



Brenda Rivers

July 9, 1953 - January 1, 2026

Born on July 9, 1953, in Talladega, Alabama to Arch Phillips and Magnolia Garrett Phillips, Brenda's spirit and warmth touched the lives of all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Brenda's life was a tapestry woven with love, laughter, and unyielding faith. Accepting Christ as her personal Savior at a young age, she united with St. Campbell Missionary Baptist Church and later became a cherished member of Shiloh Temple of Deliverance. Her educational journey led her through Talladega County Schools, culminating in her graduation from Talladega County Training School with the Class of 1971. She nurtured her passion for learning further at Gadsden State Community College.

A devoted caregiver, Brenda dedicated her life to serving others, tending to over one hundred patients with compassion. She also shared her knowledge as a substitute teacher and dedicated years of service to the sewing industry as a talented seamstress.

Brenda's zest for life was infectious, as she loved entertaining family and friends, making every gathering memorable. With a spirit that radiated joy, she found comfort and joy in dancing and laughter, creating a vibrant atmosphere wherever she went. She was a dedicated mother and grandmother, showering her children and grandchildren with boundless love. Whether it was shopping,

sharing phone calls, reveling in a game of cards, or trying her luck at the slots, Brenda's enthusiasm brought warmth to every moment.

Brenda's 72-year life journey ended on January 1, 2026 while in the care of NHC Healthcare in Anniston, Alabama. In life's journey, Brenda has been lovingly reunited with her parents, Arch and Magnolia Phillips, her beloved daughter, Shakera Rivers, and her dear brother, Reginald Phillips.

She leaves behind a legacy of love and fond memories through her devoted son, Terrance (Tameka) Rivers; her cherished grandchildren, Donte (Kelsey) Rivers and Skyy Rivers; her adored great-grandchildren, Aleena Rivers, Bryson Rivers, and August Rivers; her brothers, Karen Phillips and Andre (Janice) Phillips; her sisters, Carolyn Lawson, Priscilla Phillips, Sylvia Phillips, and Sabrina (Derrick) Clark; along with her uncle, Spencer (Barbara) Garrett; her aunt, Stella Garrett; special friends, Felecia Phillips, Annette Ledford, Ella Jean Garrett, Clementine Sillmon, Veronica Burk, and Louise (Harlan) Roberts; and a host of other relatives and treasured friends.

As we remember Brenda, let us come together to share in the laughter, love, and beautiful memories that defined her remarkable 72 years. Her radiant spirit will forever illuminate our hearts, reminding us of the joy she brought to each of our lives.

Cemetery Details

S.M. Goodson Funeral Home and Crematory

217 Coosa St. E
Talladega, AL 35160

Previous Events

Public Viewing

JAN 10. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

S.M. Goodson Funeral Home
217 Coosa St. East
Talladega, AL 35160

Tribute Wall

PG

“ *Rest in Paradise. Love you Beautiful cousin.*



Portia Gash - January 10 at 05:18 PM

CH

“ *Sending my heartfelt condolences to you and your family during this time of sorrow. May God's peace, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and minds. I pray that His presence brings you comfort, His promises give you hope, and His love surrounds you now and in the days ahead. May cherished memories sustain you, and may you find strength in knowing that you are not alone—God is near to the brokenhearted. Please know you are in my prayers.*
Love,
Cheryl "Tennie" and Family



Cheryl - January 10 at 10:36 AM

JH

“ *Our sincere condolences to the family and friends. May God be your comfort and strength during this very difficult time of sorrow. Janice, Joyce, Lee W.Phillips & family.*



Janice Howard - January 10 at 12:12 AM

JJ

“ *The times we talked were so inspirational because of her glowing spirit. She was a true and faithful friend. Thanks so much for having my back and believing in me.*

Friends forever 🙏

J. W. Reynolds, Jr.

Upper Marlboro, Maryland



James Reynolds, Jr. - January 08 at 03:39 PM

JR

“ *JW Reynolds planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Brenda Rivers.*

JW Reynolds - January 08 at 03:27 PM

JR

“ *JW Reynolds purchased the Simply Elegant Spat hiphyllum for the family of Brenda Rivers.*



JW Reynolds - January 08 at 03:27 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Brenda Rivers.*



January 08 at 03:00 AM

SM

“ *She had such an infectious smile that was simply radiant. She was truly beautiful inside and outside. We will miss her and the joy that she brought to our lives.*

Sharon and Frank Morris

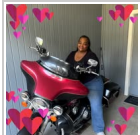
Sharon Morris - January 07 at 10:21 AM



GG

“ *Geralene Garrett light a candle. I'm so sorry for your loss. My prays goes out to the Rivers & Phillips family's*

Geralene Garrett - January 06 at 02:39 PM



“ *Rest in Peace*

Trice Pruitt - January 05 at 07:45 PM



LP

“ *Sending up my prayers and condolences to Rivers and Phillip families!Rest in peace Mrs.Brenda!Such a beautiful soul gone to soon!! 🙏🙏🙏*

lori pope - January 05 at 12:26 PM



JK

“ My condolences & prayers to the Family! Bren was definitely an angel & will be missed💔🙏 May God keep the family in His loving arms😊

Jannie Keith - January 05 at 10:38 AM

AC

“ I will miss you and all our laughs we had together. R.I.P Brenda Rivers (better known as GiGi as you would tell me and my children to call you)

Allison Coleman-Chatman - January 04 at 12:40 PM

TR

“ Forever in our hearts cousin💕
Rest In Heaven ☐



Teresa Ledford Robinson - January 04 at 10:57 AM

TR

“ Rest In Heaven Aunt Brenda



Taneshia Rivers - January 04 at 09:50 AM

PF

“ Priscilla Fluker lit a candle in memory of
Brenda Rivers



Priscilla Fluker - January 03 at 12:53 PM

PF

*My condolences to the family, and may God give comfort and peace
and strength to the family in this difficult time 🙏🙏*

Priscilla Fluker - January 03 at 12:55 PM

SH

“ I just can't believe you are gone and I'm going to miss you and your
laugh was one of a kind. I'm asking God to strengthen your family
and comfort them. Cousin, You will never be forgotten 🙏💔🙏

SharonFluker - January 02 at 02:28 PM