



Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner

February 18, 1943 - December 29, 2022

Barbara Ann Brockett Fenner was born on February 18, 1943, in Greenville, NC to the late Charles and Anna Brockett. She departed this life on December 29, 2022, in her home.

Barbara always had an insatiable quest for learning, eager to acquire and share knowledge and wisdom to all she encountered. She graduated from C. M. Eppes High School in 1960 and pursued undergraduate studies at N.C. Central University graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in French and Sociology in 1964. She furthered her education with graduate studies at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, graduating with a Master's degree in Social Work in 1973. Barbara and Ashley were united in holy matrimony in 1973 in Manhattan, New York. Barbara became a licensed Social Worker in 1974 and spent her early adult career living and working in the Northeast in Brooklyn and Manhattan, New York and Boston, Massachusetts. Barbara immediately began making a difference in the lives of others, working as a Social Worker with the New York City Department of Social Services and Harlem Hospital. Her dedication to lifelong learning was developed from engaging in numerous learning and cultural experiences at Harvard and MIT. She taught French, Sociology and Social Work in the Pitt County public schools, Beaufort Community College and East Carolina University. Barbara shaped countless lives academically, socially, and spiritually.

Barbara was a woman of deep faith and loved Jesus Christ. She attended and served most of her life at York Memorial AME Zion Church in Greenville, NC, singing in the choir. She also worshipped with her mother for many years at Holy Trinity United Holy Church in Greenville, NC. She also recently became affiliated with Alfred Street Baptist Church and locally worshipped with Born2win Ministries. Barbara used God's spiritual gifts, especially serving, teaching, encouraging, giving, leading, and caring, to bless the underprivileged through education and economic empowerment. These were the main hallmarks of her life as an educator and community advocate, as she strived for humanity to be learned, heard, inspired, and nurtured. Barbara moved back home to Greenville to be closer to her parents and to use her knowledge and expertise to support the growth and development of her community. Barbara envisioned equity and revitalization in the impoverished neighborhoods in West Greenville. She and her late husband Ashley, together became entrepreneurs with A&B Consulting & Construction and the West Greenville Community Development, Corporation, providing much-needed services of affordable housing, quality education, and financial literacy.

Barbara was a cultured, intellect, passionate and curious about life and ever grateful for all of God's abundance of blessings. She stayed active maintaining her beloved home and yard, busily raking the leaves in the Fall, and planting beautiful blooms in the Spring. She cherished beauty, nature, flowers, art, music, especially jazz and gospel. Barbara sketched and painted pictures, participated in community theatre and was an avid curator of literature ranging from African and American history to biblical philosophy. She would always share the latest books she was reading and its impact to help a loved one with their health needs or improve the plight of the community. She always believed, "there is more to know, to do, to see and to be." Barbara traveled abroad to Africa and the Caribbean and loved to share her experiences with others. She sponsored a community street festival annually for many years, to showcase the talent of children and celebrate our diverse

history, food, art, and culture. She hosted Kwanzaa celebrations during the holiday season in her home for many years, always reiterating the important traditions of our rich heritage.

Barbara loved and committed to her family and friends. She had peculiar ways, unique and understood by those who truly knew and cherished her. Her radiant smile and hearty laughter beamed with joy, and she exuded sophisticated grace and unwavering peace. She was a devoted caregiver to her late husband Ashley and parents, Bill and Anna. She lovingly and sternly mothered Keema and Kiara, her nieces, godchildren, students and the community at large. Barbara invested and devoted her entire life, and was a pillar to community and family, striving to uplift those in need, imparting Godly wisdom through her every encounter. She was always there for you, for every milestone in life, good and bad. She truly accepted the mission to be used for God's purpose, a life well-loved and very well-lived.

Barbara was preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Anna Brockett of Greenville, NC and husband Ashley Fenner of St. Thomas VI.

Barbara will be cherished forever by her family and friends.

