



Vivian "Viv" Terry

March 18, 1945 - December 9, 2020

TERRY, Ms. Vivian "Viv" - age 75, passed away Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at St. Joseph Oakland. Family hour 11:00AM Saturday, January, 2, 2021 from the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 268 North Perry Street, with Memorial Service commencing immediately at 11:30AM. Pastor Al James Terrell, Officiating. Family and Friends will gather at the funeral home 11:00AM Saturday. There will be No Public Viewing.

Vivian Reed "Pigtail" Terry was born March 18, 1945 to James Hardy and Sarah E. Reed in Williamsburg, Virginia. She grew up in the Grove Community. At an early age, Vivian confessed Christ as her personal Savior and united in membership with the Little Zion Baptist Church in Williamsburg. It was during this time she began lifting her voice singing praises to the Lord. She was preceded in death by her parents, James Hardy and Sarah E. Reed and one brother William E. "Bommer" Reed. In 1963, Vivian graduated from Burton Heights High School in Williamsburg. She continued her education entering the Historic Black College, Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, North Carolina. At the University, she continued her love of singing as a 1st soprano in the famed University Choir which toured different parts of the country each spring. During her sophomore year, Vivian was initiated into the Gamma Delta Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. She participated in many other campus organizations, too numerous to mention.

Vivian graduated from Johnson C. Smith University earning a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Elementary Education. She was immediately recruited by the Pontiac Board of Education in Pontiac, Michigan where she began her career as an Elementary teacher at Rodgers Elementary School. She went on to further her Education at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan earning a Master of Arts Degree in Teaching-Reading. As a result, she became the reading specialist at Longfellow Elementary School. Shortly after this assignment, she was appointed by Dr. Odell Nails, Superintendent of Pontiac Schools, as an elementary school principal at Frost Elementary School. She continued her studies earning an Education Specialist Degree in School Administration. Vivian retired as Principal of Rodgers Elementary School and the Pontiac School District after 38 years of service. Having a desire to continue making a difference in the lives of children, she applied for and was appointed Principal of the Great Lakes Academy in Pontiac, Michigan. After several years of service, Vivian retired from the Academy. Vivian was very active in the Pontiac community. Some of her work included: Member of the Saint Stephen Missionary Baptist Church where she served as a Sunday school teacher, former Church Moderator, former Trustee, sang on the Praise Team and in the Women's and Combined choirs, member of the Theta Lambda Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, where she was honored as a "Golden Soror" (50 years of membership) in 2016, former President of the Pontiac Civitan Club, former President of the Detroit chapter of Johnson C. Smith University Alumni Association, former President of Pontiac Association of School Administrators and former member of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club. Because of her love of singing, she was also a member of the Pontiac City Wide Choir Union and a former member of the Pontiac Belle Chorale. Vivian now sings with the saints in the Heavenly Choir. Vivian loved people and they loved her. She was always willing to help anyone who needed help and did so lovingly. She will always be remembered as "Vivacious Viv" because of her sparkling personality, spirited laugh and cheerful smile. She will be sorely

missed.

Vivian leaves to cherish her memory, her precious daughter Phaedra Monique Terry and grandson, Ash'ton Ramone Hughes (who she called "Puddin,") of Pontiac, MI, one brother, Jerome (Phyllis) Reed of Fayetteville, NC; sister, Kathy Reed Arrington (Rudolph Valentino Arrington, Jr. deceased June 2020) of Williamsburg, VA; two God-daughters, Donna P. McDonald of Duluth, GA and Donita D. Cordell of Auburn Hills, MI; special friends, Lucille Minkins, Mozelle Blakes and Agnes Roberts of Virginia and Dr. Patricia D. Cordell, Daisy L. Davis and Lorraine M. Manning of Michigan and a host of nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

Previous Events

Family Hour

JAN 2. 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Pontiac
268 North Perry Street
Pontiac, MI 48342
(248) 758-1913
lemoonfhpontiac@gmail.com
<https://www.lawrenceemoonfuneralhomepontiac.com>

Memorial Service

JAN 2. 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Pontiac
268 North Perry Street
Pontiac, MI 48342
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lemoonfhpontiac@gmail.com
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Tribute Wall



“ *Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry*



Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home - January 02, 2021 at 09:51 AM

ST

Beautiful service, fit for a Queen

Stephanie - January 02, 2021 at 01:31 PM

CW

What a beautiful service for this wonderful soul. God bless Soror Vivian and family.

