



Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson

October 28, 1955 - April 18, 2025

UTICA – It is with heavy hearts that we gather to celebrate and remember the life of Vernita Patterson, a cherished soul who touched the lives of many. Vernita was a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, godmother and friend.

Born on October 28, 1955, in Palm City, FL and later made Utica, NY her home, where she touched the lives of many with her sweet, loving, and caring nature. Vernita graced this world with her presence for 69 years before peacefully passing on April 18, 2025, in Syracuse, New York with all of her family and loved ones by her side.

A woman of faith, Vernita's life was a testament to her faith and love for her family and friends. Vernita found strength and guidance in her Christian beliefs, which she shared generously with those around her. Her greatest achievements were the countless ways she uplifted others and the love she poured into her family and friends.

To know Vernita was to know her loving nature and caring demeanor that touched everyone she encountered. Whether it was through her beautiful smile with her gold tooth that we all knew her by, or her passion for children and helping others.

Vernita worked for General Electric (G.E.), Masonic Home, Thea Bowman,

and Utica City School District. Vernita also was a Foster Care mother for many years and provided Daycare for those around her.

Vernita also enjoyed her BINGO days with her best friend Nece Parrish. Vernita's presence brought warmth and joy to those around her. Her life's achievements are numerous, but it was the simple, heartfelt connections and caring for children that stands out most. Vernita had an innate ability to make everyone feel seen and valued, a rare gift that left an indelible mark on her family and friends. Vernita was always there making a difference in her own sweet, loving, caring, and kind way. Her involvement in the lives around her was a testament to her belief in the power of kindness and connection.

Above all, Vernita cherished her family. She is survived by her devoted husband, Jesse Patterson; mother, Marva Adams Utica, NY; and sister, Lavern Porter of Richmond, VA. Her loving children, Veronica Patterson, Jessica Patterson of Utica, NY, and Jesse (Moet) Patterson Jr. of Georgia, Rakeisha Elliott and Aliya (Jonathan) Elliott of Albany, NY. Gregory Patterson, John Patterson, Mary Patterson, and Honesty Watkins of Utica, NY, will carry forward her legacy of love and compassion. A very special Uncle Mr. James A. Porter of Clewiston, FL. Cousins who were more like sisters: Becky Hernandez, Rose Shealey, Sandra Linen, and Joanne Hunter. Best friends, Denise Jefferson, Sheila Morrison, Earlene House, Angie Smith, Janet Blair, and Debbie Liggions. Vernita also leaves behind 26 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren, two goddaughters; and a host of nephews, cousins, and many friendships throughout her life that was important to her, and all the love she surrounded them with. Vernita's presence in everyone's lives was a guiding light, and her memory will forever be a source of comfort and inspiration.

Vernita is predeceased by her grandmother, Mary Witchard; mother-in-law, Magalene Patterson, her sons Edward (Guess) Patterson, and Vernon Patterson; sister-in-law, Dorthy Ann Wright; brother-in-law, Leroy Patterson,

her great-grandmother, Dorthy Jones; her aunt, Joyce Adams and Carylon Gadsen. Her uncle, Ivory Adams. Cousins, Odie Shealey, Mary Linen, Katrina Adams, Betsy Linen, John (June) Linen Sr, and James Adams Sr.; and best friend, Louise Blackshear.

Visitation will be held on Friday, May 2, 2025, from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at Peter Spencer UAME Church, 841 Bleecker St. Vernita's Home Going Service and Celebration of Life will commence at 1:00 p.m. at the church. Interment will take place in Forest Hill Cemetery.

Together, let us celebrate the incredible woman she was and find solace in the promise that goodness and mercy shall follow her all the days of her life; a time to honor Vernita's remarkable journey and the light she brought into the world, as she now dwells in the house of the Lord forever. Though we mourn her passing, we are grateful for the time we shared and the love that will forever remain in our hearts. In the days ahead, may we find solace in Vernita's enduring love and the beautiful moments we shared. Her spirit will continue to guide and inspire us, reminding us of the profound impact one life can have.

This tribute to Vernita's life was lovingly written by her family.