She leaves to mourn and continue her legacy: Her beloved daughter, Keema Fenner of Raleigh, NC; granddaughter, Kiara McAllister of Raleigh, NC; loving brother, David E. (Alpharadia) Foreman of Vanceboro, NC; sisters-in-law, Nieta Battiste, Ilka Fenner Webster (deceased), Atty Judy M Gomez, Antoinette Gomez, Denise Turbe, and Angeli Leerdam; brothers-in-law, Kevin Fenner, Dana Gomez, and Richard (Asky) Gomez; nieces, Virgene Ava Foreman, Kimmera Foreman, Jacqueline Foreman, Jaquanda West, Ketura Foreman, Janequa Foreman Foster, Janaa, Jolie and Synette Marie Brown-

Morgan, Dr. Symra Dee Brown, Lina Battiste, Jonelle Homer, Delcia Lawrence, Kymberly Martin, Aisha Thomas, Jazzlyn and Jeniah Gomez; nephews, Jamal Foreman, Jquan Webb, Jahmari, Kaeson and Lucien Battiste, Jamal George, Michael Christian, Rasheen St. Juste, Malverne Trotman Jr., Khingz Leerdam, Asky and Joseph Gomez; godchildren, Esther L. Hammond of Greenville, NC, Jill R. Hammond of Fulton, MD and David S. Hammond, Jr. of Huntersville, NC and a host of cousins, relatives, and dear friends.

Celebration of Life will held 11:00 a.m., Saturday, January 14, 2023, Holy Trinity United Holy Church. Interment at Homestead Memorial Gardens.

Cemetery Details

Homestead Memorial Gardens

4251 E. 10th St. Extension
Greenville, NC

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 14. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Trinity U.H.C.
305 N. Skinner St.
Greenville, NC 27834

Funeral Services

JAN 14. 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Trinity U.H.C.
305 N. Skinner St.
Greenville, NC 27834

Tribute Wall

AM

“ *Angela McWayne lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner*



Angela McWayne - February 05, 2023 at 06:08 PM

BN

“ *Betty E Nurse lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner*



Betty E Nurse - January 14, 2023 at 10:45 AM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner.*



January 12, 2023 at 11:32 PM

LF

“ *Love the Mayo, James & Turner Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner.*



Love the Mayo, James & Turner Family - January 11, 2023 at 08:37 AM

SE

“ *Deepest Condolences to the Brockett, Fenner, and Gibson families. Continuous prayers during the loss of such a special loved one.*



Sondra Early - January 10, 2023 at 10:01 PM

GE

“ *Glenda Evans lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner*



Glenda Evans - January 10, 2023 at 08:59 PM

GE

My condolences to the family. She was a Beautiful person.

Glenda Evans - January 10, 2023 at 09:01 PM

VH

“ *Mrs Fenner took me under her wing in 1999 as I worked for her in West Greenville community development corporation as a community outreach worker and her executive assistant. We remained in contact for years and she was my mentor. My family and I will never forget her love and welcoming during Kwanzaa. She is a queen.*

Victoria Hawkins - January 10, 2023 at 10:28 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner.*



January 10, 2023 at 09:03 AM



“ *2 files added to the album Memories Album*



W.E. Flanagan Memorial Funeral Home & Cremations - January 09, 2023 at 09:37 PM



Condolences to Ms. Fenner's family. It was a joy to know her as truly wonderful and dignified lady. You knew you were around a person that loved life and wanted to see that light in others, whether visiting her/Mr. Ashley Fenner/Keema at their home, at Kwanzaas, community events working to invigorate Greenville/Piit County especially w/ the Black Social Workers, or just a random sighting in town she was always the same "Aunt Barbara" from the time I was a toddler. I had the pleasure to do my Eagle Scout project, landscaping around the West Greenville CDC building as well. Will be missed. Rest peacefully.

Walt Bake - January 12, 2023 at 06:23 PM



My college roommate! We never lost touch. You will always be with me

Gwendolyn Chunn - January 14, 2023 at 06:45 PM

BJ

“ Sending my deepest sympathy to The family of Barbara Fenner my prayers will be with you.

Barbara Jones



Barbara Jones - January 09, 2023 at 06:18 PM

RC

“ Sends his Deepest Heart Felt Condolences to the family of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner and Family 🙏. May God Continue to Strengthen the family during this time.



Robert Anderson Cox - January 09, 2023 at 09:15 AM

RB

“ We joined a bowling league many years ago and became friends. After leaving Greenville, over 15 years ago, you were not forgotten. Deepest Sympathy to all your family and friends. Robert Barrier

Robert Louis Barrier - January 09, 2023 at 06:03 AM

TM

“ We will surely miss our cousin ,Barbara but we thank God for the legacy she leaves behind. She was a beautiful person and did all she could to help who she could to make their lives better in Greenville.