Carmon Weekes - January 02, 2021 at 01:40 PM

JF

“ *I am so sorry to learn of Vivian's passing so many months late. I was an art teacher at Rogers Elementary and I could not have asked for more support. She was truly a wonderful woman.*

Jackie Fenton - November 20, 2021 at 04:47 PM

LW

“ Laurita Washington lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry



Laurita Washington - January 15, 2021 at 11:24 PM

AT

“ I was saddened to learn of Vivian's passing. My sincere condolences to her family. I grew up with Vivian in the Grove Community of Williamsburg, VA. She was always energetic, a person with a happy spirit, and a person who could sing. She always had a beautiful smile. RIP in peace my friend.



Ann Wallace Taylor - January 03, 2021 at 12:21 PM

DM

“ Thank you for being a great God Mother to me and my sister! I love you and will miss you greatly! Rest in Heaven Aunt ViVi! 🥺💕



Donna McDonald - January 02, 2021 at 11:52 PM

Dianne
Btaxton
Braxton

“ On behalf of Dianne Piggott- Braxton class of 1963 Bruton Heights School I would like to send condolences to the family

Dianne Btaxton Braxton - January 02, 2021 at 03:33 PM

JB

“ Jeannie Frasier Bryant lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry



Jeannie Frasier Bryant - January 02, 2021 at 02:36 PM

CH

“ Vivian - A life, in Christ, well lived. So many were blessed to know you. I recognized your voice singing lead on the “Day of Elijah” at the end of your service. Hearing the JCSU Loyalty Song and the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Hymn brought back memories of our shared times singing these throughout our college years. We also shared University Choir experiences, as well as sorority chapter activity, dorm antics, etc. We’ve kept in touch since college, usually during our March birthdays time, and other times, also. Our daughters were born within 2 years of each other and Phaedra and Joy have both worn each other’s clothing (though they have never met). You and I would see each other at our more recent JCSU Class reunions.

Phaedra and Ash’ton, you know you were loved by your mother and grandmother. Many who participated in the service know you and sound supportive. Be receptive and aware of your angel and what Jesus means to her. Let His spirit reign in your life, too. I hope to reach out to you soon, also.

Love, Carole Coles Henley, JCSU Classmate

Carole Coles Henley - January 02, 2021 at 02:16 PM

TN

“ Tamara D Nelson lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry



Tamara D Nelson - January 02, 2021 at 01:30 PM

LT

“ My condolence to Phaedra and family and to all Vivians dear friends. She will be missed in so many ways, especially the choir and everything St. STEPHEN .
WE ALL loved Vivian with her big smile and always pleasant words. May God give you peace as you move forward.
Linda and Ed Tillery

Linda Tillery - January 02, 2021 at 12:39 PM

DA

“ Sending you lots of love and comfort, we are so sorry for your loss. Wishing you peace and comfort during this difficult time.

