



## Darlene Perkins

October 29, 1946 - April 16, 2022

“For everything there is season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to harvest.”

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2

### A TIME TO BE BORN

The life of Darlene Hudson Perkins was a life of unending generosity, dedicated service, and unwavering faith. The first of four children, she was born to the late Carl and Bobie Ruth McMorris Hudson on October 29, 1946. Darlene spent her childhood growing up in the communities of Babylon and Josey Creek, where she gained her spiritual and educational foundations. She accepted Christ at the age of 10 at Josey Creek Missionary Baptist Church. The seeds of the woman she would become were planted during these formative years.

### A TIME TO GROW

At the age of 4, Darlene began school before consolidation and attended the following community schools: Gum Bottom, Mt. Airy, Muldrow, and Josey Creek. At 16, she graduated from Henderson High School in 1963. After graduation, she attended Tougaloo College in Jackson, MS, and received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Elementary Education in May 1967. She furthered her education at Mississippi State University, where she became a certified librarian and received a Master’s Degree in Special Education.

In August 1967, she began her career as a 4th grade teacher at Maben Elementary School. In 1972, she continued her career in the Starkville School District as a special education teacher at Starkville High School and Ward Elementary School. She retired after 29 years. Aside from her primary profession as an educator, she was also a bus driver, tax preparer, and a real estate agent.

Her desire to invest in the lives of students compelled her to work after retirement as a long-term sub. Her work ethic, craftiness, and effectiveness were second to none. She selflessly gave of herself, her time, and her resources. She was loved by students, faculty, and staff alike.

#### A TIME TO SOW

Darlene's life was dedicated to sowing into her family, church, and community. After marriage, she joined Mt. Peiler Missionary Baptist Church and served in many capacities, including Sunday School Teacher, Director of BTU, Youth Department Leader, Librarian, Vacation Bible School Leader, Chancel Choir Member, Missionary Society Member, Scholarship Committee Member, Program Committee Member, Children's Church Staff, and as a member of the Deaconess, Usher, and Widows' Ministries. She was also a founding member of the L.I.F.T. (Living in Faith Today) Ministry. Her dedicated service was recognized by the church when she was named Mother of the Year. Her zeal for God and desire to provide enjoyable, authentic, and thought-provoking ministry opportunities were illustrated by her directing plays such as "Heaven's Gates and Hell's Flames", "Church Meeting", and "My Easter Speech."

She served her community as a member of the NAACP, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Home Mission Society, Zola Kumba, Starkville-Tougaloo Alumni Club (Past President), Board of Realtors, and other organizations, but it was not her membership in these organizations that made her special. It was her life, which was characterized by random acts of kindness, that set her apart.

Her thoughtfulness knew no bounds. It wasn't unusual for her to cook a full meal for a bereaved family, to send small gifts to brighten someone's day, or to offer a word of encouragement at a divinely orchestrated time.

She left an indelible mark on all who were fortunate enough to know her. She was truly an angel on earth.

#### A TIME TO LOVE

Darlene served her family as a devoted and faithful wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. On December 25, 1968, she married the love of her life, Tommy James Perkins, Sr., and they enjoyed 48 years of holy matrimony. The Lord blessed them with two children, five grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. She provided her family with unconditional love and support. Her love was not limited to her immediate family but was also shared with her extended family and beyond.

#### A TIME TO HARVEST

Darlene completed her earthly assignment and was received by her Lord and Savior on Saturday, April 16, 2022, to reap the rewards of her fruitful, earthly journey.

#### A TIME TO MOURN

She was preceded in death by her parents, Carl and Bobie Ruth Hudson; husband, Tommy Perkins, Sr.; brother, Cleveland Hudson; and two grandsons, Treivon Lindsey and Tommy Perkins, III.

She leaves to cherish her memories two devoted children, Xavier Lyzette Perkins and Tommy James Perkins, Jr., both of Starkville, MS; three grandchildren, Tierra, Zoe, and Paris; three great-grandchildren, Mackenzie, Kylan, and Zion; one sister, Helen Zuber, and one brother, Leonard Hudson, both of Starkville, MS; special cousin, Marietta Wheeler of Starkville, MS; special siblings, Bobby (Helen) Hudson of Fayetteville, NC; Fredrick (Cheryl)