Tammy Murchison - January 08, 2023 at 07:27 PM

SJ

“ *Sandra & Jaron Jones purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner.*



Sandra & Jaron Jones - January 08, 2023 at 05:41 PM

TF

“ *Mrs. Fenner was a true leader to the community and will be deeply missed. She always had a kind word and helping hand for those in need, and her positive impact on our community will be felt for years to come. We are better because she was here. Our condolences, thoughts and prayers go out to the Fenner family.*



Sandra & Jaron Jones

The Jones Family - January 08, 2023 at 05:31 PM

KJ

“ *My Condolences and Prayers are with you for the Passing of Mrs. Barbara beautiful lady inside and out she will definitely be missed.*



Katonia Jones - January 08, 2023 at 03:01 PM

DW

“ Aunt Barbara you will be truly missed by your contagious smile and hard work. I love you.
Your Nephew David Worthington 💙



David Worthington - January 08, 2023 at 02:57 PM

BJ

“ Our condolences and prayer goes out to the Fenner family.
Deacon Ricky and Brenda James



Brenda James - January 08, 2023 at 11:22 AM

LJ

“ We are sorry to hear of the passing of Ms. Barbara. She will truly be missed. We love you Keema.

The Mayo family



LaKisha James-Mayo - January 08, 2023 at 11:21 AM

PS

“ Patricia G. Brewer, Agnes Fullilove Scho lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner



Patricia G. Brewer, Agnes Fullilove Scho - January 08, 2023 at 10:07 AM

PS

Ms. Fenner contributed greatly to the success of Agnes Fullilove School, an alternative school for at risk kids. She valued and embraced the unfulfilled greatness in my kids. Also exposed the students to community resources, scholarships, professional stars, and celebrities.

Patricia G. Brewer, Agnes Fullilove Scho - January 08, 2023 at 10:16 AM

MC

“ *Mildred And Walter Council lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner*



Mildred and Walter Council - January 07, 2023 at 11:36 PM

JH

“ *Jacqui Hawkins-Morton lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner*



Jacqui Hawkins-Morton - January 07, 2023 at 08:01 PM

LE

“ *LaVeda Cherry Ellis lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner*



LaVeda Cherry Ellis - January 07, 2023 at 06:47 PM

RS

“ *This is beyond heartbreaking. She was a pillar in the community as well as the mother of our church Born2Win. She was always so kind and welcoming. I remember talking with her at church all the time. May she rest in peace 🙏🏠* ”

Rasheena Smith - January 07, 2023 at 08:20 AM

BW

“ *Our community was blessed by her care and compassion.* ”



Barbara Whitehead - January 06, 2023 at 11:15 PM

ET

“ *Elizabeth Taft lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner* ”



Elizabeth Taft - January 06, 2023 at 09:07 PM

ND

“ *Nola Dixon lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner* ”



Nola Dixon - January 06, 2023 at 09:01 PM



“ *Phyllis Taft Price lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner*



Phyllis Taft Price - January 06, 2023 at 07:59 PM



“ *Ceasar Freeman lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner*



Ceasar Freeman - January 06, 2023 at 06:52 PM



“ *Jill Hammond lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner*



Jill Hammond - January 06, 2023 at 08:48 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Jill Hammond - January 06, 2023 at 08:41 AM

BF

“ *Barbara A Forbes sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner*



Barbara A Forbes - January 06, 2023 at 08:22 AM

BF

We are praying for Peace and love to the family as we release Barbara back to her heavenly home.

Barbara A Forbes - January 06, 2023 at 08:26 AM

SC

“ *Shirley Cox lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner*



Shirley Cox - January 06, 2023 at 07:35 AM

RJ

“ *RhondaGrant Jordan lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner*



RhondaGrant Jordan - January 05, 2023 at 02:59 PM

LF

“ *LaVette L. Ford lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner*



LaVette L. Ford - January 05, 2023 at 12:26 PM

DP

“ *Donna M Pierce lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner*



Donna M Pierce - January 04, 2023 at 11:44 PM

GH

“ *Gayle Hardy lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner*



Gayle Hardy - January 04, 2023 at 09:14 PM

JA

“ *Juanita Anderson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner*



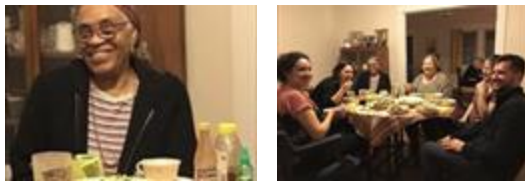
Juanita Anderson - January 04, 2023 at 03:38 PM

