

HONORING AND
CELEBRATING THE LIFE
OF

INTERMENT

Mansfield Memorial Park
2507 Park Ave W, Ontario, OH 44906

REPAST

Maddox Memorial COGIC
1148 Walker Lake Rd, Mansfield, OH 44906

ACTIVE PALLBEARERS

Nathaniel Long ~ Jermaine Taylor ~ Demarrio Palmer-Stevens
O Jore Palmer ~ Earl Fuller Jr. ~ Dominic Jones

FLOWERBEARERS

Alana Palmer - Stevens ~ Qweon'cy Peoples ~ Shayla Hawkins
Monica Long ~ Jasmine Long ~ NyAsia Taylor

A Word Of Thanks

The family of Mrs. Betty Ann Palmer-Harris wishes to express our heartfelt gratitude for the many expressions of love, prayer, and support shown to us during this time of bereavement.

Your kind words, visits, calls, cards and acts of compassion have brought us comfort and strength.

We would like to extend a special thank you to Pastor Aaron Williams and the entire Maddox Memorial COGIC family for your spiritual guidance, prayers and gracious service. We are also deeply appreciative of the Mansfield Community and NAACP and all who worked alongside her throughout the years to continue the legacy of faith and justice she so strongly believed in.

May God bless each of you for your kindness, love, and support during our time of loss.



MARLAN GARY
FUNERAL HOME
1 FUNERAL HOME | 5 LOCATIONS

MINISTRY OF COMFORT ENTRUSTED TO:

NORTH CHAPEL
2500 CLEVELAND AVE.,
COLUMBUS, OH 43211
614-267-8310

EAST CHAPEL
5456 LIVINGSTON AVE.,
COLUMBUS, OH 43232
614-604-8774

MANSFIELD CHAPEL
753 MCPHERSON ST.,
MANSFIELD, OH 44903
419-524-6999

SPRINGFIELD CHAPEL
823 SOUTH YELLOW SPRINGS ST.,
SPRINGFIELD, OHIO 45506
937-325-1447

CINCINNATI CHAPEL
674 FOREST AVE.,
CINCINNATI OH 45229
513-221-4812

WWW.THECHAPELOFPEACE.COM



Betty A

PALMER - HARRIS

SUNRISE: JULY 1, 1937 | SUNSET: OCTOBER 16, 2025

HER LIFE STORY

Betty Ann Palmer-Harris, age 88, of Mansfield, Ohio, peacefully went home to be with the Lord on October 16, 2025. She was born on July 1, 1937, in Brownsville, Tennessee, to the late Leonard T. Taylor and Fannie M. Fain.

In 1956, Betty moved to Mansfield, Ohio, where she built a remarkable life rooted in faith, family, and service. She attended Mansfield Business College and developed a strong career, most notably for her dedicated work at Westinghouse, where she was admired for her professionalism, consistency, and integrity.

A devoted woman of faith, Betty was a long-standing and faithful member of Maddox Memorial Church of God in Christ, where she served with humility, strength, and steadfast devotion to God. Her spiritual walk influenced every aspect of her life, and she lived as an example of faith in action—always led by the Lord.

Betty was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Dr. James E. Harris; her parents, Leonard Taylor and Fannie Fain; her grandparents, Titus and Dinah Taylor; her sister, Cherry Greenleaf; her two brothers, James Boone and Jerry Fain; two brothers-in-law, Vernon Greenleaf and Carl Hawkins; her children, Ricky Palmer and Latonya Palmer; and other loved ones who have gone before her.

She leaves behind her loving children: Larry (Glanda) Taylor, Cynthia Palmer, Sharon Palmer, Joan Palmer, and her granddaughter, Destiny Ann Palmer, whom she raised as her own. She also is survived by her devoted sister, Sheila Hawkins, along with numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends who will forever hold her close in their hearts.

A woman of integrity, structure, and faith, Betty lived her life with purpose and dedication. She was community-minded, resilient, dependable, and deeply committed to doing what was right—always standing on principle and faith.

