



Kathleen Leno

November 18, 1953 - April 19, 2025

Kathleen Leno, born on November 18, 1953, was the third of nine children in a vibrant and loving family. In 1972, she graduated from Jefferson Moore High School and soon after answered the call to serve her country by enlisting in the United States Army. She served with honor and dedication until her discharge in 1980—a chapter of her life she carried with pride.

Following her military service, Kathleen launched a successful 28-year career at AT&T (formerly Southwestern Bell), where her strong work ethic and friendly spirit left a lasting impression on colleagues and customers alike. Even after retiring in 2011, she remained active, continuing to contribute her time and talents at Ascension Healthcare and Travis County.

Kathleen's faith was the foundation of her life. Rooted in her Christ-centered upbringing, her service at Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church (Rev. A.W. Anthony Mays, Sr. Pastor) was not a passive affiliation but an active embrace of the Women's Ministry, Senior Ministry, and the Culinary Team.

Beyond the church, Kathleen knew how to enjoy life. She was a member of the Red Hat Society, where she proudly served as Queen for the Texas Tea Cakes & Tiaras Chapter. She also enjoyed dancing with the Step in Motion community, where she found joy in rhythm and sisterhood.

Kathleen loved people. She was a devoted mother, a loving sister and aunt, a dependable coworker, and a cherished friend.

She lived with grace, gave with her whole heart, and left an unforgettable mark on all who had the blessing of knowing her.

Kathleen is preceded in death by her mother, Annie Louise Leno; her father, John McGowan; and her brother, Michael Leno Sr. She is survived by her son, Detron Smith, and her daughter, Kimberly Leno, both of Austin, Texas. She also leaves behind four sisters: Patricia Banks of Dallas, Texas; Cynthia (Robert) Bolden of Humble, Texas; Sandra (Gerald Sr.) Harris of Waco, Texas; and Jessie Mae Leno of Waco, Texas. Her three brothers: Donald Ray (Thelma) Leno, Sr., and Charles Leno Sr., both of Waco, Texas, and Robert Landrum of Houston, Texas, will also cherish her memory, along with a host of other relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Oakwood Cemetery

2124 S. 5th Street
Waco, TX 76706

Previous Events

Public Visitation

MAY 3. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Greater Mt. Olive Baptist Church
500 Turner Street
Waco, TX 76704

Celebration Service

MAY 3. 12:00 PM (CT)

Greater Mt. Olive Baptist Church
500 Turner Street
Waco, TX 76704

Tribute Wall



“ Shirley Marsh lit a candle in memory of Kathleen Leno



Shirley Marsh - May 03, 2025 at 06:11 AM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Kathleen Leno.



May 02, 2025 at 12:20 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kathleen Leno.

May 02, 2025 at 12:20 PM



“ Love, Amber & Cole purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Kathleen Leno.



Love, Amber & Cole - May 02, 2025 at 08:53 AM

TW

“ *Thelma Williams lit a candle in memory of Kathleen Leno*



Thelma Williams - May 02, 2025 at 01:18 AM



“ *Kathleen Leno, I will always cherish the times we spent together on our cruise in January 2025. Thank you for being my roommate and I am so glad we enjoyed sharing a lot of memories.*

You will truly miss your beautiful smiling face and the kindness you have always shown.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace 🌹

You are forever in our Hearts and own our minds



Your Sisters in Christ, 💕

Juliette Washington

Katie Black-Agnew

Sheri CaldwellHooks

Karen Jones

Dione Gumbs



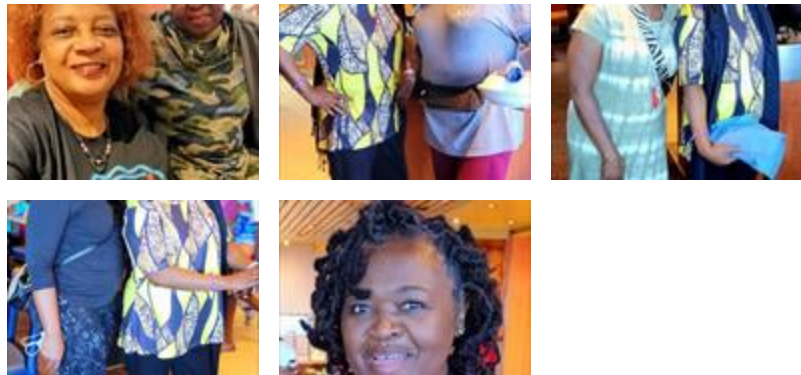
Juliet Washington - May 02, 2025 at 12:39 AM



“ I will always cherish the times we spent together on our cruise in January 2025. I am so glad you were my roommate and we enjoyed sharing precious memories with our friends in the group. We will miss your smiling face and the kindness you have always shown. Sleep in Heavenly Peace 💖 forever in our Hearts and mind.



Your Sisters in Christ
Juliette Washington
Katie Black-Agnew
Sheri CaldwellHooks
Karen Jones



Juliet Washington - May 02, 2025 at 12:19 AM



“ A Full Life was purchased for the family of Kathleen Leno.



May 01, 2025 at 06:41 PM

CC

“ My dearest friend, Sister in Christ, and Red Hat sister, I will miss your smile, laughter, generosity, and enthusiasm to worship God by helping others, and enjoying life. You exhibited the epitome of your title, Queen Lady Liberty. I thank God that I got to know and love you. Rest in peace in God’s arms. Carolyn Lady Sweet Lily

Carolyn Caridine - May 01, 2025 at 10:25 AM

DG

“ Delores Guillory lit a candle in memory of Kathleen Leno



Delores Guillory - May 01, 2025 at 12:02 AM

AF

“ Austin Dance Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Kathleen Leno.



Austin Dance Family - April 30, 2025 at 07:00 PM

RC

“ Renee Clawson purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Kathleen Leno.



Renee Clawson - April 30, 2025 at 11:30 AM

GB

“ *Gloria Bedford lit a candle in memory of Kathleen Leno*



Gloria Bedford - April 29, 2025 at 06:19 PM

MC

“ *Ms Glenda Clack lit a candle in memory of Kathleen Leno*



Ms Glenda Clack - April 29, 2025 at 11:33 AM

YF

“ *I sure miss you sweetie & I still love you!*



Yolanda Frazier - April 29, 2025 at 02:35 AM

NB

“ *Nita Bluford lit a candle in memory of Kathleen Leno*



Nita bluford - April 28, 2025 at 02:20 PM

DD

“ To my sister from another mother. You will truly be missed. I will remember all the good times we had in Waco, in Dallas and coming up to Austin and doing the driving when we went places. Until to meet again.

Diane Drumright - April 27, 2025 at 08:15 PM

JB

“ Jeff B. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathleen Leno.

Jeff B. - April 26, 2025 at 03:02 PM

HT

“ Helen Taylor lit a candle in memory of Kathleen Leno



Helen Taylor - April 25, 2025 at 10:23 PM

KJ

“ Thinking of Kim, as she misses her sweet mom. Fly high Angel Kathleen.



Karey Jo - April 24, 2025 at 02:01 PM

DH

“ *Deborah Hargis lit a candle in memory of Kathleen Leno* ”



Deborah Hargis - April 24, 2025 at 10:50 AM