

To My Cousin Auntie

As a child I was confused,
Cousin or Auntie-what was true?
But the name I gave you stayed,
A bond no title could ever trade.
You brought me some of my very first jewels,
I'd lose them, yet you never scolded, never ruled.
You'd simply give more, with that generous smile,
Teaching me love in your own quiet style.
We were both silent firecrackers inside,
Strong sparks of spirit we never had to hide.
You gave, you loved, you carried us through,
Family was better because of you.
Now heaven holds your gentle light,
But Cousin Auntie, you'll still ignite
Memories in my heart so true
Forever loved, forever you.

~ Love you Cousin Auntie Barbra

Shanekia

Honorary Pallbearers

Zachariah Smith

Active Pallbearers

Cousins | Nephews

Flower Attendants

Class of 1975

Interment

Bridgetown Cemetery
1241 Bridgetown Cemetery Road
Willacoochee, Georgia 36150

Acknowledgments

The family of the late Barbara Gowdy wishes to express their heartfelt gratitude for all acts of kindness and sympathy shown during this time of bereavement. A special thanks to Shirlene Pugh, Bernice Williams, the late Gloria Adams, Alexis and Teresa Fletcher, Mara Lewis Diane Gross, Alicia Coleman, Linda Lewis, Betty Temple and Sha'Nee Jeffers. May God continue to bless each of you.

- The Family

The Celebration of Life for



Barbara Ann Gowdy

Sunrise: December 23, 1957 - Sunset: September 17, 2025

Saturday, September 27, 2025
11:00 AM

Pastor Willie L. Williams Jr., Presiding
Pastor Carlos Jones, Eulogist

Bridgetown Christian Teaching Center
1201 Old Columbus Road
Willacoochee, Georgia 31650
Apostle Laverne Wilson, Overseer

Final Arrangements Entrusted To:

HARRELL'S FUNERAL HOME
400 E. CHERRY STREET ~ DOUGLAS, GEORGIA 31533
LICENSED DIRECTOR/EMBALMER, SIDNEY K. HARRELL
OFFICE: (912) 384-2251
WWW.HARRELLSFUNERALHOME.COM

Life Reflections

Precious Memories

Order of Service

Barbara Ann Gowdy was born on December 23, 1957, in Detroit, Michigan. At a young age, she relocated to Douglas, Georgia, where she was lovingly raised by her grandparents on their family farm. A proud graduate of Coffee High School, Barbara completed her studies in July 1975. In those early years, she worked diligently on the farm and helped her grandmother care for neighborhood children.

In 1977, encouraged by her aunt, Barbara moved to Atlanta, Georgia, in pursuit of new opportunities. Her first job in the city was at Church's Chicken, where her friendly spirit and warm smile made a lasting impression on those she met. Over time, Barbara built a diverse career, gaining experience in warehousing, data entry, banking, and collections. She found joy in learning and growing through each position, embracing every challenge with determination.

A defining moment in Barbara's life came on March 8, 2000, when she joined New Creation Christian Fellowship (NCCF). From that day forward, her heart was devoted to the children's ministry. On October 6, 2003, she made the brave decision to leave her job at Comp Credit to follow her passion full-time. Her mission was clear: to be committed, faithful, and dependable; to nurture children in a safe, creative, and loving environment; and to partner with parents through open communication and trust.

Barbara was a devoted member of New Creation Christian Fellowship in Atlanta, under the leadership of Apostle Floyd and First Lady Emma Dautrieve. There, she was ordained as a Deaconess and honored for her service at a special tribute dinner held by the Fellowship.

Later in life, Barbara returned to Coffee County to care for her beloved mother, affectionately known as "Momma Mae." She joined Bridgetown Christian Teaching Center, led by Apostle Laverne Wilson and Pastor Carlos Jones, where she continued her ministry and service. Her heart for children, especially those with autism, led her to serve as youth minister. In addition to her ministry, Barbara treasured time spent with her family and friends, always giving selflessly to those around her.

Barbara was preceded in death by her grandparents, Joe and Annie Liza Paulk Wilcox; her brother, Roosevelt Gowdy; and her father, Roosevelt Gowdy.

She leaves behind a legacy of love, faith, and service. Cherishing her memory are her devoted mother, Emma Mae Wilcox Gowdy; her loving sister, Sandra (Jimmy) McAllister; her nephew, Rodney (Jasmine) McAllister; her niece, Kimberly McAllister; five uncles: Charlie (Rosa Lee) Wilcox, Arthur James Wilcox, Jesse Wilcox, Hosea Wilcox, and Mose "Mike" Wilcox; three aunts: Alice Coleman, Apostle Laverne Wilson, and Virginia Graham; and a host of great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and cherished friends including her dear friend Geraldine "Ms. Gerri" McNair.



Presiding, Pastor Willie L. Williams Jr.

Processional.....Ministers, Family & Friends

Final Glimpse

Invocation.....Pastor Willie L. Williams

Solo.....Kentaiwon Carter-Durham

Scripture Readings

Old Testament.....Brother Daniel Moss

New Testament.....Elder Jimmy Baker

Reflections.....Please Limit To Two Minutes

BCTC Youth

Family

Friends

Solo.....Kim McAllister

Eulogy.....Pastor Carlos Jones

Acknowledgements.....Harrell's Funeral Home Staff

Committal Service

Recessional

