

Her Legacy is Love

She walked this life with faith and grace,
With kindness shining from her face.
She loved her family, cherished her friends,
A love so true it never ends.
Though Shirl has answered Heaven's call,
Her beautiful spirit remains with us all.
In every memory, every prayer above,
We will forever feel her love.



Acknowledgement

A most heartfelt thank you and appreciation for your expression of love and support during our time of bereavement. Your comforting words, kind gestures, and presence have been a great source of strength for us.

To all who sent flowers, cards and messages of condolence, or who attended the service, we are profoundly grateful. Your thoughtfulness and compassion have brought us much comfort and peace.

Thank you so much for being there for us, and for honoring the memory of our Shirl.
Your support means more to us than words can express.

With heartfelt appreciation & love,
The Family



Burial

East Harrisburg Cemetery
2260 Herr Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17103

Professional Services Provided by



HOOPER MEMORIAL HOME, INC.
3532 WALNUT STREET • HARRISBURG, PA 17109
717-651-1000 • WWW.HOOPERFUNERAL.COM



CELEBRATING HER LIFE & LEGACY



SUNRISE
NOVEMBER 18, 1946

SUNSET
AUGUST 12, 2026

Shirelene
BRATCHER - HOWARD

Celebration of Life Service

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2026
FAMILY VISITATION: 10:30 A.M. | SERVICE: 11:00 A.M.

HOOPER MEMORIAL HOME, INC.
3532 WALNUT STREET
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17109



Order of Celebration

THE OPENING

Brandon Lester, Officiant

HYMN

"Blessed Assurance"

READING OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

Elder Patrice Grace

Old Testament — Psalm 23 • Hebrews 13:2

New Testament — John 14:1

PRAYER OF COMFORT

Dolores Fisher

MUSICAL OFFERING

Karen Palmer

"I Won't Complain"

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & CONDOLENCES

Vanessa Gray

REFLECTIONS

Please limit reflections to two minutes

Ms. Elizabeth Jones, Red Hat Society Sisters With Class

Family & Friends

READING OF THE OBITUARY

Lori Bratcher

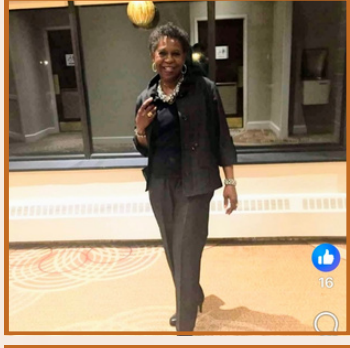
MUSICAL OFFERING

Mario Witt

EULOGY

Minister Jordan Bratcher-Gray, Grandson

RECESSIONAL



REFLECTING UPON HER LIFE

Shirelene Bratcher-Howard

Shirelene Bratcher-Howard, affectionately known as ShirI, was born on Monday, November 18, 1946, and peacefully departed this life on Wednesday, August 12, 2026. She leaves behind a legacy of faith, friendship, and love for all who knew her.

Shirl was born to the late Shirley Bratcher and Jesro Cruel in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. She was lovingly raised by her adoptive parents, Annabelle Braxton Dean and Jack Dean, alongside the Braxton family in Edgemont, Susquehanna Township.

Shirelene attended Glenwood Elementary School and graduated from Susquehanna Township High School. After high school, she trained as a surgical technician at the Polyclinic Hospital. ShirI worked for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for 35 years as a clerical supervisor in the PA Department of Labor and Industry's Conservation Corps before later joining United Parcel Service in the Personnel Office, where she retired after 10 years of service.

Shirelene was a member of Wesley Union AME Zion Church, where she previously served as the President of the King's Daughter Club. She was also an original member of the Red Hat Society "Sista's with Class," where she served as the former Secretary. Additionally, she was a member of the Edgemont Community Day Committee.

Shirl's greatest passion was her family. She experienced true love with her husband, who predeceased her, Mr. James Leonard Howard, Sr., whom she affectionately called "Babe." Her daughter, Ms. Lori A. Bratcher of Harrisburg, PA, was someone ShirI cherished deeply. She once said, "When Lori was born, I finally felt I had someone of my very own to love." Her grandson, Jordan Bratcher-Gray of Lafayette, Louisiana, was "the light of her life," and ShirI expressed immense pride in his achievements, rejoicing in how God guided his life. She also leaves behind a bonus daughter, Shelly Scott, whom she adored and lovingly called her "good" daughter.

Shirl is survived by a host of relatives, friends, church family members, and loved ones who will forever treasure her memory.

As we celebrate ShirI's life, we give thanks for the joy she brought to others, the faith she embodied, and the love she generously shared. Her legacy reminds us of the power of kindness, the value of friendship, and the importance of living each day with gratitude and purpose.