Cemetery Details

Forest Hill Cemetery

2201 Oneida St
Utica, NY 13501-6006
(315) 735-2701

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 2. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Peter Spencer UAME Church
841 Bleecker St.
Utica, NY 13501

Home Going Service

MAY 2. 1:00 PM (ET)

Peter Spencer UAME Church
841 Bleecker St.
Utica, NY 13501

Tribute Wall

LB

“ *Lonnie Brown lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson*



Lonnie Brown - June 08, 2025 at 04:03 PM



“ *I work at the atlas service station in utica ny and she was a long time customer here and always knew it was her coming in with her vehicle adorned with those long lashes on the front of her vehicle and when she spoke she just made your day brighter. We here at the gas station are deeply saddened by her passing but know she is no longer in pain and in the presence of the lord. Thank you vernita for all those great memories. Till we meet again.*

Brian Davis - May 04, 2025 at 06:47 PM

DR

“ *I will always be grateful for the support, compassion and friendship Vernita provided to me and my family during my mother's long-term care at Masonic Care Community. Vernita, may the angels lead you into paradise: may the martyrs come to welcome you. RIP*

Denise Russo - May 03, 2025 at 12:46 PM

DE

“ *Demetrius sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson*



Demetrius - May 02, 2025 at 02:58 PM

DE

“ *Demetrius lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson*



Demetrius - May 02, 2025 at 02:57 PM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson.*



May 02, 2025 at 02:29 PM

SR

“ *Salimah A Rahman lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson*



Salimah A Rahman - May 02, 2025 at 12:21 PM

DB

“ Denise Brown lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson



Denise Brown - May 02, 2025 at 10:57 AM

LF

“ Love Jahmez, Kimora and family purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson.



Love Jahmez, Kimora and family - May 01, 2025 at 02:02 PM

EH

“ Earlene House sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson



Earlene House - May 01, 2025 at 10:14 AM

DW

“ Dennis(Darnell) Evans/ Carlandra Wooding purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson.



Dennis(Darnell) Evans/ Carlandra Wooding - April 30, 2025 at 02:56 PM

EF

“ E, R, A, H, L, P, & F purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson.



E, R, A, H, L, P, & F - April 30, 2025 at 02:17 PM

EH

“ My condolences to her family she is a good friend of mine she will definitely be missed RIP my Angel til we met again



Earlene House - April 30, 2025 at 01:38 PM

AN

She was Very Sweet lady always had a,smile.Rip

Angela - April 30, 2025 at 03:18 PM

FY

“ From Talisha Wright & Kiddos Love you planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson.

From Talisha Wright & Kiddos Love you - April 29, 2025 at 05:19 PM

FY

“ From Talisha Wright & Kiddos Love you purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson.



From Talisha Wright & Kiddos Love you - April 29, 2025 at 05:19 PM

RB

“ Renee Barlow, Raina Roland & Tony Bango purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson.



Renee Barlow, Raina Roland & Tony Bango - April 29, 2025 at 04:50 PM

SC

“ Sleep in peace, Ms. Vernita. You were a phenomenal woman and you will truly be missed! 🙏
Su'Rita L. Coleman



Su'Rita L. Coleman - April 29, 2025 at 08:56 AM

LT

“ She was a beautiful person with a beautiful smile SIP to the family look to the hills which cometh your strength

Leola Turner - April 28, 2025 at 07:11 PM

JF

“ Praying For The Family Sending Our Love and Sympathy Always In Our Heart You will Be Missed Our Memories Cherished 4EVER.



Jackson, Workman & Prince Families - April 28, 2025 at 04:44 PM

CF

“ A Rose represents the beautiful lady you are. A lady who could wear a hat on any occasion and look beautiful. That was you. I thank you for always loving my Mother and she loved you dearly. You're going to be so missed. To your beautiful family, we send our deepest condolences, thoughts and special prayers as you move into the chapter without your beautiful wife and Mother. God will bring comfort and strength. Gone way too soon. The Frazier Families loves you! RIP Vernita (Porter) Patterson / Fly High, Our Angel!



Cleon A & Patricia A Frazier and Family - April 28, 2025 at 12:04 PM

IC

“ Sending heartfelt condolences and prayers to the family 🙏🙏❤️ such a beautiful soul



ida cook - April 27, 2025 at 06:20 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson.