David D Allen - January 02, 2021 at 12:08 PM

RG

“ Phaedra, May the Holy Spirit hover over you and your family to provide peace that passes all understanding, courage to walk in the light of the Most High God. Be attentive to his voice and just as "V" (your mom), trained you in the way you should go, do the same for your precious son so that when you both are old, neither will depart from it. Much love. Peace and Blessings, Rev. Dr. Julie Reed Grace

Rev. Dr. Julie Reed Grace - January 02, 2021 at 12:01 PM

DC

“ *Donna Coit*



Donna Coit - January 02, 2021 at 11:53 AM



“ *Ms. Vivian was a beautiful woman. I am blessed to have known her. She will truly be missed. God bless you and keep you during this time.*



Vivian Shade and Willie Watson

Vivian Shade - January 02, 2021 at 11:34 AM

BS

“ *As an educator, I am so grateful for the advice that Ms. Terry would give as she shared some of her experiences with me. Even more so, I will miss singing in the choir with her and seeing that huge smile in the front row. Wow!*



She was so amazing and I will always love and respect her and everything she stood for. My prayers go out to the family.

B.J. Smith - January 02, 2021 at 11:33 AM

AD

“ *Alma Davis lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry*



Alma Davis - January 02, 2021 at 11:25 AM

JG

“ *Soror Viv was an outstanding educator, mother, grandmother, Soror and friend to so many. She is missed and her legacy will continue.*



Janice W Green - January 02, 2021 at 11:00 AM

EH

“ *Ellen Hughley lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry*



Ellen Hughley - January 02, 2021 at 09:52 AM

JR

“ *Jerome Reed lit a candle in memory of my sister, you will be missed!*



Jerome Reed - January 01, 2021 at 08:59 PM



“ *Ms. Terry was a beautiful lady. I loved talking with her at church. She was wise, loving and encouraging. My prayers are with Ms. Terry’s family and friends. I will miss her dearly. Rest In Peace beautiful lady.*



Alisha Noel - January 01, 2021 at 06:03 PM

SH

“ *To the family of Ms. Vivian.*

She was a beautiful woman inside and out. I am blessed to have known her and her light will truly be missed. God bless you and keep you during this time.

Shalana

Shalana - January 01, 2021 at 05:18 PM

JB

*To the Family of Vivian Terry,
You have my Heartfelt Sympathy. Vivian and I were classmates and friends at Johnson C. Smith Univ..Her singing and class support "Holds High the Gold & Blue" and will ever be in our heart. Vivian's friendship , giving & helping spirit never changed.
Be blessed Family & Friends.
Jeannie Frasier Bryant*

Jeannie Frasier Bryant - January 02, 2021 at 12:35 AM

LA

Gods best, good success Joshua 1:8. Phaedra abs family. Be comforted by Gods live. Rest in peace Viv. Lillie A

Lillie Anderson - January 02, 2021 at 10:58 AM

MM

Vivian was a beautiful person, inside and out. We were true sisters at JCSU. She will be missed because of her smile, bubbling personality, and her wonderful sense of humor. God bless the family during this time and times to come.

Marjorie Coakley Mclver

Marjorie Mclver - January 02, 2021 at 11:39 AM

DL

“*Ms. Terry was a beautiful person, she will be missed. Keeping the family in our prayers.*
Derek and Stephanie Lynch”



Derek Lynch - January 01, 2021 at 02:57 PM

HM

“*Vivian was my principal at Will Rogers. She was fair and well loved by staff and students. She encouraged me to take leadership roles and supported me in many ways. She was a very influential person in my life. I loved her and will remember her always.*”

holly markert - December 31, 2020 at 08:50 PM

MM

“ Thoughts of “ Vivi” are pleasant memories of a lady who was gregarious , unapologetically blatant (always loving) and there for those who were in need , near or far. I had the pleasure of knowing her all my life and later serving on Committees with her in the Civitan Club of Pontiac , Michigan. The countless acts of kindness she bestowed upon me are etched forever in my mind and in my heart. Her always upbeat spirit and colorful use of words always brought laughter and a smile and left me with thoughts to ponder. Her legacy will live on in the countless lives she touched and those who were fortunate enough to know and love her.

