

Order of Service

THE PROCESSIONAL~CLERGY AND FAMILY



SOLO~KAREEMA KING

HOLY SCRIPTURES

OLD TESTAMENT~ELDER FRED MCNEIL

NEW TESTAMENT~DR. EVA MITCHELL

PRAYER OF COMFORT~DEACON JIMMY GIBSON

SOLO/SELECTION~MARY DOBBINS WILLIAMS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND TRIBUTES~

MILDRED BURTCHE

REMARKS (2 MINUTES)

~THE WILLOW SPRINGS: MILDRED BURTCHE

~TOOT & TELL: BONNIE & KELLI ADAMS

~WAKE MED: DARIUS BLUE

~FAMILY & FRIENDS

OBITUARY & POEM DELOYS LEE

SOLO/SELECTION~MARY DOBBINS WILLIAMS

EULOGY~PASTOR LA'QUON OGERS

INVITATION/BENEDICTION

FUNERAL DIRECTOR'S BRIEF

RECESSIONAL~CLERGY AND FAMILY

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The family of Jo Anne Pittman Howard wishes to express their heartfelt gratitude for the outpouring of love, support, and compassion during this difficult time. Your kindness, prayers, and shared memories have brought us comfort and strength. Thank you for being a part of her life and for honoring her memory with us.

FLORAL BEARERS

Nieces & Cousins

PALL BEARERS

Nephews & Cousins

REPAST

Worthdale Community Center
1001 Cooper Road Raleigh, NC

FUNERAL SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO:
SANDERS FUNERAL HOME

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

JO ANNE
Pittman
Howard



Saturday

DECEMBER 13, 2025 | 2:00PM

THE WILLOW SPRINGS CHURCH
3623 POLENTA RD CLAYTON, NC 27520

Jo Anne Pittman Howard was born on December 3, 1959, in Smithfield, North Carolina, to George Thomas Pittman, Sr., and the late Lizzie Belle Griffis Pittman. From an early age, Jo Anne was known for her kind spirit, loving heart, and joyful nature. She grew up in a close-knit family and received her education in the Wake County Public School System, where she formed lifelong friendships and began developing the warmth and generosity she would one day become known for.

As a child, Jo Anne joined Springfield Baptist Church, where she first accepted Christ and began her spiritual journey. Later in life, she moved her membership to Willow Springs Free Will Baptist Church, faithfully serving and worshiping there for many years. Eventually, Jo Anne returned to Springfield Baptist Church, where she rekindled old connections, embraced new ones, and joyfully used her God-given gift of singing as a member of the choir. Music brought her deep happiness, and she loved lifting her voice in praise.

Jo Anne was blessed with an extraordinary talent for cooking—a gift that touched countless lives. She dedicated more than 30 years to the Toot-N-Tell Restaurant, where she became beloved by coworkers and customers alike. Her warmth, her humor, and the pride she took in her work made her a fixture in the community. After leaving Toot-N-Tell, she continued her service at Café 3000 at Wake Medical Center for over 20 years. There, too, Jo Anne's presence was a source of comfort and joy to many. Her professionalism, dependability, and compassion left a lasting impression everywhere she went.

Jo Anne had a smile that could light up any room, and she greeted everyone—family, friends, and strangers alike—with genuine love. Her familiar greeting, “Hey, sug!” became her signature phrase, a reflection of the warmth she carried in her heart and shared with the world. She believed in treating people with kindness, and she had the ability to make others feel seen, valued, and loved.

Outside of work, Jo Anne enjoyed a rich and vibrant life. She loved to dance and especially cherished the moments she spent dancing with her daughter Aisha's line dance group, the TrusoulSteppers. Her radiant energy and enthusiasm brought joy to everyone around her. Jo Anne also adored shopping, singing, and celebrating life's simple pleasures. Yet nothing meant more to her than the time she spent with her family and friends. She found her greatest happiness in being surrounded by the people she loved and in making memories that will forever be treasured.

On December 5, 2025, Jo Anne peacefully completed her earthly journey and entered into eternal rest with her Lord and Savior. While her physical presence will be deeply missed, her spirit, her love, and the beautiful legacy she leaves behind will live on in the hearts of all who knew her. She now walks in divine peace, embraced in God's everlasting light.

Jo Anne leaves to cherish her precious memories her husband, Johnny Howard; two daughters, Aisha Phipps of Clayton, NC, and Sakena Brown of Lillington, NC; her father George T Pittman, Sr. of Garner, NC; two sisters, Earlene Allen (Neal) of Clayton, NC, and Diane Pittman of Garner, NC; and two brothers, George Pittman, Jr. of Garner, NC, and Robert Pittman (Evette) of Duncan, NC. Her greatest joys—her five beloved grandchildren, De'Aveon Williams, Aijah Williams, Zaharah Williams-Phipps, Loyalty Brown and Immanuel Phillips—will forever carry her love in their hearts.

She is also survived by two godsons, Joshua Allen and Joshua Carter; a host of nieces, nephews, extended family members, and friends who were like family; and her special friend, Sadie Carter, who held a meaningful place in her life. Each of them will remember her laughter, her generosity, and the unwavering love she shared so freely.

Jo Anne's life was a testament to faith, kindness, and joy. She touched countless lives with her smile, her cooking, her compassion, and her presence. Although she is no longer with us in body, the memory of her love, her laughter, and her beautiful spirit will remain etched in our hearts forever.



Forever In Our Hearts

Your laughter lingers in our days,
Your love in all we do;
Jo Anne, your light still guides our steps,
Your joy still carries through.
Aisha and Sakena feel you near,
In every gentle sign;
Your voice, your care, your tender heart—
Forever intertwined.

And to the ones who called you Grandma,
Your love will never fade:
De'Aveon, Aijah, Zaharah,
Loyalty—so beautifully made.
Each one carries your shining smile,
Your warmth, your strength, your grace;
They'll walk with you in memory's arms,
Your love they cannot replace.

You blessed your sisters and your brothers,
Each bond a gift so true;
Diane, George Jr., and Robert,
Hold precious memories of you.
But God gave you a special closeness,
A love that stood the test—
Earlene walked beside you faithfully,
In moments toughest, sweetest, best.

From road trips filled with laughter,
To quiet nights and tender care,
She held your hand until the end,
A sister's love beyond compare.
Those journeys spent together,
The stories, songs, and smiles—
Earlene will carry each of them,
Across life's future miles.

And though your earthly steps have ceased,
Your spirit softly stays;
In whispered winds, in peaceful nights,
In warm and sunny days.
Jo Anne, your love was boundless,
A blessing from the start;
Your memory lives forevermore,
Held gently in our hearts.

Hey Sug, A Tribute to Jo Anne

We hear you still in every laugh,
In sunshine after rain—
A gentle voice that whispers love
And softens every pain.
“Hey, sug,” Jo Anne would always say,
With warmth that filled the air;
A greeting wrapped in tenderness,
A love beyond compare.
Aisha and Sakena, her beautiful girls,
Her heart's greatest pride and joy—
Her love surrounds you endlessly,
No time or distance can destroy.
For De'Aveon, Aijah, Zaharah, and sweet
Loyalty,
She adored each one of you;
Her joy was watching you bloom and
grow,
In everything you'd choose to do.
Her dancing feet, her joyful song,
Her kindness ever true—
These gifts she leaves within our hearts,
Her love in all we do.