

# *Celebrating The Life Of*



*Brenda N. Hanks*

*Sunrise: September 20, 1944 – Sunset: April 9, 2020*

*Funeral Service: Wednesday, April 29, 2020*

*Rev. Larry D. Hooks Officiating*

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*James H. Cole Home For Funerals*

*16100 Schaefer Hwy. / Detroit, Michigan*

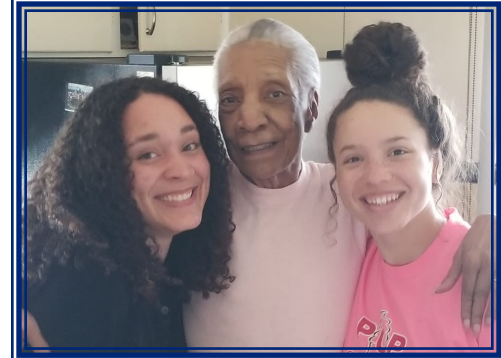
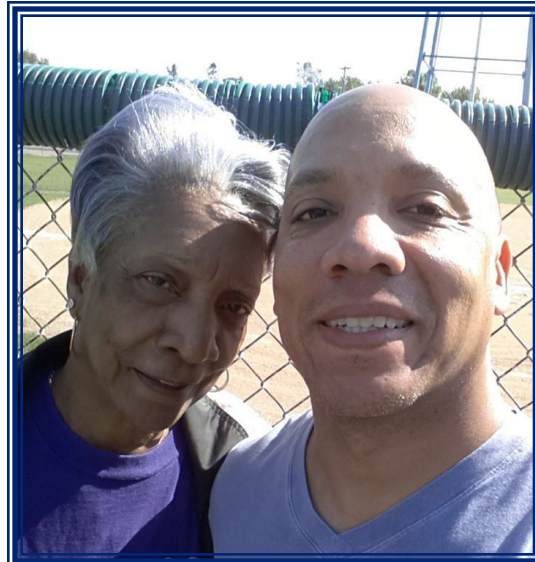
## *Miss Me - But Let Me Go*

*When I have come to the end  
of my road  
And the sun has set for me  
I want no rites in a gloom filled room  
Why cry for a soul set free  
Miss me a little but not to long  
And not with your head bowed low  
Remember the love that we once shared  
Miss me - but let me go*

*For this is a journey we all must take  
And each must go alone  
It's all apart of the Masters Plan  
I step on the road to home  
When you are lonely and sick at heart  
Go to the friends we know  
And bury your sorrows  
In doing Good deeds  
Miss me - but let me go.*

# Memories

Let Your  
Faith  
Be Bigger  
Than Your  
Fears!



# Memories



*We would like to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude for the tremendous outpouring of love and support. We will truly miss Brenda but we are comforted in knowing that her memory will live on in the hearts of our family, friends and those that also loved her.*

# Obituary



The story of Brenda Hanks began on a beautiful fall day on September 20, 1944. Parents Sarah and Willie were excited to welcome their second daughter into the world. They didn't know who she would become or what her contribution would be to the family or community, but they did know they would give her everything she needed to become whomever she wanted. They hoped that their little girl would leave a mark on her family. And that she did.

As the second oldest, her mother felt very comfortable leaving Brenda to handle things in her absence. She was dependable, competent and very willing to take on the challenge of caring for her younger siblings. She wasn't quite a task master, but she enjoyed and had no problem stepping into her Mom's shoes. That same giving and caring spirit extended to her community as well through her later work with Focus Hope and participating as a Survivor in the Annual Breast Cancer Walk.

She opened her arms and her home as a place of refuge to anyone who needed it. Known for her cooking you could always drop in and get a great meal, if you had fallen on hard times, she would provide you a place to lay

your head. As an extreme caretaker she would take you to the hospital, mend your wounds, provide guidance (whether you asked or not) and give you her last dollar when she knew it would not be returned.

No one has been touched by her unconditional love than her surrogate daughter Denise, whom Brenda became legal guardian of in 2008 after retiring from her career at G.M. Brenda provided more than just the stability of a place to sleep and food to eat, she guided Denise through her high school and college years, graduating from Western Michigan with her BBA and soon to be MSI from UofM in May, 2020. She shared her belief in a higher power and speaking truth to power to Denise and anyone else who'd listen. She always showed up to share in your joy and to comfort you in your pain. She loved people without condition and she displayed that love to her family through birthday cakes, holiday meals, and just good old-fashioned cooking.

As a young woman finding her way in the world, and working as a waitress, Brenda met and fell in love with Timothy Hanks, their union created her most precious love, her son Timothy Hanks, Jr. whom was her ride or die. While growing up if he was not with Brenda he was only allowed to be with family. Always a hard worker and very independent Brenda began working at General Motors to ensure that her baby son had everything he could ever want or need. She was the epitome of an adoring Mother who believed in and supported her precious son in all things. The only thing that topped the birth of her son was the gift of her grandson Andre and beautiful granddaughters Sela and Macy whom she thought the moon and the stars revolved around.

On April 9, 2020 Brenda left this earth and went her own way on the day that she and her higher power decided upon, leaving a hole in our family that can never be filled. Brenda, our story telling, jack of all trades, fun loving, honest, tell it like it is mother, sister, auntie, grandmother has moved on and is now with our Mom, Dad, our brothers William and Robyn. There are so many who will miss her, but none more than her loving and devoted son Timothy and wife Lora, grandchildren: Andre, Sela and Macy. sisters; Ilene Edwards, Celia Williams and Deborah Jones. brother; Nathaniel Edwards. Nieces; Delores Edwards, Nikya Jones and Denise Starks. Nephews; Dennis Starks and Robert Stone and a host of other relatives and dear friends.



# Order of Service

## Organ Prelude

Prayer ..... Rev. Larry D. Hooks

Scripture Reading ..... Rev. Larry D. Hooks

Solo ..... *Amazing Grace*

Obituary ..... Rev. Larry D. Hooks

Solo ..... *I Will Fly Away*

Eulogy ..... Rev. Larry D. Hooks

## Recessional

## God's Promise

*God hath not promised*

*Skies always blue*

*Flower-strewn pathways*

*all our life through*

*God hath not promised*

*sun without rain*

*Joy without sorrow,*

*peace without pain*

*But God hath promised,*

*strength for the day*

*Rest for the laborer*

*light for the way*

*Grace for the trails*

*help from above*

*Unfailing sympathy*

*undying love*