



## Bernice Anderson Dawson

February 28, 1943 - March 12, 2017

Bernice Anderson Dawson was born on February 28, 1943 in Phillips County, Arkansas to Willie C. Anderson, Sr. and Earnice Hardaway Anderson. She was the first born of four children. She confessed her belief in Christ at an early age and attended church in the Midland Heights community. Bernice attended Eliza Miller High School and was a 1961 graduate.

After graduation, Bernice moved to Chicago, Illinois and studied business at Kennedy-King College while living with family. In 1968 she met and married Wadell Dawson and into this union a daughter and son were born. Bernice began her career in telecommunications working for Illinois Bell and continued through several organization changes to include Ameritech/SBC and AT&T. She was dedicated throughout these changes that led her to her final supervisory position with AT&T. Bernice retired in 2014 to enjoy her life with family and friends.

One of Bernice's greatest joys was her membership in the Improved Benevolent Protective Order Elks of the World. She began this lifelong journey with Nora Field Taylor #270 and later joined SoJourney Truth Temple #1369 in 1990 as a chartered member. She would serve as Daughter, Financial Secretary and Treasurer. She belonged to the Nell M. Roberts Past Daughter Rulers Council where she served as Financial Secretary. She was a member of the Antlered Guard Department of Elks and served as Company Clerk. As a member of the Illinois/Wisconsin State Association, she was a Past State President and served as Trustee and Head Marshal. On the national level,

Bernice was a Past Grand Daughter Ruler, the highest honor in Elksdom. On this level she served with passion with the Beauty and Talent Department. Daughter Dawson also belonged to the Civil Liberties Department where she served Sgt of Arms.

Bernice departed this earthly life at 3:20 p.m. on Sunday, March 12, 2017 at Heartland Manor Care in Peoria, Illinois. She is preceded in death by father and mother, Willie C. Anderson, Sr. and Earnice Hardaway Anderson. She leaves to cherish her memory a daughter, Danielle Grace and son, Derrick Wadell; one step-son, Matthew Preston Barrion; three siblings, Willie C. Anderson, Jr. of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Wallace Anderson (Eula) of Chicago, Illinois; and Sandra A. Williams (Foster, Jr.) of Nashville, Tennessee; 17 grandchildren, six great grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and devoted loving friends that included Thomas L. Morris, with whom she shared a thirty year relationship. There will be a Visitation Friday March 17, 2017 from 7 to 8pm at T.W. Parks Colonial Chapel.

Services will be held on Saturday March 18, 2017 at at 11:00a.m, with visitation one hour prior at Mt. Olive Community Church where Pastor Chuck Brown will serve as host Pastor. Rev.Kim Hayes will officiate.

# Cemetery Details

**Lutheran**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

**MAR 17.** 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

T W Parks Colonial Chapel  
201 N. Macarthur Hwy.  
Peoria, IL 61605  
(309) 674-6323  
<http://www.twparkscolonialchapel.com>

### Visitation

**MAR 18.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Mt. OliveCommunity Church  
603 W. Nebraska Ave.  
Peoria, IL 61604

### Service

**MAR 18.** 11:00 AM (CT)

Mt. OliveCommunity Church  
603 W. Nebraska Ave.  
Peoria, IL 61604

# Tribute Wall



“ Wallace C Anderson was added to the Family Tree.

Sandra Williams - April 05, 2017 at 02:50 PM



“ Willie C Anderson was added to the Family Tree.

Sandra Williams - April 05, 2017 at 02:50 PM



“ Earnice Hardaway Anderson was added to the Family Tree.

Sandra Williams - April 05, 2017 at 02:49 PM



“ Earnice Hardaway Anderson was added to the Family Tree.

Sandra Williams - April 05, 2017 at 02:44 PM



“ Willie C Anderson was added to the Family Tree.

Sandra Williams - April 05, 2017 at 02:44 PM



“ Karen Ashby sent a virtual gift in memory of Bernice Anderson Dawson



Karen Ashby - March 23, 2017 at 02:47 PM

SP

“ Sonya Parks-Linwood lit a candle in memory of Bernice Anderson Dawson



Sonya Parks-Linwood - March 17, 2017 at 03:04 PM

DH

“ Bernice was one of the 1st members in Elkdom to welcome me always having a smile and laughter that we wont forget.. missing u already....Rest In Peace!!



