

Karen Joyner Vinson, a lifelong resident of Savannah, Georgia, passed away peacefully on Sunday, August 9, 2026, at the age of 73. Born on February 3, 1953, in Savannah, Karen lived a life devoted to family, community, and her faith.

She was a 1972 graduate of Savannah High School and continued as a caring homemaker, managing her household with love and dedication. She grew up in and was a longtime member of Taliaferro Baptist Church, and was currently a member of Evangel Temple Full Gospel Church. She proudly served as a member of the Savannah Chapter #52, Order of the Eastern Star, where she held the role of Past Worthy Matron. In addition to her involvement with the Eastern Star, Karen was a cherished DeMolay Mom for the Cecil Cheves Chapter, Order of DeMolay, and the Associated DeMolay Chapters of Georgia.

Faith was at the core of Karen's life and her commitment was unwavering. She read the Bible in its entirety eleven times, embodying the teachings she held dear. Her vibrant presence on Facebook was a testament to her engaging spirit, where she often connected with friends, always signing off with her signature "Love you sweetie." Karen was a selfless giver of her time and love, fulfilling perhaps her most cherished role as a Nana to her grandsons, Tommy and Bryan Vinson. Karen is survived by her devoted husband of 52 years, Gary T. Vinson, Sr., and her loving son, Gary T. Vinson Jr., and his wife, Crystal. She leaves behind a loving sister, Gwendolyn Patterson, and her husband, Patrick. Also cherishing her memory are her grandsons, Tommy and Bryan Vinson; her sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Dixie and Herbert Hilderbrand; her nieces, Barbara Waters Pochet and Cathy Vinson Bunch; and her nephews, Cliff Hilderbrand and Tyler Patterson; as well as a host of extended family. She is preceded in death by her beloved son, Harry Lee Vinson, her parents, Harry Lee Joyner and Doris Baker Sheppard; her great-grandparents, Harry L. Joyner, Sr., and Bessie Mae Joyner; and her brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Jimmy L. Vinson (Dolores) and Dickie H. Vinson (Glenda); and her nephew, David Hilderbrand.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Karen's honor to the Shriners Children's Hospital, 2900 N. Rocky Point Drive, Tampa, Florida 33607.



In Memory Of

Karen Joyner Vinson

February 3, 1953 ~ August 9, 2026



Her children arise up, and call her blessed;
her husband also, and he praiseth her.

Many daughters have done virtuously,
but thou excellest them all.

Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain:
but a woman that feareth the Lord,
she shall be praised.

Give her of the fruit of her hands;
and let her own works praise her in the gates.

Proverbs 31: 28-31



Scan a moment of her voice,
for whenever you may need it

In Memory Of
Karen Joyner Vinson

Date of Birth
February 3, 1953

Entered Into Rest
August 9, 2026

Funeral Service
10:00 AM, August 15, 2026
Baker McCullough Funeral Home
Hodgson Memorial Chapel
Savannah, Georgia

Officiating
Rev. Donald C. Combs
Pastor Carl Ramey

Music
Pastor Drew Humphreys - Soloist
Mr. Tripp Hardee - Organist

Interment
Forest Lawn Memory Gardens
Savannah, Georgia