Rest In Peace “ Vivi “

Michael Mickens

Michael Mickens - December 30, 2020 at 10:51 PM

WT

“ Walter & Karen Terry lit a candle in memory of Vivian “Viv” Terry



Walter & Karen Terry - December 30, 2020 at 11:19 AM

WA

Walter and Karen have many fond memories of Vivian through the years. May she have a peaceful, Heavenly rest

Walter - December 30, 2020 at 11:22 AM

QG

“ *I love you and you will be truly missed* ”



Quana Green - December 29, 2020 at 06:03 PM

DC

“ *Prayers to the family of Vivian* ”

Pontiac Civitan members



Donna Coit - December 29, 2020 at 04:27 PM

GC

“ Dear Phaedra & Ash'ton,

It is hard to understand why our loved ones are taken from us, but find comfort in knowing that you were a special part of a well-lived life.

Vivian, my friend for over 50 years, from our freshman year of College at Johnson C. Smith University to the last day of her life. She came to homecoming pretty much every year and would spend a week with us at our home. Our classmates would come over and we would talk about our days at Smith, and of course we had to have a "fish fry" which she loved. I will miss my friend and will love her always.. I do believe my friend you are singing in the Heavenly Choir, sing on.

*Love,
E. Gayle*

Gayle Crawford - December 29, 2020 at 02:34 PM

EB

“ To Phaedra and the Terry Family,

My Deepest Sympathy. Praying for you and the Family. Your Mom was a very Special Lady. She had Class, Grace, and a way about her that would light up a room when she walked in. Her smile was one of a kind. She was loved by many. I'm keeping you and the family up in prayer. Keep her memories close at heart. May God be with you guys at this difficult time. Love you!

Ernestine Bush



Ernestine Bush - December 26, 2020 at 09:33 AM

TH

“ RIP



Tamika Hairston - December 22, 2020 at 10:29 PM



“ Your glorious spirit will live on in our hearts!
Rest peacefully, Vivian.



Shirley Moore - December 22, 2020 at 04:33 PM

MF

“ Monetta Foster lit a candle in memory of
Vivian "Viv" Terry

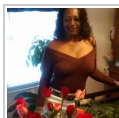


Monetta Foster - December 22, 2020 at 10:16 AM

JS

Lit a candle in memory of my dear friend Vivian "viv" Terry

Janice Stewart - December 24, 2020 at 07:48 AM



Prayers r going up for u and the Family. Mrs Terry was a very nice and caring person and I am so sorry about ur loss. Mrs Terry is now singing in Heaven with the Angels. God Bless In Jesus Name. Amen

Lanae Alleni - January 08, 2021 at 11:35 PM



“ *I'm sorry to hear of your loss. May Vivian Rest In Peace.*

*Gloria Pickett McNeill
JCSU*

Veronica Suckles - December 22, 2020 at 10:00 AM

BL

“ *Bill Luke lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry*



Bill Luke - December 22, 2020 at 01:09 AM

RS

“ *Rev. Tony & Sylvia Simpson sent a virtual gift in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry*



Rev. Tony & Sylvia Simpson - December 21, 2020 at 09:35 PM

BH

“ *Betty Hughley lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry*



Betty Hughley - December 21, 2020 at 07:24 PM

BD

“ I remember meeting Vivian at Little Zion Baptist Church in Williamsburg many years ago. Phaedra was just a little girl at that time. Vivian was a classy, assertive, pleasant ,intelligent and beautiful woman. She had such a deep and abiding love for her family.
She will be missed by so many in the Williamsburg area.
I extend my heartfelt condolences to all of Vivian's family. I pray for your comfort and peace.
Be encouraged and blessed.

Beulah Davis - December 21, 2020 at 07:19 PM

MN

“ Condolences, and blessings to the family, Mr. Terry was a phenomenal administrator, all around beautiful person.