Hudson of San Antonio, TX; Greg (Beneva) Hudson and Malinda Brown of Starkville, MS; John Hudson and Myrtle Hudson of Ann Arbor, MI; Ben Hudson of New Orleans, LA; Marcella Hudson of Lansing, MI; and Selma (Hugh) Davis of Jackson, MS; brothers-in-law, Charles (Teresa) Perkins of Memphis, TN; Roy (Shirley) Perkins of Starkville, MS; and Leonard Evans of Decatur, IL; sister-in-law, Pearlie Perkins of Starkville, MS; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

# Cemetery Details

## Mt. Peiler M.B. Church Cemetery I

John High Road  
Starkville, MS 39759

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 22. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Hairston & Hairston Funeral Homes - Starkville  
112 Earnest H Jones Jr Dr  
Starkville, MS 39759  
(662) 323-5854

## Funeral Services - Graveside

APR 23. 2:00 PM (CT)

MT Peiler Missionary Baptist. Church  
840 N. Jackson Street  
840 HWY 389 North  
Starkville, MS 39759

# Tribute Wall

WS

“ *Willie Earl & Carrie Thomas, Sr. sent a virtual gift in memory of Darlene Perkins* ”



---

**Willie Earl & Carrie Thomas, Sr.** - May 18, 2022 at 10:13 PM

DW

“ *Deborah Williams lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins* ”



---

**Deborah Williams** - May 18, 2022 at 01:31 PM

RB

“ *Rose Billups lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins* ”



---

**Rose Billups** - May 06, 2022 at 09:44 PM

QM

“ *Queen Malone sent a virtual gift in memory of Darlene Perkins* ”



---

**Queen Malone** - April 29, 2022 at 11:14 AM

PR

“ *Darlene was the light to those she touch. She will be miss. God will be ever present with the family. God bless the family, forever.* ”

Peggy Rogers - April 28, 2022 at 11:43 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Darlene Perkins.* ”



April 25, 2022 at 03:00 PM

RS

“ *You're are in my Sincere thoughts and prayers my Condolences Hudson and Perkins Family.* 🕊️💜🕊️🏠 ”



Rosie smith - April 23, 2022 at 10:28 PM

RS

“ *Rosie Smith sent a virtual gift in memory of Darlene Perkins* ”



Rosie smith - April 23, 2022 at 10:25 PM

KG

“ Karen Gandy sent a virtual gift in memory of Darlene Perkins



Karen Gandy - April 23, 2022 at 08:00 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Darlene Perkins.



April 23, 2022 at 10:29 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Darlene Perkins.



April 23, 2022 at 08:21 AM

KH

“ Kelly& Sandra Harris lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins



kelly& sandra Harris - April 23, 2022 at 03:59 AM

PB

“ PRISCILLA BRAND lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins



PRISCILLA BRAND - April 23, 2022 at 01:33 AM

MW

“ Mary A. Williams lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins



Mary A. Williams - April 22, 2022 at 11:43 PM

MW

*I miss you terribly. Prayers and condolences to the family. I will always remember our first year at Tougaloo, the enlightened conversations we shared in our later years. Your assignment on earth is completed. I will always remember and love you dearly. Rest in peace cousin.*

Mary A. Williams - April 23, 2022 at 12:59 AM

EH

“ Evelyn Nicks Hull lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins



Evelyn Nicks Hull - April 22, 2022 at 10:41 PM

EH

“ Evelyn Nicks Hull lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins



Evelyn Nicks Hull - April 22, 2022 at 10:40 PM

ER

“ Evette Rice lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins



Evette Rice - April 22, 2022 at 08:17 PM

FS

“ Condolences to the family. I have fond memories of days in Henderson High School Band with Darlene. Such a lovely person.



Fannie Roberson Simmons - April 22, 2022 at 07:03 PM

CF

“ Catherine Tate & Family lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins



Catherine Tate & family - April 22, 2022 at 05:24 PM

RC

“ *My prayers are with the Perkins family during this time. I will always remember Mrs. Perkins as a sweet and kind soul.*



Robin Chandler - April 22, 2022 at 03:40 PM

MM

“ Praying 🙏🙏🙏 for the family



Mark and Marion McCarter - April 22, 2022 at 01:47 PM

ES

“ *Ella Sherman lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins*



Ella Sherman - April 22, 2022 at 01:13 PM

LC

“ *Lois Childs-O'Neal lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins*



Lois Childs-O'Neal - April 22, 2022 at 12:54 PM

JP

“ *Jenette Ashford Peters lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins*



