



## Mrs Barbara Jean Leach

October 19, 1947 - July 13, 2020

Barbara Jean (Taft) Leach was born to the late Mandy Taft and Roy Gilbert Sr. in Pitt County Greenville North Carolina on October 19th 1947. She grew up in Greenville and was a graduate of C.M. Epps High school class of 1964. She graduated from and was employed by Kittrell College 1969-1971 while she was enrolled. She later went on to study Health, Physical Education and Recreation at Fayetteville State University she graduated with the class of 1975, where she earned a Bachelors of Science degree. She later worked for Fayetteville State University after her tenure she would return later to the university where she earned her Master of Science in special education from Fayetteville State 1988-90.

Barbara met and married Willie Burn Leach April 1976. She is the proud mother of three sons James L.

Taft, Derrick Taft and Luther Leach one daughter Sharon Coggins-Velazquez. Barbara was employed at Fayetteville State University 1984-85 as Physical Education Teacher, she had a entrepreneurial spirit that prompted her and so she opened and operated her first daycare from 1972-1990 located on Blue Berry Place in 1983 she opened and operated three more centers. Her services we're 7 for children with disabilities as well as other children in the public school system.

She was also a Girl scouts trainer from 1985-1997, after which time she opened her first family care home. Named after herself "Barbie's Family Care home" in 1989 at 1720 Bridgette St., Fayetteville as a result of losing her

mother Mandy. Barbara decided to own and operate family care homes to provide services to adults with disabilities in need of care, she has taken residents into her home on several occasions with little or no funds for cost of care; and often planned and provide transportation and outings for her residents using her personal funds. Shortly after closing Barbie's Family Care home she later open and operated Leach's Family Care on Village Drive. While maintaining employment at Pitt County Memorial Hospital, and was a Mental Health Professional at Cumberland County Mental Health June 1989-1997. Barbara later established other small business entities over the next several years. During which time she was involved in her community and participated in various social and professional associations, she was a member of Order of Eastern Stars and Zeta Phi Beta. Barbara loved sports hence it's not a surprise that she would love football her favorite team was the Redskins before North Carolina got their own football team the Carolina Panthers. Her favorite athlete is Serena Williams. Her favorite tv show is Steve on Water. Her favorite gospel singer was Lee Williams her favorite song by him is Jesus will fix it.

Barbara lived and loved and laughed, She has never met a stranger anyone she met she immediately disarmed them with her smile and her kind words or gesture. She was vibrant and encouraging she was thoughtful and considerate she was kind and remained faithful to her ideals her belief in God never waivered she believed in His word and often encourage others with the scriptures. She believed God and his Grace as a result she spoke with confidence of his unchanging love.

Barbara was preceded in death by her brother James Lee Taft, parents Mandy and Roy she is survived by her husband Willie and all her four children. Seventeen Grandchildren and sixteen Great-Grandchildren, Sister Alice Taft, Brother George Taft both of Greenville NC. Devoted cousin Annie-Ree Willoughby Greenville NC, devoted friends of family Iris and Lowell Williams, Kenneth Toodle of Fayetteville and host of other family and friends.



# Cemetery Details

## Fayetteville Memorial Gardens

Fayetteville, NC 28306

# Previous Events

## Viewing

JUL 21. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Colvin Funeral Home Chapel  
2010 Murchison Road  
Fayetteville, NC 28301

## Funeral

JUL 22. 2:00 PM (ET)

Colvin Funeral Home Chapel  
2010 Murchison Road  
Fayetteville, NC 28311

# Tribute Wall



“ Colvin Funeral Homes & Cremations created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs Barbara Jean Leach



H. M. Colvin Funeral Home - July 21, 2020 at 11:07 AM

TC

God bless you mrs Barbra tribute of your life was so beautiful sleep in peace beautiful

Tywanda monique coggins - July 23, 2020 at 09:20 AM

BB

“ I will truly miss you, you keep me in touch with everyone in the family, you kept Jesus and family in your thoughts, you were a hard working woman . You will be in my thoughts, RIP

Barbara Boyd - July 24, 2020 at 08:48 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs Barbara Jean Leach.



July 22, 2020 at 11:37 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mrs Barbara Jean Leach.*



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July 21, 2020 at 11:10 AM



“ *Lowell Williams Jr. lit a candle in memory of Mrs Barbara Jean Leach*



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**Lowell Williams Jr.** - July 21, 2020 at 09:21 AM



“ *Lowell Williams lit a candle in memory of Mrs Barbara Jean Leach*



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**Lowell Williams** - July 21, 2020 at 09:19 AM



“ *Irish Robinson Williams lit a candle in memory of Mrs Barbara Jean Leach*



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**Irish Robinson Williams** - July 21, 2020 at 09:18 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs Barbara Jean Leach.*



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July 20, 2020 at 10:03 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs Barbara Jean Leach.*



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July 19, 2020 at 06:06 PM



“ *I remember us being at Aunt Annie's and Grandpa Issac house on Fleming St.in Greenville,NC, We lost touch for years, she contacted me after she met my son on FB, She was one of my favorite cousins, and we were cool, I know she had the favor of God, I love you Cuz, God called you home ,Rest Cuz with the Lord.*



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**Elizabeth Gilbert** - July 18, 2020 at 01:57 PM

IW

*Barbara and I met at FSU, she moved in with us and we became sister, I went home with her to Greenville NC to meet my extended family. My family was her family , her family was my family,I was there when she had her last child Luther. She was screaming and I was crying as I held her hand,So rest on, I won't say goodbye but see you later my friend ,if love could bring you back you would be here.*

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**Irish Robinson Williams** - July 21, 2020 at 09:15 AM



“ Irish Williams Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs Barbara Jean Leach



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**Irish Williams Williams** - July 17, 2020 at 07:25 PM

IW

“ My heart hurt with a pain that only God can heal. Barbara and I go back to the 70's . My best friend, my sister , family. After college we went our separate ways but God bought us back together later in life. She became a friend to a lot of people. She would go out of her way to help anyone . I want say goodbye but see you later my friend.



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**Irish Robinson Williams** - July 17, 2020 at 12:24 PM

AW

“ I am still in disbelief! I can't believe you are gone! Thank you for your open arms that you have always shown me and my family. You are really going to be missed but god took his special angel home to be with him. Love you Mrs. Leach and you will never EVER! Be forgotten.

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**Angela Williams** - July 16, 2020 at 07:07 PM

SW

“ My deepest sympathies are extended to the family and friends of Ms. Barbara Leach during this unfortunate time. May the love and mercy of our Lord be bestowed upon you and help ease the pain of your loss.

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**Sheriff Burnis Wilkins** - July 16, 2020 at 09:12 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs Barbara Jean Leach.*



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July 15, 2020 at 11:16 PM



“ *The Best Daycare provider that anyone can ask for dedicated to all the children that came through Blueberry Pl*

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**Reyna Thompson** - July 15, 2020 at 09:23 PM