



# Rita Rena Buckner

NOV 4, 1955 - JAN 23, 2026



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The House Of Johnson  
Funeral Home

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## **Rita Rena Buckner**

NOV 4, 1955 - JAN 23, 2026

**R**ita Rena (Payne) Buckner, a beloved wife, mother, daughter, sister, grandmother, aunty, and friend was born to Haywood and Vivian (Johnson) Payne on November 4, 1955 in Jackson, Michigan. Rita accepted the Lord at an early age, at Second Missionary Baptist Church. She sang in the choir and served on the Junior Usher Board. She attended Jackson High School and after graduating, went on to marry the love of her life and high school sweetheart, Charles Linn Buckner.

Rita and Linn were married on November 10, 1973, and shared 52 loving years together until she transitioned from this life on January 23, 2026, at the U of M Samuel & Jean Frankel Cardiovascular Center in Ann Arbor, Michigan, while surrounded by family. Rita retired from the Osteopathic Hospital after more than 25 years of service. She enjoyed bowling in a league for many years until having to yield due to physical limitations.

Rita was artistic, had a love for music, movies, a special interest in sports cars and was a great cook who made a mean barbeque sauce. She loved spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren. Rita was a good listener, and had a special way of always sharing encouraging words of support. She had a great sense of humor and her laugh could easily fill a room.

She was deeply loved by her family and friends and will be greatly missed. Rita was preceded in death by her father, Haywood Payne Sr. and brother Haywood Payne Jr. She leaves to cherish her memory, her devoted husband Charles Linn Buckner, daughter, Shena (Gerrad) Buckner, son, Charles Broderick (Stephanie) Buckner, grandchildren, Alexis, Isaiah, Vanessa, Amani, Walter, Jayda, Yaysmin, and Lyric, great-grandson Demeco, mother, Vivian Payne, sister, Jacqueline (Mark) Arnold, brother, Charles Payne, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends who will forever cherish her memory.

A Memorial Service will be held at Second Missionary Baptist Church, 304 E. Prospect Street, Jackson, Michigan 49203 on Friday, January 30, 2026 at 12 Noon. Family Hour from 11 to 12 Noon at the church.

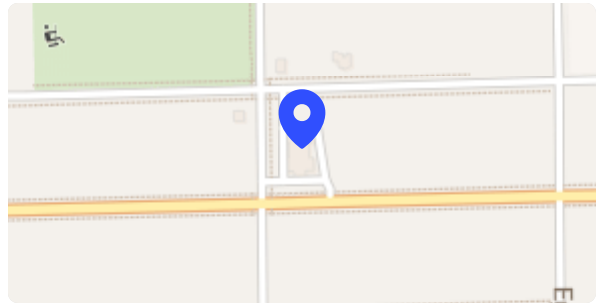


# Events

**Rita Rena Buckner**  
NOV 4, 1955 - JAN 23, 2026

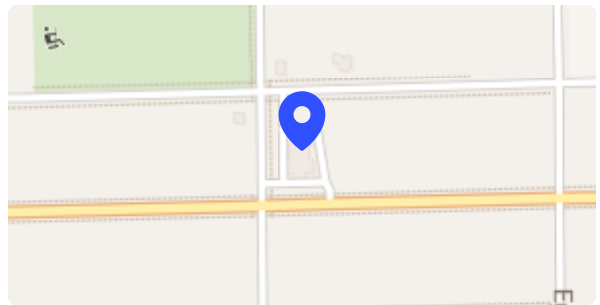
## Family Hour

- Friday**, January 30, 2026
- 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM ET
- Second Missionary Baptist Church**  
304 E. Prospect Street, Jackson MI 49203



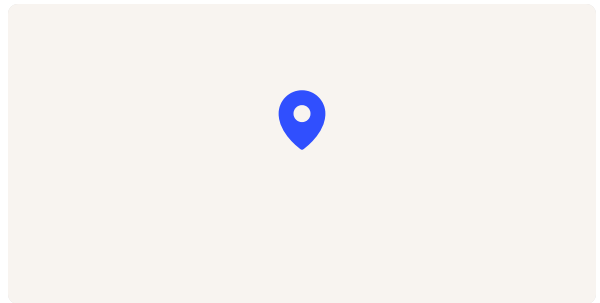
## Memorial Service

- Friday**, January 30, 2026
- 12:00 PM ET
- Second Missionary Baptist Church**  
304 E. Prospect Street, Jackson MI 49203