April 25, 2025 at 09:15 AM



“ You are forever embedded in my heart and memories. Growing up on Elizabeth Street, you Laverne, Joann, Rita, Reba and I came of age. Im thankful that God gave us that time together! Numbers 6:24-26!

Valarie Harris - April 25, 2025 at 09:10 AM



“ Denise Russo lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson



Denise Russo - April 24, 2025 at 10:47 PM



“ Very good friend and women always a big beautiful smile. I sent my condolence to the family, look to the hills which cometh your strength

Leola Turner - April 24, 2025 at 04:32 PM

MB

“ Michele Brown lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson



Michele Brown - April 24, 2025 at 01:24 PM

FF

“ From Becky and Harris Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson.



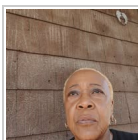
From Becky and Harris Family - April 24, 2025 at 12:48 PM

MP

“ RIP Venita you will truly be missed 🙏🙏🙏🥲🥲



Marcia Perkins - April 24, 2025 at 09:45 AM



“ My Condolences to the families of (vernitta) I know she will truly be missedmay she sleep in Heavenly peace.

Ruthie Liggins - April 24, 2025 at 09:07 AM

MP

“ *Melanie Pierce lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson*



Melanie Pierce - April 24, 2025 at 06:32 AM

AB

“ *Condolences for your loss. I knew vernita since we were very young children. Always a kind and sweet person. When ever she saw me we would laugh and talk like no time had ever passed. She's so going to be missed. Rest in paradise 🙏.*

Alicia Glinton Boyd - April 24, 2025 at 02:04 AM

RP

“ *My condolences to Vernita's family.*



Rose & Stan Pearson-Simmons - April 23, 2025 at 07:44 PM

MI

“ *My condolences go out Jessica and Veronica and the entire family. She was always nice to me and would have conversations with me when we ran into each other dropping our granddaughters off to school. May GOD keep you all in your time of sorrow*

missy - April 23, 2025 at 06:39 PM

JE

“ My condolences to vernita and her loved ones .she will surely be missed in our ladies night circle. No one can wear a hat like her . 🙏🙏
🙏😊😊

Joyce enoch - April 23, 2025 at 06:27 PM

BF

“ Brenda Fudge lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson



Brenda Fudge - April 23, 2025 at 06:25 PM

JE

“ Joyce Enoch lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson



Joyce enoch - April 23, 2025 at 06:24 PM

CC

“ Charity Crawford-Love lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson



Charity Crawford-Love - April 23, 2025 at 03:53 PM

CE

“ Condolences to Ghost and family. May you find comfort in your time of sorrow. Rih vernita



Charlene Miller (House) james willie em - April 23, 2025 at 03:50 PM

CE

Forgot to spell Emanuel house

Charlene Miller (House) james willie em - April 23, 2025 at 03:51 PM

CH

“ My condolences to the family of vernita .I will always ❤️ you and laughs about our school days @ brandegee school me you and Laverne. Rih my dear friend until we meet again goodnight 🤔 rest



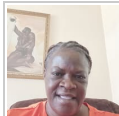
Charlene Miller (House) - April 23, 2025 at 03:45 PM

GD

“ My deepest sympathy to the family,(Rest in the Master Wings)My childhood friend I will always carry you in my heart,Much Love Family



Grace Decastro - April 23, 2025 at 03:09 PM



Condolence to Vernita's family. May you each find strength. This is a great family loss. May you gain peace in time. I will not forget you and us in our youth. Thank you.

Cynthia Slade - April 23, 2025 at 10:12 PM

MW

“ *Michelle Williams lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vernita (Porter) Patterson*



Michelle Williams - April 23, 2025 at 02:11 PM

DA

Our condolences to Jesse and the entire family. We are lifting you all up in prayer. 🙏

Davina - April 24, 2025 at 06:32 AM

PP

My heartfelt condolences to Vernitas dear family. I will miss her beautiful smile. May God bless y'all with peace, strength and love during this time sorrow.

Patricia Patterson - April 30, 2025 at 04:09 PM