



## Dr. LaDonna Jean Barnett

May 23, 1962 - May 31, 2020

Dr. LaDonna Barnett(nee Buford), wife of William was born in St. Louis, Missouri. At an early age LaDonna united with the Greater Mount Carmel Baptist Church under the leadership of the late Rev. Earl E. Nance, Sr. who baptized her. Shortly thereafter she began teaching Sunday School and Vacation Bible School.

In 1997 she was united in holy matrimony to William Barnett and changed her membership to The St. Louis Christian Center to worship with her husband.

Ladonna attended the Ritenour and Ferguson - Florissant School Districts. At a very early age she expressed her desire to be a teacher. After graduating from McCluer North High School she attended Southeast Missouri State University where she received her Bachelor of Science in Education in 1984. She returned to St. Louis after graduation and was one of the blessed ones to be able to teach at the high school from which she graduated, McCluer North High School. Dr. Barnett was a life long learner and educator. In 1990 she received a Master's Degree from The University of Missouri St. Louis with honors (on her scholarly paper) in General Counseling. She continued her education and received a Master's of Arts from Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Missouri. She received K-8 and K-12 Initial Administrator Certification in 2010. On May 17, 2013 Dr. LaDonna Barnett received her Doctorate of Education in Education Administration from Lindenwood University, St. Charles, MO.

Dr. LaDonna Barnett was a Charter Member of The Omicron Pi Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Many cherished memories are left with her loving husband, William Barnett; her mother Jeanette Romius and stepfather Dr. William Romius; her sister Alisa Maclin; her grandmother Vertrice Minor; godmother Rebecca (Joe) Pratcher; god daughter Diarra Payne; son in Christ Andrew Coppage and daughter in Christ Rhoda Graham; sister in law Doris Watts, brother in law Roy Barnett; special sisters Darnella (Roger) Petty, Renita LeCompte, and Denise Kirby; special sorority sister Sheena Payne; uncles Robert (Jacqueline) Minor, Wayman Minor, Wayne Minor, Curtis Minor and Everett (Donita) Thomas, aunts Sylvia (Alfonso) Little and Ruth Minor; nieces, nephews, cousins, co-workers in the Ferguson-Florissant School District, sorors of Delta Sigma Theta, her church families Grow To Go Christian Center and Greater Mount Carmel.

# Cemetery Details

## National Cemetery - Jefferson Barracks

2900 Sheridan Rd  
St. Louis, MO 63125

# Previous Events

## Private Limited Service

JUN 8. 1:00 PM (CT)

Archway Memorial Chapel  
111 Taylor Road  
Hazelwood, MO 63042  
(314) 895-3900  
[info@archwaychapel.com](mailto:info@archwaychapel.com)

# Tribute Wall

JJ

“*Mrs. LaDonna was always the nicest. Her smile was very contagious, and it lit up the whole room. It was often the little things she did for me that made the most lasting impact. For instance, she explained to me how odd it was to order a hot dog at a Dairy Queen. The overall lesson was to understand that certain specialize in certain things, and lack quality in other things. I carry that lesson with me to this day.*

*Not only the little things, but she was very consistent with birthdays and holidays. Every. Single. Time. She's been with me through all of my milestones, and she will be missed. We love and miss you, Mrs. LaDonna.*

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**John Payne Jr.** - July 20, 2020 at 11:31 PM

CF

“*I had the honor of working with Dr. Barnett at Berkeley Middle School. She truly cared about the needs of those students and everyone around the school. I used to go to her office every morning for a cinnamon disc or a peppermint. When I transferred jobs she gifted me with a bag of cinnamon discs and a beautiful card. She often called me her big sister. She will be truly missed.*

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**Carolyn Fulgham** - July 03, 2020 at 11:25 PM

MH

“*Dr. Barnett came to McCluer last fall with a smile and great patience. Her encouraging spirit was inspiring. I only wish I had known her earlier and could have spent more time with her. She really showed the heart of Christ to others. I pray God's strength and comfort will continue to bless her family and friends and the memories will always bring a smile to your faces.*

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**Mary Hembree** - June 30, 2020 at 09:35 AM

CR

“ My prayers and condolences goes out to the Family of LaDonna and her husband William. May the Lord comfort you all during this time and give you peace that surpasses all understanding 🙏🙏🙏. I will always remember LaDonna's beautiful and sweet smile and her sweet spirit. She will truly be missed!

