



Miss Aretha Brown

August 20, 1967 - February 4, 2026

Aretha Brown was born on August 20, 1967, in Heth, Arkansas, to the late Mary Alice Brown Washington, affectionately known as “Big Mary,” and the late Samuel Howard, Sr. She departed this life on February 4, 2026, at 9:04 PM at her home in Madison, Arkansas, surrounded by her loving family. She was raised in a loving and close-knit family where faith, strong values, and the importance of family were instilled in her from an early age.

Aretha attended school in the Forrest City School District. She was known for her warm spirit, caring heart, and deep love for her family. She was a devoted mother, grandmother, sister, and friend who found her greatest joy in being surrounded by those she loved most. Aretha enjoyed playing baseball, cooking for her family, hosting gatherings, and bringing people together through celebrations and fellowship. Her presence could light up any room, and her love for family was evident in all that she did.

At an early age, Aretha confessed Christ and accepted Him as her Lord and Savior. She believed in the power of prayer, perseverance, and trusting God through every season of life.

Aretha was preceded in death by her mother, Mary Alice Brown Washington; her father, Samuel Howard, Sr.; her grandmother, Martha Brown Howard; her brothers, Samuel Howard, Jr., and Manuel Howard; her beloved son, Gerry

Edward Brown; her grandson, Gerryontae Brown; her daughter-in-law, Tenika LaCole Stewart; her dear friend, Michael Ray Jones; and her nephew, Patrick Kidd, Jr., whom she raised as her own, along with other cherished family members who welcomed her into eternal rest.

She leaves to cherish her precious memories her son, Steven Clark of Forrest City, Arkansas, whom she lovingly adopted at two weeks old; three granddaughters, Nikiyah Brown and Janiyah Brown of Forrest City, Arkansas, and Gerronah Brown of Texas; one grandson, Demarquez Sinclair of Forrest City, Arkansas; her siblings, Cynitha Howard Martin of Marianna, Arkansas, Daniel Brown of Forrest City, Arkansas, Christie Bowen (Michael Bowen) of Jonesboro, Arkansas, and Shawanda Brown of Madison, Arkansas; nieces and nephews whom she helped raise as her own, Dominique Dillard, Ki'Aira Dillard, Chasity Kidd, Se'Aira Watson, all of Forrest City, Arkansas, Daniel Brown, Jr. and Jade Brown of Texas, and Camerone Brown of Michigan; her goddaughter, Leosha Williams of Maumelle, Arkansas; as well as a host of aunts, uncles, twenty-five nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, and dear friends who will forever cherish her memory.

Though her presence will be deeply missed, the love, laughter, and lasting legacy Aretha leaves behind will continue to live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved her.

Cemetery Details

Casteel Cemetery

Highway 70 West & CR 221
Forrest City, AR 72335

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 21. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Miles J. Kimble Mortuary & Cremation
1900 South Washington Street
Forrest City, AR 72335
(870) 633-1914
mjkimble@yahoo.com
<http://www.mjkmortuaryandcremation.com>

Service

FEB 22. 1:00 PM (CT)

Forrest City Civic Center
1335 North Washington Street
Forrest City, AR 72335

The family will line up at the residence located at 119 Hadley Drive, Apartment 8B, Madison, Arkansas 72359. All family members are asked to be present at the home no later than 12:30 PM to prepare for the processional.

Tribute Wall

BM

“ *Brenda Marlowe lit a candle in memory of Miss Aretha Brown*



Brenda Marlowe - February 19 at 08:22 AM



“ *Sending my heartfelt condolences to the family and lifting you up in prayer during your time of loss.*



Angela J Barton - February 19 at 02:05 AM

FB

“ *Felecia Bell lit a candle in memory of Miss Aretha Brown*



Felecia Bell - February 18 at 07:20 AM

RC

“ *Rev. Dr. LaVerne Cook lit a candle in memory of Miss Aretha Brown*



Rev. Dr. LaVerne Cook - February 18 at 04:33 AM

RC

“ May GOD'S Grace and Peace be multiplied to you from GOD our Father, Jesus Christ our Redeemer, the Holy Spirit our Comforter, and Humankind Our Family
May you find strength in GOD'S promise, as He says in Isaiah 41:10
"I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Rev. Dr. LaVerne Cook - February 18 at 04:33 AM

TC

“ Tresha Curne-Webster lit a candle in memory of Miss Aretha Brown



Tresha Curne-Webster - February 17 at 11:38 PM

FB

“ My dear cousin you will be truly be missed, I will keep all of your memories Alive forever 😞
♥️ I love you so much as your flesh returns back to the lands your soul will be kept forever alive thru all of us forever ♥️♥️ rest well my dear cousin job well done here we all have plenty of memories ♥️♥️



FELISHA BROWN - February 17 at 10:57 PM

HS

“ *Hugh Smith lit a candle in memory of Miss Aretha Brown*



Hugh Smith - February 17 at 09:47 PM

 Robert Mapson

“ *My condolences family*



Robert Mapson - February 17 at 09:31 PM

LW

“ *Lee Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Miss Aretha Brown*



Lee Williams - February 17 at 02:53 PM

RR

“ *Rest in peace turner circle aretha*

Ricky ray - February 15 at 04:59 PM

RB

“ *I send condolences to the Brown family, Aretha was a blessing to all and will be missed.*



Ruby Bradley - February 15 at 01:43 PM

ST

“ *Brown family and friend, with deepest sympathy, Praying for comfort, strength and peace today and the days ahead,*

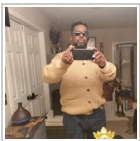


Shirley Williams Thorn - February 11 at 11:35 PM



My name is Mrs curne known as a her auntie as well as her friend turner circle as neighbors and friends cooking buddies spade card plays birthday celebrations and all raising our kids together we went through it all so we were family no matter what I love you Aretha and never will I forget you

Floria Curne - February 17 at 10:16 PM



“ *Eddie Hodges lit a candle in memory of Miss Aretha Brown*



Eddie Hodges - February 10 at 10:58 AM