Ms. L. Norris - December 21, 2020 at 09:00 AM

MH

“ Marilyn Howard lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry



Marilyn Howard - December 21, 2020 at 08:42 AM

JS

“*Joyce Smith lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry*



Joyce Smith - December 21, 2020 at 06:03 AM

TH

“*Mrs. Terry , was an awesome person and educator, She will be greatly missed, May God give you all the strength and peace to endure. You have my condolences and prayers.*



Traciee C Hirsch - December 21, 2020 at 01:47 AM

KA

“*I met Vivian in 1968 when many young teachers were recruited from HBCUs to teach in Pontiac. Many fond memories. Rest In Peace, my dear Soror.*

Soror Joyce Davis

Karmen - December 20, 2020 at 06:54 PM

SK

“*Prayers and condolences to the Terry family.*



Shelby Knox - December 20, 2020 at 06:51 PM

AH

“ Love you Nonna love puddin AKA ASH'TON



Ash'ton Hughes - December 19, 2020 at 11:08 PM

KH

“ Katrina Haynes lit a candle in memory of
Vivian "Viv" Terry



Katrina Haynes - December 19, 2020 at 11:08 PM

PT

“ My Sassy Classy lil Spice Girl I have no words you are more than
wonderful and amazing you are Immaculate mother and
grandmother I appreciate everything that you have instilled in me
and I will take that and live on in your name we miss you so much
Mommy fly high

Phaedra Terry - December 19, 2020 at 11:07 PM

DD

“ Daisy L. Davis lit a candle in memory of
Vivian "Viv" Terry



Daisy L. Davis - December 19, 2020 at 07:54 PM

BO

“ *BRENDA OWENS lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry*



BRENDA OWENS - December 19, 2020 at 07:43 PM

SD

“ *Love Sis. Terry she was a ray of sunshine and will be truly missed at St. Stephen MBC*

*Gone but never forgotten
Love your Sis. In Christ
Stephanie Daniel*



Stephanie Daniel - December 19, 2020 at 04:37 PM

ER

“ *Effie Robinson lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry*



Effie Robinson - December 18, 2020 at 06:10 PM

SC

“ Shirley And Earnest Cleary lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry



Shirley and Earnest Cleary - December 18, 2020 at 04:04 PM

NM

“ Neva Martin lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry



Neva Martin - December 18, 2020 at 01:30 PM

RB

“ I am sorry to hear about the passing of Mrs. Vivian Terry. I send my condolences to her family. She was always so nice to me and spoke to me every time at the Alpha Kappa Alpha events I attended. (before the current world event) She was very real and down to earth. It was a pleasure to have known her and everyone in the world should be like Mrs. Terry. God has a good person now.



Renee Beckley - December 18, 2020 at 11:04 AM

LP

“ *Leona R. Patterson lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry*



Leona R. Patterson - December 17, 2020 at 02:10 PM



“ *So very sorry to hear of Sis. Terry's passing. She was a phenomenal woman, an amazing leader within our educational field, and a woman of God that truly will be missed. Continuing to keep the family uplifted in prayer.*



Arriet Daniel-Alston and family 🙏

Arriet Daniel-Alston - December 17, 2020 at 01:24 PM

DT

“ *DRDORIS TAYLORBURKS lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry*



DRDORIS TAYLORBURKS - December 17, 2020 at 09:03 AM

KW

“ Karen Walker lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry



Karen Walker - December 16, 2020 at 05:01 PM

BW

“ Vivian Reed Terry leaves a legacy of love and service to the community of Pontiac, Michigan and beyond. Always lighting up the room with her smile, (her laughter was absolutely contagious) Vivian's outgoing personality and engaging conversation left her to know few strangers. She was a generous teacher, mentor, friend and administrator to so many. I am thankful to have called her a colleague, friend, supporter and fellow City-Wide Choir member. I am praying for you Phaedra. Your mom's spirit will live in you and Ash'ton as precious memories become words and gestures that are Vivian's in you! And she will live on in the countless friends and students whose lives she touched. We were all touched by an angel. Rest In Peace Vivian.

