



Barbara Jean Tillman-Love

JAN 28, 1943 - DEC 20, 2024



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Barbara Jean Tillman-Love, affectionately known as “Ghoni” by her grandchildren and “Mama T” to those whose lives she touched, passed away peacefully on December 20, 2024, in Salt Lake City, Utah, at the age of 81.

Born on January 28, 1943, in Seattle, Washington, to Frank and Loyce Massey, Barbara’s life was a testament to love, generosity, and devotion. She attended Everett Junior College before meeting and marrying George Tillman Jr. in Tacoma, Washington. Together, they raised twin daughters, Stacy and Tracy, during 23 beautiful years of marriage. Later, Barbara married Carl Love, with whom she shared the rest of her journey.

Barbara’s heart was as big as her love for her family. She adored her nine grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren, who were the light of her life. She had a special way of making each one feel uniquely loved and cherished. Whether it was baking their favorite treats, tending to their scrapes and bruises, or cheering them on at school and sports events, Barbara was the ultimate grandma—the kind who made every moment magical and every visit unforgettable.

Barbara had a passion for children and dedicated her career to nurturing and supporting at-risk youth as an instructional aide. She had an uncanny ability to connect with people, often becoming a second mom to many in the community. Her home was always open, and she made sure every child who crossed her threshold left with a full stomach and a warm heart.

A proud debutante, Barbara loved plants, gardening, and filling her home with the beauty of nature. She was a devoted mother who inspired her daughters to explore their talents and passions through gymnastics, African dance, swimming, karate, and much more. She found immense joy in seeing her daughters thrive, and her nurturing spirit created a legacy of love and resilience.

Barbara was also a lifelong animal lover, sharing her home with both dogs and cats who brought her endless joy and companionship.



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Barbara is survived by her loving daughters, Stacy Tillman and Tracy Brown, her beloved grandchildren, and her treasured great-grandchildren. She leaves behind a legacy of love, compassion, and cherished memories that will be carried in the hearts of all who knew her.

Barbara's love and light will forever shine in the lives she touched. She was the heart of her family, the best grandma anyone could ever ask for, and a true beacon of love and kindness.



Tribute Wall

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DA

Denise Allen posted:

Aunty Barbara I will miss you, you were the only one who called me neenee. I love you aunty. This life is temporary but very soon we will have eternal life. See you then. Praying 🙏

January 16 at 11:35 AM

TC

Trudy Chlepas posted:

Barbara was a special loving lady!!! I have many of her great smelling perfume oils I will cherish. May Her Memory Be Eternal. Trudy Chlepas

January 16 at 4:14 AM

PL

Paula Lozano posted:

My condolences to all the family. Your mom was a special person. She had a great sense of humor & wit. I can still hear her saying "Yeah boy!" - In Flavor Flav's voice. I am praying you will all be comforted & have peace during this difficult time.

January 16 at 3:56 AM



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Tracy Brown posted:

I love you, mama. I will always love you through ups and downs and everything that you've gone through. I always loved you. I know that you are resting in a much better place after everything that you've gone through throughout your years on this earth I think about you every day. I love you your daughter Tracy.

January 16 at 3:13 AM



Carl Love January 16 at 9:18 AM

God bless you, Carl Love



Barbara Williams January 16 at 7:54 AM

I always loved my sister in love I always remember her voice laughter and sweet smile She was always loving and sweet to me I always love her Rest in the arms of Jesus Barbara Tillman Williams



Pennie McGill January 16 at 5:52 AM

Stacy and Tracy, I just wanted to thank you both for sharing your mother with me growing up in nightingale. Miss Betty had shown her love for the youth way back then by opening up her doors for us and making us all feel so comfortable and warm. I still can remember all the different treats and baking them cookies, cakes that would be having the house smelling so good, you can even smell it before getting to the door. I can remember Miss. Betty asking the kids in the neighborhood is your homework was done, and if it was not done, trust and believe me you will turn around and go back home to get it done. She didn't play about your education at all. So once again Thank you Stacy and Tracy for sharing your mother with us all. ❤️❤️❤️





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Barbara by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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