



Barbara Ann Glamb

A faithful wife, devoted mother, caring sister/aunt, wise friend and nurturing teacher who poured her heart and love into everyone she encountered.



Barbara entered this world on July 30, 1942 in Breaux Bridge, Louisiana. She was the second of four children born to the late Hazel and Carlton Thomas. In 1943, her family relocated to Port Arthur, Texas for work in the then booming oil industry. There she was raised by her father, who affectionately called her his “Black Gal,” and her aunt, known as “Bo” whom she loved dearly. She boasted about being spoiled, receiving four home cooked meals a day, having minimal chores, and being showered with love. Determined to make her family proud, she strived to be an obedient young lady and a faithful student at Sacred Heart Catholic Elementary and High School and graduated valedictorian of her class. She shared a close relationship with all of her siblings and told many childhood stories of tattling on them, interrupting their dates, and enjoying their protection as the “scaredy-cat” in the family. After high school, Barbara completed her bachelor’s degree in education at Xavier University in New Orleans in 1964. She later earned a master’s degree in education from Oakland University in 1981.

In 1967, Barbara traveled to Detroit to assist her sister Ursula with her firstborn. Accompanied by her Aunt Bo and a family friend, they were faced with the prospect of a very long delay in Chicago. Her brother-in-law recruited his co-worker Victor with his car to take the four-and-a-half-hour drive to Chicago to pick them up. Fate and perhaps a touch of mischievous matchmaking conspired to sandwich Barbara next to Victor in the front seat for the entire journey to her utter dismay. Not too long thereafter, she realized the significance of that day. That unexpected ride proved to be “the” ride of a lifetime. It was the beginning of a relationship that many probably never thought would survive given the times. It was also the beginning of a never ending love between her and Victor.

After courting in the midst of the Detroit riots, Barbara and Victor married on July 20, 1968 and began a commitment of 54 years together. They were inseparable. Together they were active members of Gesu Parish for 29 years and participated in the Gospel Choir and the Sunday Small Community Group. In 2007, they joined Old St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Greektown where they would lead the rosary.

To their union were born three children - Carla, Victor Jr. and Peter - who were her pride and joy. She loved them deeply as was evident in her desire to provide them with a strong foundation in faith, a love for family, a college education, some of their wants and all of their needs.

Barbara exuded this same love in her teaching career, which began in New Orleans and upon moving North, as a teacher for Detroit Public Schools. She worked at Hally Elementary School, Vernor Elementary School and spent the majority of her 34 years teaching at Pasteur Elementary where she retired (her image remains on a wall mural at the school’s entrance). In spite of her no-nonsense, mean teacher reputation around school, Barbara’s students remembered her fondly and often thanked her for her “tough-love” approach when running into her as adults. This was because she did not just teach her students, she mothered them. Once you were in her class, you became her child and she would walk the halls to find anyone bullying her student and say, “Take a good look, because this one belongs to me and you better not mess with him/her.” She even walked students home to ensure their safety. One child described her like this, “She can be mean like the wicked witch and as nice as the good fairy godmother.” She protected and loved her students because she was a “Mother-Teacher.”

Her role as nurturer continued throughout her life - teaching her grandchildren to read, supporting and encouraging family members in their endeavors, lending a listening ear and sharing her wisdom and knowledge; she was quick to give advice whether one asked for it or not. Most importantly, Barbara was a true intercessor faithfully praying for her family, friends and the entire world and saying her Rosary and Divine Mercy prayer daily. It is this strong faith that saw her through the many illnesses she faced throughout her life. Though tethered to oxygen and having completely lost her sight, she never complained, attended Mass daily (until the pandemic) and never wavered in her trust in God. In spite of her challenges, she remained a strong steadfast pillar for her family and friends imploring them to remember only her love and to love one another.

Barbara departed this life on May 17, 2022. She was preceded in transition from this earth by her parents, Hazel and Carlton Thomas; her beloved aunt who raised her Alzina Trahan (Bo); her brother Carlton (Lek) Thomas, Jr.; and her sister Ursula Winston.

She leaves to cherish her memory her devoted husband Victor; her daughter, Carla (Ronald) Rivers of Detroit, Michigan; her sons Victor (Marie) Glamb of McKinney, Texas and Peter Glamb of Hanover, Germany; her sister Mary Galine Baker of Fort Worth, Texas; and cousin Mary Lee Thomas of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; special family friend, Dariusz Wycisło, and numerous other cousins, in-laws, nieces, nephews and a host of friends.

Barbara’s legacy will live on in her adoring and precious grandchildren: Jordan, Kasia, Christopher, Karis, Caden, Kana, Caia, Sophia, Isabella, Leah and Lindsey.

Mourning Light

I don't want this night to end.
Mid - morning light
will bring the final fight
for this present life
of my dearest friend.
Remorseful with stricken heart,
to face that we must
part,
I try to console
my anguished soul.
It's true, she does plead
to be freed,
to escape her pain
and gain
the greeting
arms of God.
Thankfully her strife will cease,
gratefully my wife
will find precious peace.
Her soul will rise
to receive her well -
earned prize.
Eternal rest
with the blessed,
reunited with loved ones
of the past,
rapture of beatific love,
that will forever last.
We, though left below,
will still sense
and confidently know,
the love she will bestow
faithfully from above.

Therefore, thank You Lord,
Thy will be done.
Complete what has begun.
Grant her Your reward!

DV 5/15/2022



Order of Service

Processional

INTRODUCTORY RITES

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading - Proverbs 31:10-31..... Mary Galine Baker

Responsorial Psalm

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 13:4-13 LaChone Winston

Gospel - John 14:1-6

Homily

General Intercessions

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Presentation of the Gifts

Offertory Song: Ave Maria..... Michele Baker

Eucharistic Prayer

FINAL COMMENDATION

Recessional

*A new commandment I give unto you: That you love one another, as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one for another.
(John 13:34-35)*

Pallbearers

Sidney Baker Jr.
Christopher Rivers
Khary Turner

Caden Rivers
Jordan Rivers
Walter Winston Jr.

Honorary Pallbearers

Matthew Baker
Carlton Joseph "CJ" Thomas III

Michael Phillips
Dariusz Wycislo

Flower Bearers

Friends of the Family

Interment

Mount Elliott Cemetery
1701 Mt. Elliott • Detroit, MI 48207

Final Arrangements Entrusted to



JAMES H. COLE
HOME FOR FUNERALS, INC.

16100 Schaefer Highway • Detroit, MI 48235 • 313.835.3997

Acknowledgements

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many comforting messages, floral tributes, prayer and many other expressions of kindness and concern evidenced at this time in thought and deed.
A more personal acknowledgement will be made at a later date.



A Celebration of Life
in Memory of

Barbara Ann Glamb

July 30, 1942 - May 17, 2022

FUNERAL MASS

Friday, May 20, 2022

11:00 A.M.

Old St. Mary's Catholic Church
646 Monroe Ave. • Detroit, Michigan 48226

Reverend John Owusu-Achiaw
Officiating