Beyond her home and church, Betty made a lasting impact on her community. A lifelong advocate for civil rights, she was a dedicated member and former President of the Mansfield Branch of the NAACP. She founded the NAACP Membership Banquet in the 1980s and played a significant role in many initiatives to combat discrimination and promote equality. Betty worked closely with Senator Sherrod Brown and the local Democratic Party headquarters, championing voter registration and civic engagement. Her leadership helped achieve the renaming of a portion of State Route 30 as the Martin Luther King Jr. Freeway, and she contributed to the installation of the Martin Luther King Jr. monument downtown—lasting tributes to her vision for justice and unity.

Betty's life was a testament to faith, strength, and service. Her spirit touched countless lives, and her legacy will continue to inspire all who knew her.

My Dear Cousin Betty

My Cousin Betty was Strong in Life!
And even Near Death she gave a Good Fight!
Showing a Zest for Life, her Energy gave a unwavering Light.

Betty was right there fighting for Civil Rights, Walking and Talking and Paving the Way for Life, Liberty, Equity and Justice for All.

And Loving her Family was a Must, she Showed them Love, she Showed them she Cared, and if there was a problem she would be right there!

Family was Precious to her so she showed her Love in different ways. For instance, a Family Reunion was only a highway away. Sometimes alone behind the wheel she Drove without a Fuss! It wasn't a big deal! She had No Fear!

She knew God had her back and was always Near!
Driving to see her family was her goal. Anticipating along the way, shared embraces and the smiles on each familiar face.

Thanks for the memories Betty. I will Always remember Your Welcoming Smile on Your Beautiful Face, waiting to give me a Warm and Endearing Embrace!

Betty leaves her family a legacy of Strength, Love, Fearlessness, Belief in God and Cherished Memories! And it is without a doubt she made a Positive impact on all she met!

My Dear Cousin Your Memory is Locked in all our Hearts!!
You will Be Loved and Remembered Now and Forevermore! But you will Always Be Missed!

Love Forever, Your Cousin Diane Lewis-Sharpe

PLEASANT REFLECTIONS

Families getting together and sharing memories are a beautiful sight to behold. Reliving past memories is something to be told.

Laughter fills the air, as old stories are unfolded. Our family shares good times and bad, Yet we stand together strong and bold. You have touched all of our lives.

By the GRACE OF GOD and YOUR LOVE, WE WILL SURVIVE

I'm FREE

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God has laid you see.
I took His hand when I heard him call
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to work, to play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way
I found that peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss
Oh yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts and peace to thee
God wanted me now; He set me free.

ORDER OF SERVICE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2025 | 11:00AM
MADDOX MEMORIAL COGIC
1148 WALKER LAKE RD, MANSFIELD, OH 44906

ELDER THOMAS MCLAIN, OFFICIATING

ORGAN PRELUDE.....

PARTING VIEWS.....

SCRIPTURE READING.....

Old Testament Pastor Larry Rawls - Psalm 23
New Testament Pastor Gerald Murphy -John 14: 1-6

PRAYER.....Reverand Steve Taylor

SELECTION..... "Amazing Grace" (Maddox Memorial Choir)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND CONDOLENCES.....Laconia Ross

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO FAMILY.....Minister Lisa Lewis McCombs

REMARKS.....

Family; Destiny Palmer and Wilson Lewis
Church Family - Pastor Aaron Williams, Mother Yvonne Jester and Amario Jester
Friend: Leonard Dillon
NAACP- Artise Anderson
Mayor- Jodi Perry

SELECTION....."I Shall Wear A Crown" (Maddox Memorial Choir)

POEM.....Diane Lewis Jett- Sharpe

READING OF THE SCROLL OF LIFE.....Silently

SELECTION "Medley" Patricia Johnson

EULOGY.....Bishop John C. Lewis

BENEDICTION.....

RECESSIONAL.....

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.
Jeremiah 29:11

