



Barbara Chitwood

August 24, 1944 - July 26, 2023

Barbara Elizabeth Jones Davis Chitwood, born in Magee, Mississippi, lived her life of 79 years. She passed away peacefully with her family by her side on Wednesday, July 26, 2023. Ms. Chitwood was the second child of mother Lora Jones and father the Reverend B. Alfred Jones and Arline Jones. She has one son, John Michael Chitwood and two grandchildren, MacKenzie (12) and Logan (10) of Slidell, Louisiana.

Ms. Chitwood was a learned educator, receiving an undergraduate teaching degree from William Carey University, a Masters Degree from The University of Mississippi, and a Reading Specialist degree from Southeastern Louisiana University. She taught school for 42 years, teaching different grade levels and subjects at Franklinton Jr High and High School and Bowling Green School. One of her greatest accomplishments was teaching first graders from a rural underprivileged school system how to read. One of her greatest experiences was teaching NFL running back, Walter Payton, the joy of reading Shakespeare. Ms. Chitwood had a "thirst" for reading, especially the classics. She always knew the trivia answers to any Literature question.

Barbara Chitwood was a wonderful, caring teacher who genuinely loved her students. When she got into trouble with her principal, Ms. Young, her students came to her defense. She taught her students the love of reading different genres of books, and how to write clearly so that their writing was

grammatically correct. She read all her student's term papers thoroughly, and graded each one with meaning.

Ms. Chitwood helped establish several hometown Little Theaters. She directed and starred in community plays. Her big theatrical experience came when she was cast in a Hollywood movie, "Ode to Billy Joe."

Ms. Barbara loved to sing alto with her sisters, Betty and Beverly. They were known as The Three B's or the Stick Sisters. It was not unusual for the sisters to stand on the counter in their home kitchen with each one holding brooms for their guitars. They would travel with their father to sing on the radio before he preached his sermon, and would sing and entertain at several community events. The three sisters had a musical unique sound, or tight harmony, that everyone seemed to enjoy. Of course the songs had to be gospel or otherwise it would have been a sin.

Barbara is preceded in death by her mother, Lora Jones, her father, B. Alfred Jones and wife, Arline, two brothers, Ben Jones Jr. and Brannon Jones, and niece Jan Montgomery. Barbara is survived by one son, John Michael Chitwood, and 2 grandchildren, MacKenzie and Logan Chitwood, a sister, Bettye Elliott and brother-in-law, Michael Elliott, a sister, Beverly Young, a sister, Charlene Buckley and brother-in-law, Tim Buckley of Columbia, MS, a brother, Craig Tally and wife, Anita Tally of Missouri, and a sister-in-law, Martha Jones of Franklinton. Barbara is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

"Celebration of Life" for Barbara, will be at First Baptist Church of Franklinton (903 Cleveland Street) on Sunday, July 30th, at 2:00 P.M. The family will receive guests at 1:30 prior to the celebration.

The family offers their sincere gratitude to the St. Tammany Hospice System.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks donations be made to First Baptist Church,
ACTs 1:8 Ministries, 950 Self Street, Franklinton, LA, 70438.

Tribute Wall

CH

“ She was one of my favorite teachers when I was in school and Mrs young Mrs Linda Crain and Mrs bankston was my favorite principals when I was in school like I told Mrs young last Sunday night at church they always been special to me ❤️❤️

Chris - September 09, 2025 at 01:50 AM

AB

“ I loved having Mrs. Chitwood as a teacher and as a friend. She was a beautiful and loving soul that is absolutely irreplaceable! I learned both school and life lessons, that I cherish, with me to this day. I will always always love her!

amander bickham - March 19, 2024 at 12:47 PM

AW

“ Wish more teachers were like Mrs. Chitwood. She made learning fun, no matter the subject. Her enthusiasm was captivating and students were compelled to succeed because of her encouragement and passion!

Ashley Bankston Wascom - July 31, 2023 at 08:09 PM

VT

“ Ms Chitwood was a very beautiful person inside and out. I remember when I started going to SLU and I had an essay to write for a English class, I would ask her to read it and let me know what else I needed to do. I came out of that class with an A. She will be greatly missed.

Vikki Taylor - July 28, 2023 at 04:22 PM

CF

“ *Christy Turnage And Family lit a candle in memory of Barbara Chitwood*



Christy Turnage and Family - July 28, 2023 at 01:34 PM

CF

*Ms Barbara, help raise another son along with Michael.. she kept Mickey rite in line with him..In ways they were almost like Twins and at times a hand full I'm sure..
thank you Ms Barbara, for his life was blessed from your Love and care over the years...
The Turnages 🙏*

Christy Turnage and Family - July 28, 2023 at 01:44 PM

LS

“ *So sorry to hear of Barbara's passing. She was such a unique person of incredible talent with a voice like no other. I am sure the choirs of heaven will sing more brilliantly with her presence there. Keeping you all in my prayers.
Linda Stringfield*

Linda Stringfield - July 27, 2023 at 08:09 PM

NJ

“ *She was the reason I started to enjoy reading. She was the best person anyone could have ever met.*

Nina Jenkins - July 27, 2023 at 05:47 PM

BB

“ Prayers for the family.



Barbara Burch - July 27, 2023 at 07:21 AM

LS

*So sorry to hear of Barbara's passing. She was such a unique person of incredible talent with a voice like no one else. I am sure the choirs of heaven shine more brightly now with her presence there. Keeping you all in my prayers.
Linda Stringfield*

Linda Stringfield - July 27, 2023 at 02:51 PM

GB

I was honored to be invited to have Christmas dinner with Beverly and Barbara at their sister Bettye and her husband Michael Elliott's home. The Jones girl's sang 'Silent night'. It was so beautiful. Thank you precious ladies for such a special Christmas.

Gary Brumfield - July 27, 2023 at 11:52 PM