Dawne Herman - March 17, 2017 at 04:12 AM

MH

*Dtr. Bernice Dawson was a wonderful person, humerous, always willing to help where she could . I am going to miss her giving me orders. God bless you family. with sisterly love Dtr. Magnolia Hardman*

Magnolia Hardman - March 17, 2017 at 10:21 AM

TM

*Sending my deepest Sympathy to the family of Bernice Dawson. Dtr. Bernice will be greatly missed. She loved Elkdom and we all love her. May God bless the family.*

Tessie Moore - March 17, 2017 at 07:08 PM

EC

“ Evelyn Tate Clayton sent a virtual gift in memory of Bernice Anderson Dawson



evelyn tate clayton - March 16, 2017 at 09:26 PM

DH

“ *Debi Harms lit a candle in memory of Bernice Anderson Dawson*



Debi Harms - March 16, 2017 at 03:20 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bernice Anderson Dawson.*



March 16, 2017 at 11:23 AM

LC

“ *I worked with Bernice for many years. She will be missed, she always had a smile and kind words for everyone. Rest in Peace my dear friend. Another Angel in Heaven.*



Lori Croxton - March 15, 2017 at 11:12 PM

MT

“ *To my sister Bernice Dawson, farewell thou good and faithful Servant. Thats truly what you are. I will truly miss you, our talks, our tears, our hugs. God needed you more my friend. Forever in my heart. I love you!*



Mary Washington- Thomas - March 15, 2017 at 09:48 PM



“ *Bernice and I worked together for many years. She was always a pleasure and had a great sense of humor. She will be missed by many.*

*Joleen Bressner*

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**Joleen Bressner** - March 15, 2017 at 08:23 PM

DG

“ *I will truly miss my dear friend. I pray that God will watch over Bernice Dawson family as we will all miss her dearly.*



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**Donna gladney** - March 15, 2017 at 04:50 PM

WS

“ *Bernice and I worked together for many years... Such a sweet, caring, and funny, soul. She will be missed by all who knew her. My deepest sympathies to her family and friends... RIP my friend.*



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**Wende Shutts** - March 15, 2017 at 02:22 PM

BT

“ *Barb Thompson lit a candle in memory of Bernice Anderson Dawson*



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**Barb Thompson** - March 15, 2017 at 02:03 PM

BT

*I will truly miss Bernice. She just lit up the room with her wonderful laugh. She is dancing and laughing with God and the angels now!*

**Barb Thompson** - March 15, 2017 at 02:07 PM

SA

“ *Steven Aaron lit a candle in memory of Bernice Anderson Dawson*



**Steven Aaron** - March 15, 2017 at 12:06 PM

SA

*How blessed I am that God allowed my path to cross Bernice's and Sandra's. While Bernice is lovingly at peace, Sandra I am praying that you find strength in the love of Christ. What a blessing you were to her and she loved you for all you did. My condolences to you and your entire family.*

**Steven Aaron** - March 15, 2017 at 12:10 PM

JC

“ *Our dearest and special friend Bernice. We knew you loved Us and YOU knew we loved you.*  
*Thomas & Joe Ann Cayson*

**Joe Ann Cayson** - March 15, 2017 at 10:43 AM

LE

“ *Lenore Hamilton, Sandra so sorry for your loss of your sister, but know you will always have gain another angel to watch over you*



**Lenore** - March 15, 2017 at 09:30 AM

PR

“ *Palace Reid lit a candle in memory of Bernice Anderson Dawson*



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**Palace Reid** - March 15, 2017 at 09:25 AM



“ *My dear sister, words cannot express the loss that I am experiencing at this time. The thought of not hearing your voice or seeing your smile is unbearable. I hope you left this earth knowing how much you meant to me and how much I adored you and looked up to you. You were my "star" and hero in so many ways. I will always hold you close in my heart and wait for the day when we can laugh together again.....Loving you always.*



*Sandra (Babygirl)*

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**Sandra Williams** - March 15, 2017 at 09:22 AM

SW

“ *You truly will be missed by everyone. Such wonderful spirit and kind heart. Rest on my dear,*



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**saundra walker** - March 15, 2017 at 08:21 AM

MI

“ *No words can describe how sorry I am for your loss.* ”



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**Mildred** - March 15, 2017 at 08:11 AM

AI

“ *Annette Irby lit a candle in memory of Bernice Anderson Dawson* ”



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**Annette Irby** - March 15, 2017 at 07:53 AM

CC

“ *Bernice was a funny, loving and caring person. She always had a smile for everyone. Bernice, I will miss you. RIH my friend.* ”

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**Cheryl Chilton** - March 14, 2017 at 10:23 PM