



Gwendolyn Blackman

September 15, 1956 - July 30, 2023

Gwendolyn Ann Blackman

September 15, 1956 – July 29, 2023

Gwendolyn (“Gwen”) Blackman was born in New Haven, CT to her loving parents Vester and Amanda Blackman. She graduated from Hillhouse High School (Class of 1974) and majored in psychology at Wesleyan University (Class of 1978). After college, she worked as a Social Worker for the Department of Social Services. She lived many years in Cleveland, Ohio before returning home to Connecticut to help care for her father.

Gwen was the quintessential big sister. As the oldest of seven children, she was like a second mother to her younger siblings. She fiercely maintained the standards set by her parents and grandparents, and in her own way, made sure her siblings followed suit. Gwen also had high personal standards, about her appearance, her surroundings, and her code of ethics. She enjoyed walking and always made time to share her love, and treats with her siblings, nieces, and nephews.

Gwen had loving and loyal friends. Together they joined the Phoenix Drill Team and formed a band called Uni-Funk plus 4. Somehow, she convinced her strict father to allow her to hold band practice in the basement of the family home.

She was predeceased by her parents. She is survived by her six siblings, Michael Blackman (Deborah), Sallie Blackman-Chandler (Timothy), Kenneth Blackman, Steven Blackman, Veronica Blackman-Gill (Andres) and Monica Blackman-Smith (Anthony), twenty-one nieces and nephews, three great nieces and nephews and one great-great niece.

Cemetery Details

Beverdale Memorial Park

Hamden, CT 06514

Previous Events

Calling Hours

AUG 10. 10:00 AM (ET)

McClam Funeral Home Chapel
95 Dixwell Ave
New Haven, CT 06511

Funeral Service

AUG 10. 11:00 AM (ET)

McClam Funeral Home Chapel
95 Dixwell Ave
New Haven, CT 06511

Tribute Wall



“ *Gwendolyn Blackman*

October 09, 2023 at 06:14 AM



“ *My condolences to the family, Gwen I remember our days at Troup Jr. High days. Those were good times. Rest in peace.*

Diane Tyson Steele - August 27, 2023 at 05:52 PM



“ *Michael and family, so sorry for your loss. May God comfort you and give you peace at this time. Earth has no sorrows that heaven cannot heal.*



Patricia A DeWitt - August 10, 2023 at 11:00 AM



“ *To Blackman Family: sending condolences 🌸 on passing of Gwen. Met at Troupe school and had 😊 on her face, remembering the band Unifunk & drill team Phoenix. Gwen was my customer at Stop&shop and we talked about old day's, how I never change with my classmates where ever seem at places now RIP my friend will be missed*

Helen C Powell - August 09, 2023 at 11:32 PM



“ *Ric Douglas; Beautiful and Great Sister Friend good times in our band days, with Uni-Funk plus 4 🎵🎵*

Ric Douglas - August 09, 2023 at 07:26 AM

AC

“ Aunt Dorothy, the Blackmons, cousins purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Gwendolyn Blackman.



Aunt Dorothy, the Blackmons, cousins - August 08, 2023 at 08:41 PM

BS

“ My deepest sympathies to the Blackman family. Burt Saxon Hillhouse Teacher, Wesleyan MAT '71

Burt Saxon - August 08, 2023 at 07:43 PM

CC

Hi Mr. Saxon. Did you teach at Lee High?

Christine Coggins - August 10, 2023 at 05:46 PM

CC

“ We go way back — childhood friends. Lots of memories from Phoenix Drill Team to Uni-Funk 4 singing our hearts out. We hung tough together — Alice, Janus, Christine and Gwen. She was smart, funny, and always late. LOL You will always have a place in my heart. Oh and that smile could brighten up anyone’s day.

Christine Coggins - August 08, 2023 at 03:09 PM

AC

“ So many memories!! Many of them funny ... all of them great!!! I remember our talent show performances at Troup Jr High, and especially our grand time as members of Unifunk Plus 4. Rest well, My Friend. I already miss you! 😞

Alice Conyers - August 07, 2023 at 04:04 PM

DR

I remember Gwen from Hillhouse. She was a sweet person .

Disne Bradley Ritter - August 08, 2023 at 10:40 AM

DR

One of my classmates from Hillhouse. Gwen was a very personable girl always friendly. You will be missed. ❤️

Disne Bradley Ritter - August 08, 2023 at 10:42 AM

DJ

A beautiful quiet and driven person. That is how I remember my classmate from Trump and Hillhouse High.

Very friendly, She will definitely be missed.

Test In Peace Gwen ❤️❤️❤️😭😭😭

Dr. Frank Lee Harper, Jr. - August 08, 2023 at 03:14 PM

WS

gwen and i went to hillhouse class of `74 she was three times a lady.

wayne c stuckey - August 09, 2023 at 05:52 PM

CJ

My condolences to the Blackman family

cedric herbert jr - August 10, 2023 at 08:30 AM



Just found out about Gwen's passing. She was so kind and so cool. We were students at James Hillhouse High School class of 74.

Selma Brown - July 02, 2024 at 05:16 PM