Chenita Rollins - June 17, 2020 at 11:58 PM



“ Rhoda Rho lit a candle in memory of Dr. LaDonna Jean Barnett



Rhoda Rho - June 10, 2020 at 03:04 AM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Rhoda Rho - June 10, 2020 at 03:03 AM

JJ

LaDonna will be missed. She was helpful and participated at all our reunion functions. What a JEWEL.

James Ella (Aunt Jim) - June 11, 2020 at 08:24 PM

GJ

“ *LaDonna has always been a sweet heart to me. Condolences and prayers for Billy and her entire family. May God bless you and give you peace.*

*Geneva Jackson*

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**Geneva Jackson** - June 09, 2020 at 07:39 PM

JW

“ *Back in 1989, I became friends with LaDonna while we worked together at the St. Charles County Juvenile Detention Center. She was such a warm, compassionate, caring person and we immediately became friends and I loved to joke and laugh with her! Not only did all of our co-workers love her but also the kids in detention loved her, as well. As a teacher, she treated everyone with respect and was always smiling and laughing. I have run into her several times over the years while she was at McCluer North High School and just a couple of years ago at Berkley Middle School. She had not changed a bit. I was so sad to hear of her passing, the world has lost an amazing person and a beautiful soul. My prayers and condolences to LaDonna's family. Rest in Peace my sweet friend.*

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**Janelle (Gonzalez) Walters** - June 09, 2020 at 02:16 PM

BG

“ *LaDonna, Such an excellent example of humility, meekness, & compassion. No more pain or Suffering. Fly High Lady, you earned your wings. Brenda G. Ringo*



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**Brenda G.Ringo** - June 09, 2020 at 12:18 AM

CS

“ Dr. Barnett loved her students. I missed many lunches because she would call me into her office on my lunch hour to do the girls hair. I would say " Dr. Barnett I'm hungry", she would reply "you can eat when you get home this evening, this baby needs her hair combed". That's just the type if person she was. I had no problem ever going beyond the call of duty for Dr. Barnett.

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**Corliss Stewart** - June 08, 2020 at 04:08 PM

TL

“ LaDonna lived the true meaning of a beautiful soul. To know her was to know how Christ wants us to treat one another. Thank you my friend for your smile, your laughter and your spirit. Rest well dear friend, rest well 🙏

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**Tracee Lewis** - June 08, 2020 at 02:48 PM

PH

“ I first met LaDonna in 1998. I walked in MNHS and she greeted me and my son. She was happy, kind and very helpful. I mention to her that my son will be a freshmen and she immediately took him under her wings as his advisor.



I never had to worry about his education as she had him prepared every year with his studies. She had him prepared for college as well. LaDonna served with Love.

We became friends as well as co-workers. Fun days at MNHS. LaDonna always portrayed Christ (fruit of the spirit) in every aspects. She was one that has helped many students. Through out the many years we always talked about the goodness of God. We texted back -and- forth during her illness and getting a chance to say, I Love you is priceless.

We have travel together to NEA meetings, as rep for our district members.

Dr. LaDonna Barnett (Burford) is going to be miss, but never forgotten. If you have one good friend in your life you have done well. Rest well my friend.

My prayers and condolences to the entire family and friends.

RIH Dr. LaDonna Barnett (Burford)

Love and prayers

Phylliss Hayden

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**Phylliss Hayden** - June 08, 2020 at 02:06 PM

SB

“ My thoughts are with Ladonna's family. Ladonna was so genuine, thoughtful, and kind and showed love and patience to others daily. She was in her calling: providing counsel and touching lives, which she did both on and off the job. Her absence is truly a loss for us all. I was blessed to know someone with such a sweet spirit and I will miss her dearly.

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**Starr Butler** - June 08, 2020 at 02:04 PM

DH

“ My condolences and prayers are sent to Dr. LaDonna Barnett's family. She had a beautiful smile like no other. She was always kind and her faith was very strong. You will be missed by many and you have touched so many lives. It was a great pleasure knowing and working with you.