Beatrice Wright - December 16, 2020 at 04:52 PM

SW

“ Shavonne Washington sent a virtual gift in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry



Shavonne Washington - December 15, 2020 at 07:04 PM

LR

“ Letyna A. Roberts lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry



Letyna A. Roberts - December 14, 2020 at 02:56 PM

MR

“ You will be very missed. I Love You ❤️ and promise you that I will always lift my Cousin up and be there for her and Mook. I Love You Auntie always and forever ☹️.



Monica Reaves - December 14, 2020 at 11:34 AM

TA

“ Ms. Vivian Terry was one of the best administrators Pontiac had she will be missed dearly. Too her daughter and grandson may God continue too bless you during this time.



Tamara Anthony - December 13, 2020 at 11:06 PM

MM

“ Marsha Milton lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry



Marsha milton - December 13, 2020 at 08:02 PM

LL

“ To the Daughter, Grandson and Family of Vivian Terry:
Vivian was one of my Dearest Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Sisters. She was full of style, wisdom and character. I especially enjoyed working under her leadership as our Chapter Hostess. I will miss her kind words of support as she excelled in giving our chapter exquisite taste and style in all of our special needs. May My Precious Soror Vivian, Rest In Peace and may all of her family members remain Blessed.
Fondly, Lillie Leverett

Lillie Leverett - December 13, 2020 at 06:25 PM

BE

“ Ms reed- Terry and my mother shirley Pierce were teacher's back in the day Ms reed was my teacher at whrc she will be truly missed.
From Brenda Pierce- Emanuel



Brenda Emanuel - December 13, 2020 at 03:41 PM

GJ

“ Ms Vivian i will miss that beautiful welcoming smile along with your smile was your warmth you will truly be missed

Gail James - December 13, 2020 at 03:29 PM

RH

“ Oh my God Mrs Terry was the best Principal ever she took care of my kids like they were her own. Great woman she will be missed. My condolences go out to her family 🙏❤️

Raphael Harris - December 13, 2020 at 07:59 AM

DH

“ DeAndrea Hansley sent a virtual gift in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry



DeAndrea Hansley - December 13, 2020 at 01:52 AM

DF

“ Deanna Bryant & The Mitchell Family lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry



Deanna Bryant & The Mitchell Family - December 13, 2020 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Dominga Black lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry



Dominga black - December 12, 2020 at 01:37 PM

FC

“ From my generation to my children generation Mrs. Terry crossed a lot of life's in a beautiful way! RIP



Felicia Conley - December 12, 2020 at 05:51 AM

DJ

“ Our prayers goes out to Ms Phaedra and family. Your Mom was a very generous person with her time and energy, I use to have seizures as a kid and wasn't able to go a lot of places and Ms Vivian was able to convince my parents to allow me to go with her to Urban League camp, shared her room with me and took good care of me as if I was her own. I never let her forget how awesome of a person she was. She truly will be missed! GOD Bless You

Darrell & Phyllis Johnson - December 11, 2020 at 04:00 PM

KW

“ KAREN WILSON sent a virtual gift in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry



KAREN WILSON - December 11, 2020 at 11:24 AM

TE

“ Tashenia Eason lit a candle in memory of Vivian "Viv" Terry



Tashenia Eason - December 11, 2020 at 09:16 AM

TA

“ I love y'all Ms Terry and Phaedra y'all kept me in church y'all raised me I love y'all some much rih Ms Terry

Tashya - December 11, 2020 at 01:38 AM

CC

“ *My prayers are for you Phaedra. May God grant you strength and peace at this difficult time.*



Charlene Causey - December 10, 2020 at 09:31 PM

RJ

“ *To Phaedra, Ash'ton, and family. I was saddened to hear of the passing of Ms Vivian Reed Terry. I had the privilege of having her as my third grade teacher at Robert Frost Elementary School. She was a inspiration in my childhood. I'm proud to say that two years ago she became an influential part of my spiritual life as my Sunday School teacher. I thank God for the honor and privilege of knowing her. R.I.H. my awesome teacher!*

Rosie Jordan - December 10, 2020 at 09:07 PM