part of the family. I loved her very much and will miss her dearly. May God Bless the entire family as you go through these tough times!

Chaka McMillan - August 22, 2008 at 12:00 AM

WB

“ To Roland & Sharon and family one of the most treasured possessions a mother leaves a child is a heart full of loving memories. The Lord will see you through this time with His covering of strength and love and He will help you realize that your memories are a precious source of healing and comfort. With deepest sympathy to you Roland and your family.

Walsezetta Bennett - August 22, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ To the family. I am so sorry to hear about Sarah. I was just reading the paper and saw her face all I could say was "oh my God". Please know that you all are in our prayers.
God loves you all and so do we.

Mary, Michelle, and Monita

Mary Mathious-Crosby - August 22, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RE

“ Weeping may endure for a night but joy cometh in the morning. May God continue to Bless and Keep you at this difficult time. I will keep your family in my prayers.

ReneeKaiser - August 22, 2008 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ I am so sorry for the loss of your mother, sister, grandmother, great-grandmother, and dear friend. Mrs. Berkley will be dearly missed. Take to heart that we can see her again in the resurrection in Paradise, based on what our Lord and Savior Jesus said at John 11:25 and Luke 23:43.

Eric T. Scott - August 22, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ *To Roland, Debbie and the entire family.*

My prayer and thoughts are with the family during the loss of your love one.

Look to God for strength. He promises to never leave or forsake you.

Janie Surles-Cork

Janie M. Cork - August 22, 2008 at 12:00 AM