AB

“ *Barbara was my neighbor, my friend, an OG civil-rights and community activist and an all-around beautiful human being: brilliant, kind, resilient, creative, generous and brave.*

It is because of Barbara Fenner and her non-profit organization, West Greenville Community Development, that the low-income (read: primarily African American) areas of Greenville have decent housing options. When I lived across the street, Barbara always found time for a chat, or an excuse to share a meal. We first bonded over yard work - she was so proud of her beautiful home - and very shortly after, our conversations turned to art, history and books.

Barbara was an invaluable resource and confidant to me during the time I was employed at East Carolina University: here she is, pictured with students and faculty in my home in 2019. That smile is how I will always remember her. My sincere condolences go out to Barbara's family, friends, and others like me whose life she impacted in such a profound and meaningful way. May her legacy shine on in the Greenville community as one of commitment and selflessness. I am honored to have shared every smile, hug and tear with the legend that was Barbara Fenner.



Angel Bellaran - January 04, 2023 at 02:08 PM

BS

*Ms. Bellaran
Compliments to you for composing that wonderful written story of Mrs. Fenner. She was indeed a wonderful person in the Community and she is and will be missed. I concur.*

Bobbie Staton - January 08, 2023 at 03:40 PM

AP

“ *Annette Barnes Parker lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner*



Annette Barnes Parker - January 04, 2023 at 02:00 PM

MM

“ *Michele Moore lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner*



Michele Moore - January 04, 2023 at 12:41 PM

ST

“ *Condolences to the family, I admired Barbara, the way she spoke, how smart and outgoing she was. She cared about issues and people. Once you met her, she made a lasting impression on you for good, for the better.*

Sharon W Tyson - January 04, 2023 at 09:19 AM

AB

“ *So sad to hear about Ms. Fenner. She was truly a blessing to the community. In 1992 she helped us be a first time homebuyer with a brand new 3 bedrooms 1 and 1/2 bath home. She was there every step of the way even with the lawyer for the closing and 20 years later we are still in the home, Thank you Ms. Fenner! Annie&Mickey Braswell*

Annie Braswell - January 03, 2023 at 10:14 PM

AB

I meant 30 years later we are still in our home. what a blessing she was 🙏🙏

Annie Braswell - January 03, 2023 at 10:18 PM

BJ

Prays for the family

Barbara jones - January 07, 2023 at 10:18 PM

MB

“ Mrs.Barbara Fenner will be truly missed on this side of heaven. She did a lot for the community and she believed in young people getting their education. Most importantly she supported so many people, including myself. She was my biggest fan she loved to hear me sing. I'm going to miss her smile and conversations. I will always love you Mrs. Barbara Fenner. Remember he can't crown her till we get there. So sleep on Mrs. Fenner we will see you in the morning.



*With Deep sympathy,
Mariah L. Barrett*

Mariah L. Barrett - January 03, 2023 at 06:21 AM

AI

“ I am deeply saddened by the death of my cousin Barbara Brockett Fenner. Ever time I would meet her she would always smile and be friendly. I did not know why until she brought it to you attention that we were blood relatives. She was a brilliant woman and a great community activist. Our community must protest the increasing rate of. Violence against Black females. My prayer is that she is inow resting in the arms of Our Lord and Savior Jesus The Christ The Son of God andThe Son of Man. Minister A. T. Mills. III, Apex, North Carolina.

AmosT. Mills, Iii - January 03, 2023 at 02:47 AM

RC

“ Robert Anderson Cox 🙏 send his Deepest Condolences to the family of Mrs Barbara A. Crockett Fenner and family my 🙏 will continue to be with the family during this time. May God continue to strengthen the family. She was a very loving caring giving person full of wisdom and intelligence who didn't mind helping those in her community and those she knew. I know she received her crown when she made it to Paradise.