---

**Jenette Ashford Peters** - April 22, 2022 at 11:15 AM

GL

“ *CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES* 🙏🙏🙏



---

**GUSSIE L.ZUBER** - April 22, 2022 at 10:50 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Darlene Perkins.*



---

April 22, 2022 at 09:57 AM

GW

“ *Gwen Ware lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins*



---

**Gwen Ware** - April 22, 2022 at 08:59 AM

GW

*You will be missed, see you later, until then!*

**Gwen Ware** - April 22, 2022 at 09:00 AM

TG

*I was Darlene Perkins' next door neighbor at Starkville High for many years. Darlene was a joy to know. I never heard her say one complaining word, even in 1970, the year African American students had to give up their school and join the white students at Starkville High. She was pleasant and upbeat in any circumstance. It was a blessing to be her friend. Toni Graves.*

**Toni Graves** - April 22, 2022 at 12:44 PM

BH

“ *Brenda Hamilton-Jones lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins*



**Brenda Hamilton-Jones** - April 22, 2022 at 08:51 AM

MM

“ *Marguerite Moore lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins*



**Marguerite Moore** - April 22, 2022 at 08:32 AM

DF

“ *Doris C. Garmon And Family lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins*



Doris C. Garmon and family - April 22, 2022 at 07:41 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Darlene Perkins.*



April 22, 2022 at 06:59 AM

NP

“ *Thinking and praying for the family during your time of grief.*

Nana Purnell - April 22, 2022 at 02:45 AM

PD

“ *Our deepest condolences goes out to the family of Darlene Hudson Perkins our thoughts and prayers 🙏 are with you!!❤️❤️*

Pam & Annie Dancer - April 22, 2022 at 01:29 AM

AH

“ *Angela Howard lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins*



Angela Howard - April 21, 2022 at 10:55 PM



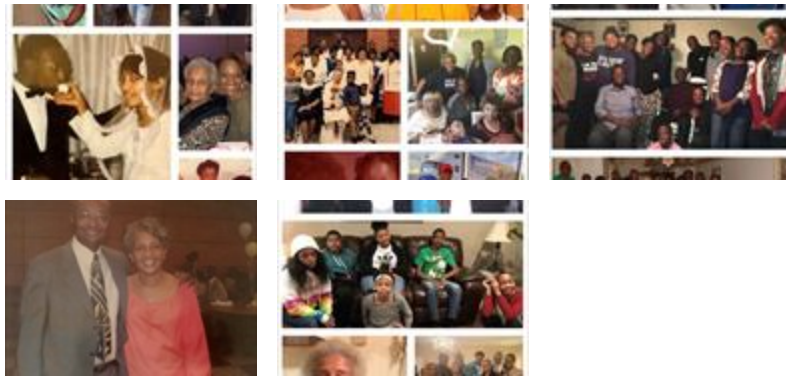
“ *Linda Ferguson & Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Darlene Perkins*



Linda Ferguson & Family - April 21, 2022 at 09:39 PM



“ *5 files added to the album Darlene Perkins*



Hairston & Hairston Funeral Homes - April 21, 2022 at 08:56 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Darlene Perkins.*



April 21, 2022 at 08:39 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Darlene Perkins.*



---

April 21, 2022 at 08:38 PM



“ *Marilyn Jordan-hudson lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins*



---

**marilyn jordan-hudson** - April 21, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Dollie Lanier, My Deepest Sympathy lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins*



---

**Dollie Lanier, My Deepest Sympathy** - April 21, 2022 at 07:12 PM



“ *Henry&Annie Sherman lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins*



---

**Henry&Annie sherman** - April 21, 2022 at 05:48 PM

TF

“ *The Walter Conley Family lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins*



---

**The Walter Conley Family** - April 21, 2022 at 12:02 AM

MC

“ *Mary Collier lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins*



---

**Mary Collier** - April 20, 2022 at 02:51 PM

MF

“ *Mary Collier And Family lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins*



---

**Mary Collier and family** - April 20, 2022 at 02:50 PM

MF

“ *Mary Collier And Family lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins*



---

**Mary Collier and family** - April 20, 2022 at 02:50 PM

LG

“ Louise Gandy sent a virtual gift in memory of Darlene Perkins



-----  
**Louise Gandy** - April 20, 2022 at 12:46 PM

MB

“ Mary Brooks sent a virtual gift in memory of Darlene Perkins



-----  
**Mary Brooks** - April 20, 2022 at 12:46 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Darlene Perkins.



-----  
April 20, 2022 at 12:24 PM

HG

“ Helen Glenn lit a candle in memory of Darlene Perkins



-----  
**Helen Glenn** - April 19, 2022 at 06:08 PM

