



## Portia Arlene Barnett

April 15, 1928 - April 17, 2013

Portia Arlene Barnett, 85, of Charlotte, passed away on April 17, 2013 at Eaton Community Palliative Care in Charlotte. She was born on April 15, 1928 to James and Leona (Metcalf) Craven in Alma, MI. She grew up in Potterville and Charlotte, graduating from Charlotte High School in 1946. After graduation, she went to work for Wilcox Gay where she met her husband, Leon Barnett. They married April 5, 1947 and together created a family with 1 son and 2 daughters. They were married 57 years before Leon passed away in 2005. Portia loved caring for her family and was deeply involved in children's activities throughout the community, serving as a Campfire Girl leader for 6 years and a Boy Scout mother. She loved to sew and do art projects. She sewed each of her daughter's wedding dresses and sewed most of her children's clothes. She loved doing crossword puzzles and collecting things. Portia described herself as a hugger and an instigator. She was active and always ready to get involved. She influenced the lives of countless youth through her years in the school, scouts, church and band. She was a long-time member of the Lawrence Avenue United Methodist Church and sang in the choir. She was on the Missions committee and belonged to the Lydia Circle. She was the Queen of the Red Hatters and loved every minute of it. She was also a member of the Eaton Area Senior Center and volunteered in the office and kitchen where she was Senior Queen for the Frontier Days celebration. She worked as a Para Professional for 22 years at Parkview Elementary School in the classroom, special education and helped with the

Chapter One reading program. Portia is survived by three children, Jeffrey (Diana) Barnett of Wimberley, TX; Joy (Jack) Cummings of Charlotte; Robin (Bernie) Morgan of Eaton Rapids; 10 grandchildren - Stephanie (Jeff) Stovall, Kyle (Kim) Barnett, Brent Cummings, Trevor (Katherine) Cummings, Rebecca (Kaisle) Cummings, Gabe Morgan, Parker Morgan, Abigail Morgan, Jay Patout, Tish (Billy) Parker, 2 "adopted grandchildren" Mia and Camille Coenan, 8 great grandchildren; 8 nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Leon R Barnett, and her brother, James L. Craven. Visitation will be held Friday, April 19, 2013 from 2-4pm and 6-8pm at Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte, Michigan. Funeral services will be held at 2pm on Saturday, April 20 at the Lawrence Avenue United Methodist Church with Rev. Terry Fisher officiating. Interment will take place in the Brickyard Cemetery in Eaton Rapids. Memorials are suggested to the Eaton Community Palliative Care and Lawrence Avenue United Methodist Church. Online condolences can be given at [www.prayfuneral.com](http://www.prayfuneral.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Portia Arlene Barnett*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - April 17, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JN

“ *Joy, I was so sorry to hear of your mother's passing. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. I have also let the rest of Upsilon DKG chapter know about your loss.*

Judy Nixon - May 01, 2013 at 07:53 PM

SC

“ *To the memory of a lovely, kind lady. My deepest sympathy. It is so hard to lose a mother. May God dull the sharp edge of grief. Keep looking up!!!!*

sandy carey - April 25, 2013 at 08:37 AM

J(

“ *You are all in my thoughts and prayers. Portia and mom (June Lerch Fisher) were good friends in high school and mom has many fond memories of her. Although many years have passed since I've seen the family I remember all of you. God Bless.*

Judy (Elston)Clark - April 20, 2013 at 06:33 PM

PC

“ I am a friend of Stephanie's. We have had Mrs Barnett and the whole family in our thoughts and prayers all week. Please accept our deepest sympathy.

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**Petra Cochran** - April 20, 2013 at 03:52 PM

JA

“ To Portia's family. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. Portia used to be our babysitter when I was about 10 years old. She and one of her best friends, June Lerch Fisher always did it together. We had tons of fun with them. And as I saw Portia over the years she never forgot who I was. I am sure that God has a special place for this lovely lady. Heaven is richer today.

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**Jackie Carter Ames** - April 19, 2013 at 11:32 AM

JS

“ We will miss our wonderful neighbor and friend. Our thoughts are with your family.

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**Joe and Sarita Shetenhelm** - April 18, 2013 at 05:33 PM

DK

“ What a wonderful lady. She was a born leader. She was a great mentor when I worked at Parkview. Her help at band camp was unforgettable. She always had a smile on her face and we all loved her!

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**Debbie Kelley** - April 18, 2013 at 04:04 PM