



Gwendolyn E Newton

April 17, 1938 - July 16, 2021

Gwendolyn E. Newton, 83, of New Haven, Connecticut passed away peacefully at home on Friday, July 16, 2021. She was a loving sister, mother, aunt, grandmother, and great-grandmother who served as a listening ear and an amazing story teller to all she came across.

In 1958, Gwen and her husband relocated from North Carolina to New Haven, Connecticut. After settling in with family in the Hill neighborhood, Gwen decided to move to Brookside as her three children Ronald, Katrina and Reginald began to grow. She naturally loved the close knit neighborhood that she became a part of and made sure she knew everyone and everyone knew her.

She then moved to the Newhallville neighborhood after becoming employed at a private doctor's office on Dixwell Avenue and Grace New Haven Hospital, currently known as Yale New Haven Hospital. That bittersweet change sent her to Newhallville which molded her into the great politician and activist she would be known for most of her life. Eventually Gwen worked for the New Haven Board of Education at the Martin Luther King, Jr. School where she had the opportunity to listen and hear all the issues that were plaguing her community. Gwen wanted to be proactive and got involved by working on various campaigns including the campaign to elect Joseph Lieberman as US Senator for the State of Connecticut. After a decade in New Haven her

political savviness caused the elite to encourage her to run for office herself. In 1969, Gwen and six others ran on a ticket alongside Henry Parker. Unfortunately, Hank Parker didn't win but Gwen and the six others would win their races and be dubbed "The Magnificent Seven". After winning, Gwen would be the only black female on the Board of Aldermen. Later in her political career, Gwen would serve as Chair for the Commission of Equal Opportunity (CEO). Ultimately, her political accolades earned her entry into the Archives of Historical events in the City of New Haven.

Staying home was not meant for Gwen. After retiring from the Southern New England Telephone Company (AT&T), she stayed home only a few months. Gwen began a new venture in her life by working part-time at the New Haven Adult and Continuing Education Center where everyone knew her as Mama Gwen. Her love for the students overflowed from all the love she had for her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Gwen was a devoted and faithful member of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church for over 60 years joining under the pastorate of the late Reverend Charles Carlos Blake. She was also an active life member of the Knickerbocker Golf Club.

Mama will forever be in the hearts of her daughter, Reverend Katrina Jones; grandson, Edgar (Nakisha) Jones; granddaughters, Jennifer and Kirvanna Jones; and great-grandson, Grey Sharpe; her son, Reginald Jones, Sr.; grandson, Reginald Jones Jr.; great-grandson, Reginald Jones III; and great granddaughters, Reginae, Amare, and Olivia; her daughter-in-love, Sheridan "Sue" Carpenter-Jones; grandsons, Ronald Singleton, Curtis and Nathaniel Jones; great grandsons, Ronald "Cream" Singleton, Curon, Kamron and Karson Jones, and great granddaughter, Hillary Hill; Sister, Mary "Elanore" Jackson; Brother and Sister-in-love, Paul (Katie) Rigsby. Gwen also leaves to cherish her memories a host of relatives and friends who loved her dearly.

Gwen is predeceased by her parents, Daniel and Lucille Stephens; daughter, Patricia Ann Jones; son, Ronald N. Jones; grandson, Ronald K. Jones. Three brothers and one sister.

Previous Events

Calling Hours

JUL 27. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethel A.M.E. Church
255 Goffe Street
New Haven, CT 06511

Service

JUL 27. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethel A.M.E. Church
255 Goffe Street
New Haven, CT 06511

Burial

JUL 27 (ET)

Evergreen Cemetery
769 Ella T Grasso Blvd
New Haven, CT 06519
(203) 624-5505

Tribute Wall



“ *Gwendolyn E Newton*

October 09, 2023 at 06:14 AM



“ *To the family of my best friend,*

I am so sorry to just find out about your mom we worked together at SNET for over 20 years she was my best friend even though I had not spoken to her in a while she was always in my thoughts. I am so sorry.

Joyce & Larry Clemente

Joyce P Clemente - December 19, 2021 at 08:28 AM



“ *Katrina, Reggie, Lil Reggie, Please accept my heartfelt Condolences for the home going of your Rock,,,, GOD BLESS*

Jacqueline Smith - July 27, 2021 at 11:08 AM



“ *NaTanya LeSane lit a candle in memory of Gwendolyn E Newton*



NaTanya LeSane - July 27, 2021 at 10:31 AM

MP

“ To Newton Family, My Deepest Condolences To You. Allow God To Wrap You In His Arms Comforting You In The Days Ahead. Please Know That My Prayers Are With You.

May God Bless This Family

Mrs. Caroline Ponteau And Family

Mrs. Caroline Ponteau - July 27, 2021 at 06:41 AM



GG

“ To the family I meet Gwendolyn when I ran and won Alderwoman in the Dixwell neighborhood (22 Ward) back in 1998. We quickly became friends. What I remember mostly dearly is when we took a road trip to Raleigh, North Carolina. We had a great time during that trip. I often think of Gwen and recently as I was going through my photos I saw the pictures we took during that trip. So to the family I am sorrow for your loss. With Profound Sorrow.

*Grace M. Gibbs
Monroe, NC*

Grace M. Gibbs - July 26, 2021 at 07:24 PM

MB

“ Katrina your Mother will be truly missed from my Family. May God give you and your Family comfort and peace during the loss of your dear Mother.

Mabel Brown - July 25, 2021 at 03:56 PM



JP

“ Condolences to the family of Gwen she will be missed 🌹🙏❤️



joyous pittman - July 24, 2021 at 10:02 PM

DM

“ Will always remember that smiling face,condolences to the family ..Gwen was a giant among us..life time Knickerbocker when the club needed her and others

Duke McAlpine - July 24, 2021 at 12:18 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gwendolyn E Newton.



July 23, 2021 at 09:13 PM

MJ

“ The impact Gwen made in the lives of those around her, is a true testament to the kind of person she really was. I will miss our talks and the memories we shared about the family. Mary Elenor Liles Jackson & Family

Mary Jackson - July 23, 2021 at 03:13 PM

BL

“ *Our deepest condolences to the family. We will miss Cousin Gwen.
Josephine Whitfield and Family*



Beghetta Liles - July 23, 2021 at 03:02 PM

WD

“ *Thank you for such a beautiful person to me. You always greeted me with a smile and a word how I was doing. Will always love you.*



William L. Dixon - July 22, 2021 at 01:04 PM

FD

“ *Fallon and Elijah Daniels purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Gwendolyn E Newton.*



Fallon and Elijah Daniels - July 22, 2021 at 12:57 PM

AZ

“ *Prayers to the family Gwen was a good friend and co worker*

Angelita Zayas - July 21, 2021 at 08:15 PM

MA

Oh so sad to hear of Gwen's passing What a Beautiful Soul. May she rest in peace. Marion Giles Ammons

Marion Giles Ammons - July 27, 2021 at 09:25 PM