*Dr. Anissa Harris*

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**Dr. Anissa Harris** - June 08, 2020 at 01:47 PM

JS

“ LaDonna and I worked together at McClure North High School in the guidance department. We became very good friends. She moved to Berkeley High School and worked with my husband, Ellis. Then they became friends. We thought of her as family. Once I retired LaDonna and I remained in touch with each other. I came back to the district part-time. LaDonna was now at Berkeley Middle School and I was at McClure South Berkeley High School, which replaced Berkeley High School. I was the Academic Scholarship Coordinator and Youth Advisor. LaDonna would recommend and direct her middle school students to me. After the district's restructuring, we both landed at McClure High School, that was fun. We would reconnect like old times. I was there as Youth Advisor and LaDonna (Dr. Barnett) was one of the counselors. Once again she directed and recommended students to me for the Future Iota Leaders Program that I sponsor and advise. I missed her in the building, once she was out on medical leave, but we remained in touch. Now, that the Lord has picked her up, she will be missed even more. I expected her to return. LaDonna loved the Lord. Her loving spirit and big beautiful smile will live on with many of us. Ellis, our girls, Ebonee Faith and Mahauganee Dawn, and I extend our deepest condolences to William and the family. We pray that the Lord provides you your every need. Hugs, Judy-Ferguson Shaw

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**Judy-Ferguson Shaw** - June 08, 2020 at 03:21 AM

RJ

“ *Dr. Ladonna Jean Barnett was my sorority sister. She was beautiful inside and out. My deepest heartfelt condolences to the entire family. Rest In Heaven (R.I.H) lovely angel and sister.*  
*Regina Wade Johnson*

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**Regina Wade Johnson** - June 08, 2020 at 01:36 AM

KP

“ *I met MaDonna through Renita LeCompte. She was very welcoming and treated me as if she'd known me for years. Unfortunately, as life would have it, I only saw her a few times after Renita married my cousin. I still remember her. Her family will be in my prayers.*



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**Karen Pitts** - June 07, 2020 at 04:56 PM

DB

“ *Dr. Barnett Was My School Mother, She Was My Guidance Counselor At Berkeley Middle I Loved This Lady So Much, She Supported Me With Everything, Was Always A Listening Ear For Me I Mean She Was My Everything I Came To School Everyday & Looked Forward To Seeing Her That Smile Would Bright Up My Whole Day Literally I'm So Upset With Myself That I Lost Contact With Her But As Long As She Know Demetria Will Always Remember & Love Her* 😭📧💙

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**Demetria Bradley** - June 07, 2020 at 03:58 PM

HL

“ Dr. Barnett and I worked together at Berkeley Middle School. She was an advocate for our students and always expected nothing but the best from them! LaDonna and I always had lots of laughs and had many conversations about her enjoyable travels. LaDonna always had a smile on her face and she was a beautiful person. She will be missed dearly! My condolences to her husband and family.



*Hilary Licata*

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**Hilary Licata** - June 07, 2020 at 03:45 PM

MW

“ LaDonna always had a big smile and was such a beautiful soul. You told me one day you would love to live in Paris, but now you are living in paradise. May you rest beautifully and I will be keeping your family in prayers.

*-Mary Ware*

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**Mary Ware** - June 07, 2020 at 03:01 PM

DM

“ May she now rest in the comforting arms of her Lord. To Jeanette and Alisa, my prayers are with you during this difficult time. May the Lord give you comfort and strength in these coming days. Thank you for allowing me to be friends with you and you family when you moved to Elmwood. At the time LaDonna was like a baby sister to me. I will cherish those fond memories for all of my days. To Mr Barnett know that your wife was loved by many and will be missed. My prayers are with you.

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**Donna Surgener Mann** - June 06, 2020 at 12:59 PM

CM

“ Thank you for being such a pivotal person in my life! I tell people all the time that I am where I am because my high school counselor believed in and supported me! Thank you for being tough on me! Thank you for being kind to me! Thank you for teaching me the meaning of impact! When my life was falling apart in high school, you were there, ALWAYS!...even if it was 6 a.m. call times to help you garden and volunteer on Saturday mornings. I disliked it then, but I'm grateful for those memories now. My grandmother appreciated you so much! I appreciate you even more!

