

# Acknowledgements

*"To care for those who once cared for us is one of the highest honors." - Tia Walker*

*Randy Lewis, a nephew who is a true blessing who loved and cared for his auntie by being right by her side for 15 precious months.*

*Sherry Reece, an amazing niece who started her auntie's care taking journey and ensured her auntie would be well taken care of.*

*Shelly Lewis, a strong and energetic niece who strengthened her auntie from the hospital and in her home.*

*A fierce leader who loved her auntie and ensured she was dressed to the nines and glowing day in and day out.*

*Dorothy Simpson, a faithful servant who encouraged her friend, Ms. Anna, in the hardest and most painful of times through prayer and gospel music.*

*Valerie Fletcher, a wonderful caregiver who spoiled her, Anna Banana. Bringing to the home all of her favorite sweets like Dr. Pepper and ice cream sandwiches, one of the last things she enjoyed before passing.*

*Toi Foster, a sweet and kind caregiver who she called momma while ensuring all her medical needs were meticulously met.*

*Robert Jefferson 'Jeff', a loyal and consistent friend until the end. He loved his friend, Ann unconditionally and provided her comfort through conversation, food, and the ultimate companionship.*

*I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you make them feel.  
-Maya Angelou*

# Celebrating THE LIFE OF



## Anna Faye Norris

APRIL 20, 1941 - JULY 25, 2022



# Obituary

Anna Faye Norris was born in Broken Bow, Oklahoma on April 20, 1941, to the union of Adel and Delcia Govan Lewis. She had eight siblings who all preceded her in death. Gertrude (Martin) Lewis, Lycurgus (Thelma Jennings) Lewis, Lawrence Denver (Jean) Lewis, Walter (Margaret) Lewis, Willie Lee Lewis, Garland (Gloria Jean) Lewis, Adell Jr. (Corliss) Lewis, and Ruth McPowell.

Anna attended Dunbar Schools in Broken Bow, where she graduated high school. She moved to Kansas City, MO in 1959 where she initially lived with her first cousin, Primer Lee Barr and shortly thereafter attending college at Lincoln University in Jefferson City, MO. Anna graduated from Lincoln University in 1965 with a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education. Anna was married April 13, 1968, to Emanuel Norris of which one son Barry Kirk Norris was conceived. They later divorced in 1990 but remained close friends until his death July 5, 2016.

Anna made an enormous impact on everyone she met. She spent over four decades as an educator in the Kansas City Missouri School District and loved her students. But with her no-nonsense style of instruction, her students knew she didn't play any games in the classroom. Outside of education, Anna devoted her time to many different activities. One of her favorite hobbies was bowling and she was a member of the Tuesday Senior Rollers. Anna was an excellent bowler and rarely missed her weekly games and continued to bowl well into her late seventies. She participated in tournaments across the country from Springfield, Missouri to Las Vegas Nevada. Having a large family Anna loved to plan and organize the Annual Lewis Family Reunions. Since their inception in 1964, Anna was an integral part of the planning process. The reunions traveled all over the country from Missouri, Texas, Mississippi, Indiana and of course her hometown of Broken Bow Oklahoma.



Loving Memories

FOLD

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# Tribute to My Mother:

All that I am, or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother.

Dear Momma,

Since you have passed, many people have told me, "Your momma was so proud of you".

To me, it is better said the other way around. "I am so proud of you, momma". Proud to call you, my mother. Proud that your faith has ALWAYS come first. Proud that you touched the lives of thousands of children through teaching. Proud that every Wednesday, for years, rain or shine, you faithfully served the community passing out boxes of food to people in need. Proud that you loved your brothers and sisters and their families. Proud that in this world where hate is common, love and grace came naturally for you.

Proud of your blackness and strength, you saw early that a young black boy needed love, understanding and discipline to be everything that he could be. I am proud that You always had a plan, especially, when I didn't.

I can remember at 26 years old. I came over, telling you this big plan on how I had the opportunity to buy into a computer company. I thought you would say "No". But you didn't question my plan. You simply said "I have some bonds I bought for you when you were young. Take them and use them to buy into the company." You always knew I had big dreams and ideas, but your support for me were even bigger.

As I pack up the photographs and go through your belongings, I see reminders of who you were. Boxes and boxes of "Thank you" cards to send to people, a reflection of your gratitude and thankfulness. So Momma this is my THANK YOU letter to you.

In life I loved you dearly, in death I love you still. You were an angel in the shape of my mom. Until we meet again momma.

Your son,  
Barry

# Obituary Continued...

Anna also loved to work in her garden where she grew a variety of vegetables from kale to collard greens and her flowers were the envy of the entire neighborhood. She was an amazing cook, and she loved the holidays where she would prepare wonderful meals for her family and friends. She was also known around the family for her delicious melt in your mouth lemon pound cake. Anna loved sports of all kinds and no matter how ill she was, she loved to watch her Kansas City Chiefs and Royals.

Family meant everything to her, nothing gave her more joy than to spend time with her only grandson, Bryce. Besides Barry he was the second love of her life. She loved being a Nana to, Bryce and took great pride in his many academic and athletic activities. She spent hours reading with him, shopping for him and driving him to practices.

Diagnosed in 2011 with Multiple Myeloma, she fought a tremendous battle for over eleven years. Enduring a bone marrow transplant and chemotherapy she didn't let that stop her from being fiercely independent and driving herself to bowling, lunch outings and most importantly attending her beloved St. James United Methodist Church. Anna loved her church family. She was a member of St. James United Methodist Church for over 40 years. She was a faithful member of the choir; Voices of Praise and also loved to devote her time volunteering in the food pantry. Providing food for those in need gave her great joy. Anna had many friends, but she had a very cherished friendship with her best friend, Evora Sanders. The two met in 1966 and were thick as thieves ever since, never having even one argument in 56 years. Marriages may end and children grow and move away, but the bond of a best friend knows no boundaries.



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CTOH

Obituary



# Acknowledgements

We deeply appreciate everyone's kind expressions of sympathy and all you are doing to help us through this difficult time. Your enduring love and support mean so much to us. With love, the Norris and Lewis families.

## Pallbearers

- Anthony Lewis
- Leslie Lewis
- Patrick Lewis
- Richard Lewis
- Maurice Godfrey
- Maurice Lamar

## Honorary Pallbearers

- Bryce Norris
- Julius Lewis
- Randy Lewis
- Anthony Reece
- Robert Jefferson
- Elbert Payne Sr.

# Order of Service

For Anna Faye Norris  
St. James United Methodist Church  
5540 Wayne Ave. Kansas City, MO 64110  
Dr. Emanuel Cleaver III, Senior Pastor  
Dr. Yvette Richards, Officiant

11:00AM

## Processional

- Prayer..... Dr. Yvette Richards
- Scripture.....Dr. Yvette Richards
- Musical Selection.....Kenyetta Rollins
- Acknowledgements & Condolences.....LaTonya Godfrey
- Video Reflection.....Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II
- Remarks.....2 Minutes Please
- Musical Selection.....Leon Walker
- Tribute.....Chris McIntyre
- Family Memories .....Video
- Words of Comfort..... Dr. Emanuel Cleaver III
- Benediction
- Recessional

Interment & repast to follow at Mt. Moriah South  
10507 Holmes Road, Kansas City, MO 64131

Order of Service



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