Flower Bearers

New Jerusalem Seasoned Saints and Patricia's Nieces

Pall Bearers

Stacey L. Bland, Everett Burns, Jonathan House, Charles Jones III, and Orlando Williams

Honorary Pall Bearers

Marvin Battle, Garrett Bland, James Gassaway, Jr. Michael House, Millard House II, Phillip House, Glenn Shumate, and Barnard Tomlin

Acknowledgement

The family of Patricia Burns wishes to express our sincere appreciation for the many comforting messages, prayers and other expressions of kindness and love. Thank you for the part you played in enriching Pat's life. From the depths of our hearts. We Say Thank You.

Special Thanks to Ms. Thaddus Gibbs, Rev. Beverly Baul & Alzheimer's Diversity Outreach Services, Luminos Hospice, Alpha Tau Lamda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., New Jerusalem Baptist Church, Minister Chad Stevenson, and The Biglow Funeral Directors Staff

"Concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not…"

549 South 6th Muskogee, OK 74401 (918) 687-5510
1601 Northwood Drive Okmulgee, OK 74447 (918) 756-2233
1414 North Norfolk Tulsa, OK 74106 (918) 592-2233
www.biglowfunerals.com



"Until We Meet again..."

Poem of Life

Life is but a stopping place,
A pause in what's to be,
A resting place along the road,
to sweet eternity.
We all have different journeys,
Different paths along the way,
We all were meant to
learn some things,
but never meant to stay…
Our destination is a place,
Far greater than we know.
For some the journey's quicker,
For some the journey's slow.
And when the journey finally ends,
We'll claim a great reward,
And find an everlasting peace,
Together with the Lord.

Celebrating The Life of...



Patricia (HOUSE) BURNS

January 4, 1950 - October 28, 2026



Reflection of the Life of...

Patricia Ann (House) Burns

Patricia Ann (House) Burns was born on January 4, 1950, in Langston, Oklahoma, to John Wesley and Jeanette House. She was the tenth of their eleven children, and her arrival on her parents' wedding anniversary made an already meaningful day even more special.

Affectionately known as "Pat," she began her education in Langston Schools. When Guthrie High School was integrated before her senior year, her mother insisted that she complete her high school education there. Although transferring for her final year brought challenges, one bright spot was attending her senior prom with a young college student named Sam Burns. Their courtship continued as Pat pursued her studies at Langston University, where they both graduated in 1971.

On August 21, 1971, Pat and Samuel Burns Jr. were united in marriage, beginning a partnership rooted in love, faith, and devotion. Together, they shared 55 years, two months, and seven days of marriage.

Pat devoted 28 years to Tulsa Public Schools, beginning as a civics teacher at Thoreau Middle School and later serving as a guidance counselor at Byrd Middle School. Throughout her career, she encouraged students, supported families, and championed the power of education.

Pat and Sam chose to spend their first five years of marriage enjoying life together before starting a family. On September 27, 1976, they welcomed their daughter, Heather Anese Burns. Heather quickly became the family's model, always ready to strike a pose and smile for the camera. Seven years later, their son, Keenan Andrew Burns, completed the family.

Both Heather and Keenan were born with sickle cell anemia. Pat and Sam met the challenges of their care with determination, love, and unwavering advocacy. As an educator and mother, she was committed to ensuring that her children received every opportunity Tulsa Public Schools had to offer. With her family complete, she returned to college and earned her master's degree in secondary counseling from Northeastern State University.

Pat's commitment to service extended beyond her home and career. She volunteered with the Metropolitan Tulsa Urban League and Girl Scouts of America and lifted her voice in the Angelic Choir at First Baptist Church of North Tulsa.

In January 2009, Pat and her family faced a profound test of faith when Heather completed her earthly journey at the age of 32 and went home to be with the Lord. Sustained by her faith, Pat sought a meaningful way to honor her daughter's life and the work Heather had begun.

Together, Pat, Sam, and Keenan established the Heather Burns Memorial Scholarship Foundation to preserve Heather's legacy and raise awareness of sickle cell disease. Pat was the heartbeat of the foundation. Over ten years, it raised thousands of dollars to support young people living with sickle cell disease and other life-threatening illnesses, as well as those whose families faced financial hardship.

Pat and Sam also co-authored a book, *I Saw His Face Before Me*, sharing their family's experiences and bringing greater awareness to life with sickle cell disease. In retirement, Pat continued to advocate for education about the disease and the importance of genetic testing and counseling.

Her devotion to family remained constant throughout her life. When her older sister Ella needed care, Pat answered the call, assuming responsibility for her well-being and providing steadfast love, encouragement, and support.

Pat's life reflected her deep faith, her commitment to education, and her enduring love for family and community. Whether as a wife, mother, sister, educator, guidance counselor, or advocate, she gave of herself with purpose and compassion.

She leaves to cherish her memory her beloved husband, Samuel Burns Jr.; her son, Keenan Andrew Burns both of Tulsa, OK; three sisters, Juanita Williams of Bixby, OK, Ella Dee Jordan of Tulsa, OK, and Nettie House of Tacoma, WA; her sister-in-law, Peggy House of Washington D.C.; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.



Order of Service

Thursday, November 5, 2026 – 11:00 a.m.
New Jerusalem Baptist Church
3427 North Birmingham Avenue
Tulsa, Oklahoma



Processional and Family Entrance

Comfort from the Scripture
Old Testament Scripture . . . . . Rev. Thomas Boxley Jr.
New Testament Scripture . . . . . .Rev. Michael Clark

Prayer of Assurance . . . . . Rev. Charles Jones, III (Nephew)
Siloam Missionary Baptist Church Oklahoma City, OK

Musical Selection. . . . . "Peace Be Still" . . . . . New Jerusalem Music Ministry

Resolutions & Acknowledgements. . . . . Sis. Shirley Stidham

Captured Memories . . . . . Video Tribute

Remarks (3 minutes). . . . . Rev. Leron West (Family Friend)
Dr. Melissa Jones Chunu (Heather Burns Memorial Scholarship Foundation)
Cynethia Rayford (Niece)

Musical Selection. . . . . "Order My Steps" . . . . . Pamela Vickers

Words of Comfort . . . . . Rev. Sean Jarrett

Recessional. . . . . Keith D. Biglow Funeral Directors, Inc.



Final Resting Place

Crown Hill Cemetery
1821 E. 66th St. North - Tulsa, OK