Robert Anderson Cox - January 02, 2023 at 07:56 PM

BH

“ Barbara Barrow Henderson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner



Barbara Barrow Henderson - January 02, 2023 at 06:52 PM

EW

“ Ella Grace Ward lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner



Ella Grace Ward - January 02, 2023 at 02:22 PM

EW

My blessing toward the family and friends.

Ella Grace Ward - January 02, 2023 at 02:24 PM

MB

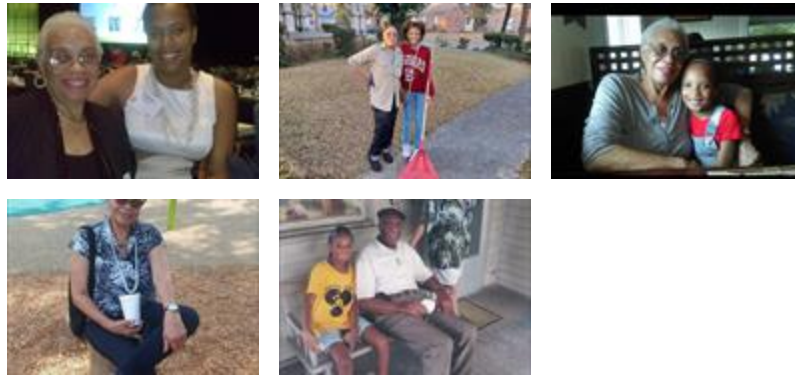
“ *Mary Cates And Sandra Boyd lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner*



Mary Cates and Sandra Boyd - January 02, 2023 at 11:39 AM



“ *13 files added to the album Memories Album*



W.E. Flanagan Memorial Funeral Home & Cremations - January 02, 2023 at 10:44 AM

AF

“ *Annie Fields lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner*



Annie Fields - January 02, 2023 at 10:39 AM

AF

Mrs. Barbara Fenner was a woman of integrity, just like her mother, Mrs. Brockett. She started a program in the community, helping and educating first time homeowners. My sincere condolences to her family. Mrs. Fenner take your rest, and we will see you in the morning Queen 🌹

Annie Fields - January 04, 2023 at 12:39 PM

JS

“ For many years, Barbara Fenner was a fearless trailblazer, innovative community leader and a very good friend I will long remember. May she rest in peace.



Jeffrey E Savage - January 02, 2023 at 09:10 AM

BW

“ Ben Wooten lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Barbara A. Brockett Fenner



Ben Wooten - January 02, 2023 at 02:09 AM

GA

“ Truly saddened me to hear about the loss of my childhood dearest close friend whom I loved dearly. My daughter & I would like to extend our heartfelt deepest condolences & Prayers to your children & Family.

Love, Geraldine Little Alston & daughter, Toni

Geraldine Little Alston & Toni Alston - January 01, 2023 at 09:35 PM

BJ

Prayer for the family

Barbara jones - January 08, 2023 at 02:19 PM

DB

It is with profound sadness, and disbelief that I write this tribute of precious memories of sweet, loveable, kind, and courageous Mrs. Barbara B. Fenner. Since my early childhood, I have known her to radiate with her loving smile, warm hugs, and leadership qualities. The imprints that she left upon the hearts of those in her community, and numerous locations, will always remain alive in memories with the zest, leadership, and outgoing energy that illuminated from her. Although we do not understand, nor can we embrace the circumstances of her tragic demise, we do know that there is a loving God with infinite wisdom, who will reveal answers in His time. Equally important, we can rest assured that her many years of earthly service, and labor of love to so many, will be justly rewarded in Heaven by her Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ. Rest peacefully in the beautiful mansions of Heaven, dear Ms. Barbara. We love you.....FOREVER!!!

Deborah Blount - January 09, 2023 at 10:40 AM

SH

To this awesome family. Stay strong and just know God will. Take care of you from the Postal Service. Family Sophia Highsmith Your lost is Heaven Gain

Sophia Highsmith - January 11, 2023 at 07:40 PM

DC

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Barbara A. Brockett Fenner. She was truly a woman in service to the people - especially younger people. We knew her not only for her work with the West Greenville CDC but also as the Chairperson of our Education Sub-Committee for several years. May she rest in peace. Don Cavellini. Co-Chair, Pitt Co. Coalition Against Racism (CAR)

Don Cavellini - January 14, 2023 at 11:16 AM