You and Mrs. Strong's offices were my favorite places to sneak away to whenever I could between and sometimes even during classes! Thank you for putting the idea of college in my head, and helping me get there! I am honestly where I am in life because of my hard work and your belief in me! I wish I had more time to give you your flowers while you were living, but rest well knowing that you have impacted so many, and changed the life trajectory for so many young people!

My first short story was featured online a couple weeks back titled 'Chronicles of a Degreed Black Girl'-- I didn't move fast enough to share it with you, but I highlighted you and your support in me obtaining my college degrees and changing my life! Your legacy and love will live on forever in my heart!

I love you! Thank you!

-Cauterra

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Cauterra Matthews - June 06, 2020 at 12:37 PM

SW

“ Dr. Barnett and I worked together at Berkeley Middle. She always gave her all to young people. She was a blessing to us all. I will truly miss our talks about students and life in general. I will miss her smile, love for God, and beautiful spirit. LaDonna you loved so many and many loved and cherished you. My condolences to her husband and family.

Shae

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**Sharleta (Shae) Williams** - June 06, 2020 at 09:11 AM

DA

“ Dr. Barnett was a lady who always loved our students at Berkeley Middle no matter what. She had a warming heart and always had a smile on her face. As she is smiling down from heaven, we will miss her!

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**Dr. Adams** - June 05, 2020 at 10:45 PM

DA

“ I worked with Dr. Barnett while at Berkeley Middle School. The one that I can say about her any many more is that she cared and loved our students no matter what!!! She went up and beyond her job duties to make sure our students were always taken care of. She was a true friend and also a great leader! I will miss her! Dr. Barnett as you shine in heaven, you are deeply missed!

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**Dr. Adams** - June 05, 2020 at 10:29 PM

CD

“ So sorry to hear about this Mrs. Barnett was my guidance counselor and home room teacher she gave me my first God’s Promise book to read in 1997 and I still have it.



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**Candice Davis** - June 05, 2020 at 09:33 PM

MT

“ I was privileged to work with LaDonna when she was a counselor at McCluer North and I was a new teacher. She was incredibly kind and went out of her way to assist my transision into becoming a McCluer North Star. She would answer any question and if she couldn't answer, she would find the answer for you. Always willing to assist with any project, she was just an overall good person. The one thing I will remember most was her beautiful smile, which she maintained even during the most difficult times. Rest forever in the arms of the Lord.

*Mya Thompson-Hubbard*

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**Mya Thompson-Hubbard** - June 05, 2020 at 07:04 PM

KW

“ I was very shocked to hear about the passing of Dr. Barnett. She was a strong support system for me during stressful times in my life, such as the passing of my father in 2019. She was a caring and warm person and I will miss her for that. Rest in peace my friend.

*Kristen Williams*

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**Kristen Williams** - June 05, 2020 at 06:26 PM

DB

“*Ladonna and I worked together for many years. She was always such a sweet and calming spirit and a great sense of humor. She had such a love and passion for helping her students. She was always willing to help me with anything that would help children . Her positive and calming spirit aspired me to want to be like that. We had planned to do vision boards together last summer but it got cancelled. My heart hurts in her absence and she will be truly missed*

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**Debbie bodden** - June 05, 2020 at 03:37 PM

KS

“*LaDonna really did have the best smile and positive attitude every day. She was wonderful with the students in the Ferguson Florissant School District. I was blessed to call her friend and colleague for the last 11 years. My condolences and prayers to the family.*

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**Karen Smith** - June 05, 2020 at 12:45 PM

CL

“*I had the pleasure of working with Ladonna at McCluer North. When we discovered that we were sorority sisters that was the icing on our friendship cake. As an assistant principal, I sought Ladonna's help frequently when students were having problems. She loved kids and enjoyed helping them resolve their issues. I will never forget Ladonna's beautiful smile and her ability to bring calm to any situation. She made work fun for me and I love her for the joy she brought. Rest easy dear soror.*

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**Chyrel Lanos-Sneed** - June 05, 2020 at 12:14 PM

JJ

“ It was a pleasure moving from Berkeley Middle School with Dr. Barnett as she served as my counselor when I was in 8th grade. I later went on to work along side LaDonna as a co-worker when I began the Office Manager at Berkeley Middle School in 2017. She was always so pleasant and nice. Her smile lit up my morning as she came in grinning and would always ask "how I am doing". She was a wonderful person and she will definitely be remembered. My prayers goes out to the friends and family of LaDonna she is definitely resting with the Lord now.

