



Ms. Carolyn LaVerne Carter

February 27, 1935 - September 15, 2025

Ms. Carolyn LaVerne Carter, a resident of Peoria, IL, was called home on Monday, September 15, 2025.

Carolyn was born on February 27, 1935, in Mount Holly, AR, to Isaac and Mary Ella (Tidwell) McKinney.

Carolyn was baptized in faith and carried that strength throughout her life. She was a long-time member and Mother of Peoria Friendship M.B. Church.

Carolyn graduated from Henry Clay Yerger High School in Hope, AR. She moved to California, where she married, had children, and lived for over 50 years. She attended San Francisco City College in San Francisco, CA. She worked for the Department of Veterans Affairs and, after many years of service, retired from there.

Carolyn was an excellent chef (not a cook, but a self-trained chef). If you were fortunate to have tasted one of her dishes, you never forgot it. She watched cooking shows and liked trying different recipes. She would often substitute ingredients with “whatever she had in the refrigerator”. She was a passionate reader who also loved to crochet and knit, creating many family heirlooms. She was a devoted sports fan. She was often heard screaming after every touchdown, interception, strikeout, or homerun. Her favorite teams were the

San Francisco Giants and the San Francisco 49ers. Carolyn was also an excellent seamstress, making many clothes for her children and grandchildren, from kindergarten outfits to prom dresses. She never passed up the chance to play a good game of bid whist. She enjoyed travelling and taking road trips, finding joy in new places and the journeys along the way, which she passed on to her children and grandchildren.

Carolyn leaves to cherish her most precious memories, four daughters, Cyd Ella "Marcena" (Terry, Sr.) Edmonds of Peoria, IL, Sheree (McArthur "John") Hunter of Monroe, LA, Althea "Janice" (Gail Randall) Carter of San Leandro, CA and Rose Johnson of Peoria, IL; one brother, Ernest (Alvis) McKinney of Hope, AR; twelve grandchildren, Danielle Houston of San Leandro, CA, Lonnie "Jon" Houston, Jr. (Sophia) of Tolleson, LaQuayla Miller of Snellville, GA, Monisha Edmonds of Peoria, IL, Marques Houston of Phoenix, AZ, Terry Edmonds, Jr. of Bloomington, IL, Allanna (Quinton Flowers) Johnson of Chicago, IL, LaKeisha Johnson and Tonaio (Latrice) Johnson of Peoria, IL, Andrea (Dominique) Toombs of Gilbert, AZ, Daniel Carter, Jr. and Lena Reed both of Oakland, CA; 36 great grandchildren, 3 great-great grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends who adored her. She is preceded in death by her parents; one son, Daniel Carter, Sr; one daughter, Margo Reed; a son-in-law, Tonaio "Tony" Johnson; two great-granddaughters, Harmony Clark and Ariyanna Miller; 4 brothers, Carl Burton, Jr, Leon Burton, Roland McKinney and James McKinney; 3 sisters, Mervilee Carey, Maxine Brown and Ellen Margie Richardson.

Funeral services will be held at 11 am on Saturday, September 27, 2025, at Peoria Friendship M.B. Church with a visitation prior at 10 am. Rev. Dr. Claude Russell, Jr., Pastor will officiate. Carolyn will be laid to rest at Azar Cemetery in Rosston, AR on Saturday, October 4, 2025.

Carolyn will be remembered for her warm spirit, her creativity, and the love

she gave so freely to those around her. Her life was a blessing, and her memory will be treasured by her family and friends.

Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be shared at SimonsMortuary.com.

Cemetery Details

Azar Cemetery

179 Co Rd 113
Rosston, AR 71858

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 27. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Peoria Friendship M.B. Church
3828 N New York Ave.
Peoria, IL 61614

Funeral Service

SEP 27. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (CT)

Peoria Friendship M.B. Church
3828 N New York Ave.
Peoria, IL 61614

Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Ms. Carolyn LaVerne Carter*



Simons Mortuary - September 26, 2025 at 05:21 PM

DR

Beautiful 🕊️❤️

Doreen Richardson - September 27, 2025 at 01:03 PM

JM

Beautiful Precious Memories!❤️ *Rest in Peace and Love cousin Carolyn* ❤️🌹🕊️☐️✝️

Jacqueline McKinney - September 27, 2025 at 01:19 PM



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Webcast in memory of Ms. Carolyn LaVerne Carter*



Simons Mortuary - September 24, 2025 at 07:01 PM

DR

Beautiful Service. Rest in heaven Aunt Carolyn 🕊️

Doreen Richardson - September 27, 2025 at 12:56 PM

DA

Watch website

Doris Alexander - September 27, 2025 at 01:26 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ms. Carolyn LaVerne Carter.*



September 25, 2025 at 07:26 PM

CS

“ *Carla and Soso purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Ms. Carolyn LaVerne Carter.*



Carla and Soso - September 25, 2025 at 07:23 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Ms. Carolyn LaVerne Carter.*



September 25, 2025 at 12:49 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Ms. Carolyn LaVerne Carter.*



September 25, 2025 at 11:58 AM



“ *Ben & Donna Levy purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Ms. Carolyn LaVerne Carter.*



Ben & Donna Levy - September 25, 2025 at 08:03 AM



“ *Brenda D Cayson(Rudd) lit a candle in memory of Carolyn Carter*



Brenda D Cayson(Rudd) - September 24, 2025 at 09:23 AM



“ *Duane & Chandra Elliott and family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Ms. Carolyn LaVerne Carter.*



Duane & Chandra Elliott and family - September 22, 2025 at 02:08 PM

NR

“ Aunt Carolyn I will miss you. Thank you for long talks on the phone after mom passed away. Your blessings always made a difference ❤️🙏. Rest in heaven.
Doreen

Natalie Richardson - September 22, 2025 at 11:21 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ms. Carolyn LaVerne Carter.



September 22, 2025 at 08:36 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ms. Carolyn LaVerne Carter.

September 22, 2025 at 08:36 AM

RB

“ Rose Bush purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Ms. Carolyn LaVerne Carter.



Rose Bush - September 19, 2025 at 08:37 PM

CR

“ I met Carolyn in 1980 and she has been like a sister to me for the many years that I have known her. I will miss her terribly!
My Love to All of the family!!!
Love from Celia Roberts

Celia Roberts - September 19, 2025 at 06:01 PM

MS

Mrs. Carter was such a sweet humble person. I enjoyed her visits to the beauty shop and the wonderful time we shared. I had not seen her since I retired but I missed her then and will always be grateful she became a part of my life. Be comforted family God has called one of His Saints home. Love and Prayers for you Family, Marva

Marva Stewart - September 23, 2025 at 02:46 PM