



## Barbara Taylor LaPorte

January 6, 1940 - February 28, 2021

Barbara Taylor Laporte age 81, passed away peacefully at home on February 28, 2021 due to renal failure. She was born January 6, 1940 in Kingston, Jamaica. She was married to Vincent Laporte for 19 years who preceded her in death in October of 2000.

Barbara was hard working driven woman who took a chance to come to America for a better life for her and her children. She worked for the Rye town Hilton for 10 years as a Supervisor before a back injury caused her to retire early. She then relocated to Ocala Florida for the last 30 years.

Although it was not what she wanted to be, Barbara was also a remarkable seamstress and was known for her beautiful, beaded hand stitched wedding gowns and was often sought after in the family to make the next amazing wedding dress. Starting with her oldest daughter Melonie, not only would she make the wedding dress, but she would bake the wedding cake! The original head cook and bottle washer. We can all remember days of licking the baking pan and waiting for that famous Christmas black cake.

Barbara was a woman of faith and spent many a Sunday in church or churches as she was known to move about, but as she would say she would go where she was needed. She was a member of the prison ministry at the Shores Assembly of God in Ocala where she has her own donated pew and was always willing to be of service. She was also a partitioner at the Wings of Faith church also in Ocala. As a child I can often remember my mom singing a

gospel hymn around the house as she loved to sing and was always a member of a church choir.

Barbara was also one classy lady and loved to dress to the nines. She was an entrance maker and definitely had a style about her that would always leave an impression. Never afraid to spread her mind, at times she was force of nature but when she walked out the room she got the price she wanted plus extra. We have all inherited her love of style and being passionate about our beliefs.

For a woman who never got all the accolades of degrees Barbara was walking calculator. She could tell you the sum before you finished putting in the numbers. It was amazing to witness as you fumbled with the pen and paper and she was already on to the next thing.

She is one of the few people who have achieved some of that coveted American dream. She came from an island with hopes and dreams, created a new life for herself and family and became a home and property owner. She lived for her children and was blessed to see them grow into adulthood. Forming their own families and giving her grand and great grandchildren to love.

She is known for many ole time Jamaican sayings but the one that stays with me is her own "life can be beautiful"

Barbara is survived by her four children, Melonie Rowe Clarke, Patrick Noble, Dvorah McGorski and Richard McGregor and wife Venus Rodriguez-McGregor. Grandchildren, Maurice, Moyra, Melissa, Kelsea, Darian, Patrick Jr, Ramone, Ahkim, Ahmina and Amari and great-grandchildren Thaddeus, Solomon, King James, Stella and Kleomi.

# Tribute Wall




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“ I pray that God gives strength to the family. Sis. Laporte was a beloved woman of God. She will be missed. Much love to the family and friends. Chaplain Faithe Reid Liburd

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**Chaplain Liburd** - March 15, 2021 at 05:32 AM

AT

“ We extend our condolences to the family. We are deeply saddened by Auntie's passing but know that she is finally at rest with no more pain. She is reunited with loved ones and most of all her beloved Savior. Speaking with her weekly and praying with her and for her was always a memorable experience. She is deeply loved and we will miss her. Praying for the entire family. We carry you in our hearts and prayers for your loss. We are still adjusting to the absence of daddy and mommy in our lives and know that your journey is just beginning. May the Love of the Father and the comfort of the Holy Spirit be with you all. We continue to pray for you all as you begin this journey. Blessings Always   RIP Auntie, we love you  Until we meet again... Sherril, Moyra & Althea

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**Althea Taylor** - March 05, 2021 at 10:18 AM