Jasimine Johnson - June 05, 2020 at 11:26 AM

AJ

“ I am so saddened and shocked to hear about the passing of my fellow Counselor, LaDonna. She always displayed a calm and pleasant demeanor, no matter what she was facing. She was always willing to help her colleagues and certainly went the extra mile for her students. May God bless her family and provide them with the comfort they need during this most difficult time. I thank God and her family for sharing LaDonna with us. She will be missed tremendously!  
Aundrea Johnson

Aundrea Johnson - June 05, 2020 at 11:25 AM

LD

“ I had the pleasure of meeting LaDonna at McCluer North. I was a teacher and she was one of the counselors. LaDonna was such a sweet person with the most beautiful smile. She and all talked and laughed every time I had a chance to visit her office. She will truly be missed. My prayer goes out to her family, friends and coworkers. God has called his angel home.



Leslie Dailey - June 05, 2020 at 10:54 AM

SD

“ Rest in Heaven Dr. Barnett 🙏



Sherron Daugherty - June 05, 2020 at 10:48 AM

SG

“ LaDonna had an indomitable spirit. True inside and out and a wonderful friend. I know God welcomed her but I will miss her. My deepest sympathy to her beloved husband and family. Sandra Goforth-McDougal

sandra goforth-mcdougal - June 05, 2020 at 09:33 AM



“ I light a candle in memory of LaDonna Barnett, counselor I worked with at McCluer South Berkeley.  
May God give her family peace and comfort for healing during this time.



Cheryl Walker - June 05, 2020 at 08:13 AM

LL

“ I have known Ladonna since my childhood in Elmwood Park and she has been a family friend. I will always remember her sweetness and her smile. Determined to make a difference in the sweetest way and boy did she love The Lord. I am grateful to know that she is now being held by her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Your kindness will be missed my sister, my friend. Lynn Lawrence

Lynn Lawrence - June 05, 2020 at 08:11 AM

BE

“ I was fortunate to have Dr. Barnett as a counselor in high school at McCluer North and to have worked with her as an assistant principal at Berkeley Middle School. She was a great team mate and a good friend. I will miss her light in this world.

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**Ben Eye** - June 05, 2020 at 07:19 AM

DM

“ I was privileged to work with LaDonna at McCluer North. Her smile and enthusiasm were infectious and her energy boundless. I am saddened to hear of her passing, but know she's smiling down from Heaven.

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**Dorothy Morris** - June 04, 2020 at 11:45 PM

HC

“ Dr. Barnett was a wonderful and sweet person. She helped my daughter through 7th and 8th grade. She always made sure she was ok and had everything she needed. Dr. Barnett my daughter Jade Coleman misses you very much.

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**Heather Coleman** - June 04, 2020 at 11:38 PM

SS

“ I was very lucky to have worked with LaDonna at Berkeley. She was always cheerful and had a positive impact on students and staff. The world was a better place with her in it. She will be deeply missed.  
Susan Sipe

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**Susan Sipe** - June 04, 2020 at 11:31 PM

JC

“ I am so happy that I had the pleasure to work with LaDonna in the Ferguson-Florissant School District. She always had that sweet smile no matter what was happening. She will be missed.

Jo Crump - June 04, 2020 at 11:14 PM

KW

“ I'm so saddened to hear about Ladonna. I worked with her just one year at Berkeley Middle School and we often had great conversations over the lunch breaks that we shared. She was always willing to help in any way possible with the students. I know she will be missed by many.