## Cemetery Details

- Private Internment**  
MI





# Tribute Wall

**Rita Rena Buckner**

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BG

**Bonita Glenn** lit a candle in honor of Rita.

Ms. Rita was a very sweet loving person she will truly be missed

January 31 at 1:21 PM



AR

**Arlene Robinson** lit a candle in honor of Rita.

To the Family, Sending my condolences to each of you in the loss of your dear loved one, Rita! May our Lord and Savior Jesus give you the strength and comfort you need today and always. Lifting your family up in my thoughts and prayers.

January 30 at 12:13 PM



TH

**Terry Hathorn** lit a candle in honor of Rita.

January 30 at 1:16 AM



TH

**Terry Hathorn** lit a candle in honor of Rita.

Rita loved to tell jokes and how she could laugh, and that smile she had and the beautiful dimples. We grew up together from infants to adulthood, on weekends from one house to other, my brother Shelby and I, stay with them and they will come over. Mama Fanny, grandmother and her great grandmother Mo Mo, Aunt Red and her dad and mom they took us to be apartments of their family, and Aunt Vivian named me, I was from September to November older than Rita. And close Dear Friends and Neighbors Babbie and Bonita Wade. Love to play games and go to the parks and to the ice cream parlors, and they had a ping pong table. Rest In Peace Rita, 🌹❤️👤 Terry and Shelby Hathorn

January 30 at 1:15 AM



LB

**Lezlie Bowles** lit a candle in honor of Rita.

Praying for the Buckner and Payne Family. Lezlie Bowles and Michael Gant.

January 29 at 3:01 PM





# Tribute Wall

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**Kathy White** posted:

To the Buckner/ Payne family I have so many fond memories of my friend Rita growing up, I was indeed saddened to hear of her passing but will treasure our time together. Asking the Lord to strengthen Lynn, Sheena, Brock, Sister Payne and Jackie as only He can. Lifting you all in my thoughts and prayers. Minister Kathy White

January 28 at 4:16 PM



**Homita McDonald** posted:

Linn, Shena and Brock, I am so very sorry for the loss of Rita. What a shock. I have no words that can express my deepest sympathy. Please take good care of Ms. Payne and Jackie. And all the grandkids. Wish I could be with you. Love you guys dearly!

January 28 at 12:49 PM



**Homita McDonald** posted:

Linn, Shena and Brock, I am so very sorry for the loss of Rita. What a shock. I have no words that can express my deepest sympathy. Please take good care of Ms. Payne and Jackie. And all the grandkids. Wish I could be with you. Love you guys dearly!

January 28 at 12:49 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Serene Retreat to the Buckner family.



January 27 at 11:35 PM



**Carol Eadie** posted:

Dear Shena and family, Thoughts and prayers to you and your family. May she rest in peace. Bob, Carol and Bobby Eadie

January 27 at 11:17 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Jackson Blain's Farm And Fleet Family** sent a Beautiful Heart Bouquet to the Buckner family.



January 27 at 3:25 PM



**Homita Mcdonald** posted:

Lynn, Shena and Brock, I am so very sorry for the loss of Rita. What a shock. I have no words that can express my deepest sympathy. Please take good care of Ms. Payne and Jackie. And all the grandkids. Wish I could be with you. Love you guys dearly

January 27 at 2:19 PM



**Mamamattie Mae** lit a candle in honor of Rita.

Lighting this Candle in the Loving memories of Rita. To the Entire Families and Friends I pause to send to each of you my Deepest condolences along with my love and friendship. Asking that the Lord above to continue to give you the comfort, strength and understanding as you gather together to rejoice and celebrate a life well lived. This is truly a difficult journey that you are traveling, but know that Rita has completed all her required assignments while here on Earth and she will now Rest in Peace. Share and remember all those precious memories you have of her in your Hearts forever. Blessings upon each of you.



January 27 at 10:38 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

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



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