Karen Wellman - June 04, 2020 at 10:49 PM

SH

“ Dr. Barnett was truly an angel right here on earth. She absolutely LOVED her Ferguson-Florissant children and met their needs, no matter what. She made it work with faith and a warm smile. I am Blessed to have known such faithful and inspiring person. God bless your family. I💖 you forever. Ms. House



Shirley House - June 04, 2020 at 10:38 PM

CS

“ Ladonna you were a person I thank God for allowing in my life. I'm thinking of you every single day. Our Father has truly truly gained another angel. May you rest in peace. I ❤️ you.

Corliss Stewart - June 04, 2020 at 10:14 PM

DB

*Agreed! I am proud to call her friend and feel blessed for having known her!*

Debbie bodden - June 05, 2020 at 03:40 PM



“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



MeShellay Smith - June 04, 2020 at 10:08 PM



*I met LaDonna in 1997, when I became a counselor at BHS (8710 Walter Avenue). But, the magic happened in 2002, when we started working side by side. We laughed, cried & strategized together with a bond & chemistry like no other. Our work family at Berkeley and McCluer South Berkeley was TRULY family. We all have a story to share about my sistah/friend, prayer partner, blessed oil carrying, genuine inside & out; now Guardian Angel.*

*The jewels in your crown are SO amazing, you lived the life that you talked about and made an impression on everyone that knew you. As the song says, thank you for being a friend.*

*Love you always,  
Michelle Smith*

MeShellay Smith - June 04, 2020 at 10:19 PM

SL

“ *LaDonna and I worked together at Berkeley Middle School. We used to laugh together on a daily basis... such a graceful and kind lady!*

*Take your smile to heaven LaDonna! You always brightened my day.*

Steven Lawler - June 04, 2020 at 09:54 PM

KD

“ I knew LaDonna both as a student and as a colleague at McCluer North High School. I will always remember her dazzling smile and her compassion for students.

*My deepest sympathy to her husband and her family at losing such a person from their lives all too soon.*

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**Kathleen Dombrink** - June 04, 2020 at 03:54 PM

LR

“ *Condolences to the Barnett and Romius Families. Mrs Barnett was a counselor at my daughters elementary school Berkeley Middle and all the kids and parents loved her. She also followed our child through high school and was there when they graduated. She will definitely be missed!*



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**Laticia Ramsey** - June 04, 2020 at 03:50 PM

CH

“ *This is one of the hardest things I've had to do, however I thank God for our life long friendship and how your grace and commitment to serving Him while helping others will always be remembered. I will continue to lift your husband and family in prayer, you were special to so many.*



*Christine Gayfield*

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**Christine** - June 04, 2020 at 11:25 AM

SP

“ My friend, I will miss you. To the family, my heartfelt condolences. 🙏



Sheena Payne - June 04, 2020 at 07:55 AM

EB

“ Sending our heartfelt condolences to our brother William Barnett and Families.

Eddie and Deborah Barnes - June 03, 2020 at 09:51 PM

EB

“ Eddie And Deborah Barnes lit a candle in memory of Dr. LaDonna Jean Barnett



Eddie and Deborah Barnes - June 03, 2020 at 09:33 PM

EB

Love is what LaDonna has always showered us with, we will miss My LaDonna, always asked me “Deborah Barnes what are you up too “ yes I was more often than not! I'll miss my friend Dr LaDonna Barnett, We will miss you and your faithfulness. Rest in Heaven ❤️❤️

Eddie and Deborah Barnes - June 03, 2020 at 09:48 PM

DW

“ My cousin Ladonna was full of love and kindness loved the lord with all her heart I will miss you forever you are in the arms of of our lord you were a light to me and our family rest cousin rest.

dorcel ware - June 03, 2020 at 04:41 PM

JM

“ I worked with LaDonna at McCluer North High School. She was always so kind and classy with a huge smile. I am so sad to hear this and send condolences to her loved ones.  
Jackie Mink

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**Jackie Mink** - June 03, 2020 at 02:41 PM



“ Kenneth McGhee sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. LaDonna Jean Barnett



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**Kenneth McGhee** - June 03, 2020 at 07:50 AM

KS

“ Ken And Archway Staff lit a candle in memory of Dr. LaDonna Jean Barnett



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**Ken and Archway Staff** - June 02, 2020 at 10:43 PM