



## Mrs. Lois E. Holt

April 6, 1916 - April 22, 2017

HOLT, Mrs. Lois E. - Age 101, passed away Saturday, April 22, 2017 at Argentine Care Center in Linden, MI. Family hour 10:30 A.M. Friday, May 5, 2017 at Bethel United Methodist Church, 1309 N. Ballenger Hwy., with funeral service commencing at 11:00 AM, Rev. Faith Green-Timmons, Host Pastor, Rev. Alonzo Vincent officiating. Interment Sunset Hills Cemetery, G-4413 Flushing Rd. Friends and pallbearers will assemble at the church 10:30 AM Friday. Mrs. Holt will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 906 W. Flint Park Blvd. and may be viewed from 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM Thursday. Family Hour from 5:00 PM-7:00 PM with a Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Zeta Beta Omega Chapter Service beginning at 6:00 PM.

Lois Elizabeth Josephine Holt was born on April 6, 1916 in Black Oak, Arkansas to the late Morris Ellis VanZandt and Josephine Blake. With a unique foundation, two sisters married two brothers (Roscoe VanZandt & Cora Blake). She was the second of four children Ruth, Catherine and Janie. When Lois was six her mother died. Years later Morris, her father, married Rebecca Hayes from Ormond Beach, Florida, Janie's mother. Lois attended the Flint Community schools from kindergarten through twelfth grades, graduating from Flint Central High School. Early in her schooling she discovered she had a loss of hearing for which she compensated by lip reading and paying close attention to the speaker. After graduation she attended Wilberforce University in Ohio where she was on the Debate Team, she was a member of the Home

Economics Club, named to the Who's Who in America, she was inducted into the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and was voted "Miss Wilberforce" in 1941. After graduation she returned to Flint and was hired by the Flint Community Schools as a Visiting Teacher, the first African-American to hold a professional position with the school district. Lois continued her education and received her Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Michigan and worked on her Doctorate Degree at Michigan State University.

In 1952, Lois married Edgar B. Holt, the first Flint Branch president of the largest National Association for Advancement of Colored People. After marrying Edgar, Lois also became actively involved in the Civil Rights of local residents of Color in Flint and Africans in Africa. On October 1, 1960, the Holts joined in the joyous celebration as Nigeria became an independent nation. Thereafter, the Holts started an import and export business and other trading companies such as selling cement and rice to Nigerian businessmen. They also assisted African college students, especially at Michigan State University with immigration, financial problems, and employment opportunities in Flint. Lois and Edgar also created the Edgar B. and Lois Van Zandt Holt Scholarship (University of Michigan-Flint) awarded to students who have a 3.0 GPA. Must be African-American or Black for minority students who have leadership skills and demonstrate a commitment to community service, and the promotion of human rights.

Lois enjoyed reading (she loved reciting poetry), traveling, cooking, playing bridge, and shopping. She was known for the way she dressed by wearing lovely pieces of jewelry and the finest clothes.

Lois was a faithful member of Bethel United Methodist Church, where her entire family attended. She was on the League of Women Voters, the International Institute, the Woodside Church, and the NAACP. She was also, a member of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, The Urban League, and

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. In addition, she was a charter member of the Flint Chapter of the National Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs.

Lois was a gracious lady who enjoyed entertaining at her home and she would make sure visitors signed her guestbook before leaving. She was known for her famous homemade rolls and lemon meringue pies. She loved children and was an ardent advocate for fairness and justice for ALL people.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Edgar B. Holt; parents, Morris and Josephine VanZandt; sisters, Ruth VanZandt, Catherine VanZandt and Janie Bell Hayes Adams; uncles, Roscoe and Teddy VanZandt; cousins, Etoya VanZandt Johnson, Claire VanZandt Hurd, Terri Simpson, Mable VanZandt, Joereatha VanZandt Tucker, Hendriss VanZandt Heasley, Robert Tucker, and Bill and Mary Holt; and god-daughters, Connie and Tanya Edwards.

Lois Elizabeth Josephine Holt is survived by: nephew, Morris (Gail Yvonne) Fulford of West Palm Beach, FL; niece, Janice Fulford of Daytona Beach, FL; special cousins, Colleen (Winston Roberts) Jenkins of Canoga Park, CA., Sheretha Tucker of Savannah, GA., Silvester "Keymo" (Lourdes) Knox of Chula Vista, CA, Saunya Knox of Savannah, GA, Sheila Taylor, Gordon and Lyle Taylor, all of Ypsilanti, MI and William Holt of Flint; god-daughters, Fueke Are and Acire McDonald. She was also embraced by the Carter, Holt and Tucker families and had numerous friends at Bethel, the church she loved including Ada Mae Hart, Ginger Edwards, Nina Lewis, Vera Birch, Barbara Wesley, and Rickey Rodriguez and residents at Lockwood.

The family wishes to thank all of the doctors, nurses and caregivers at Argentine Care Center for all of their loving support.



# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

MAY 4. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Chapel, Flint  
906 W. Flint Park Blvd.  
Flint, MI 48505  
(810) 789-MOON (6666)  
lemoonfhflint@gmail.com  
<http://www.lawrenceemoonfuneralhome.com>

## Family hour

MAY 4. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Chapel, Flint  
906 W. Flint Park Blvd.  
Flint, MI 48505  
(810) 789-MOON (6666)  
lemoonfhflint@gmail.com  
<http://www.lawrenceemoonfuneralhome.com>

## Sorority Services

MAY 4. 6:00 PM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Chapel, Flint  
906 W. Flint Park Blvd.  
Flint, MI 48505  
(810) 789-MOON (6666)  
lemoonfhflint@gmail.com  
<http://www.lawrenceemoonfuneralhome.com>

## Family hour

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MAY 5. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethel United Methodist Church  
1309 N. Ballenger Hwy.  
Flint, MI

## Service

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MAY 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethel United Methodist Church  
1309 N. Ballenger Hwy.  
Flint, MI

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt*



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**Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home** - May 03, 2017 at 02:10 PM



“ *Mrs. Lois E. Holt*

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October 09, 2023 at 07:02 AM



“ *Discussing politics back in the day, and recognizing that today has shown little evolution, regarding this government serving the people. Lois knew how to take it over the finish line. I think of Lois' fire, stamina, and love for the American people. The struggle continues and I remember my days with Lois where she showed me how to be in the struggle for equity across our Nation.*

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**MJ Marx** - March 06, 2021 at 12:31 PM



“ *Rosia Thomas Anderson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt*



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**Rosia Thomas Anderson** - May 05, 2017 at 08:56 AM

NW

“ Addie Barnett-Hart, Rogie Barnett-Washington and Norma Barnett-West. Mrs. Holt was a friend to the Barnett family for years. We will remember the times shared with her.



Norma West - May 04, 2017 at 07:37 PM

DM

“ David & Versie Munerlyn lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt



David & Versie Munerlyn - May 04, 2017 at 07:33 PM

GG

“ I met Mrs. Holt in 1980 when I joined the staff of Martin Luther king Jr School in Flint. I got married the following year and I still have the lavender and lace slip she gave me for a bridal shower gift. I treasure her memory and the legacy of excellence in education she left for us all.

Gwendolyn Gaines - May 04, 2017 at 05:40 PM

NB

“ Mrs. Holt a friend to the Barnett family will remember the times shared with her. Addie Barnett-Hart, Rogie Barnett-Washington and Norma Barnett-West



Norma Barnett-West - May 04, 2017 at 05:39 PM

NB

“ *Norma Barnett-West lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt*

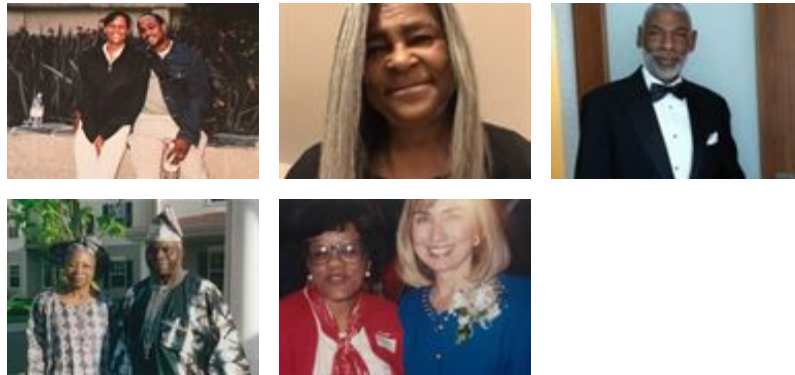


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**Norma Barnett-West** - May 04, 2017 at 05:35 PM

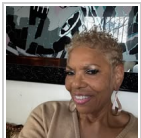


“ *14 files added to the album Life Tributes*



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**Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home** - May 04, 2017 at 09:54 AM



“ *Cassandra Williams Burks lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt*



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**Cassandra Williams Burks** - May 03, 2017 at 04:38 PM



“ 40 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home** - May 03, 2017 at 01:50 PM

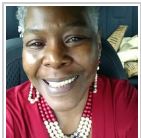
JG

“ *Janice Green lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt*



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**Janice Green** - May 01, 2017 at 09:16 PM



“ *Beryl Gadson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt*



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**Beryl Gadson** - May 01, 2017 at 02:02 PM

SW

“ Shirley Winfrey lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt



shirley winfrey - May 01, 2017 at 02:39 AM

JM

“ Jean Montgomery lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt



Jean Montgomery - April 29, 2017 at 02:16 PM

YT

“ Yvonne Tidwell sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt



Yvonne Tidwell - April 29, 2017 at 02:09 PM

JW

“ Johnnie & Barbara Washington lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt



Johnnie & Barbara Washington - April 29, 2017 at 07:03 AM

GH

“ Gwendolyn Howard lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt



Gwendolyn Howard - April 29, 2017 at 04:23 AM



“ Doris Moore-White lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt



Doris Moore-White - April 29, 2017 at 03:58 AM

LJ

“ I remember her as a young girl as she was a dear family friend. As I grew older It was a blessing to sit at her feet and partake of her wisdom and great meals. Mrs. Holt had a beautiful and loving spirit. Rest well in the arms of our Savior, your work here is finished.

Lolanda R. Johnson, Esq.

Lolanda R. Johnson - April 28, 2017 at 03:20 PM

LN

“ Lara Nkume lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt



Lara nkume - April 28, 2017 at 03:11 PM

DS

“ Dorothy B Sanders lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt



Dorothy B Sanders - April 28, 2017 at 08:26 AM

JC

“ Lois Holt was the epitome of royalty in this community...a beautiful, warm, sweet, intelligent, sensitive African American LADY (in every sense of this title) who helped to pave the way for African American educators in Genesee County. I admire her greatly and will continue to strive to model the values that she shared with me and with the community at large. Rest in Peace.



Judge Tracy Collier-Nix - April 27, 2017 at 10:39 PM

FM

“ Frances Mabry lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt



Frances Mabry - April 27, 2017 at 08:08 AM

ET

“ Heaven has gained another angel. May the angels welcome her to paradise.

Ernelle Taylor - April 27, 2017 at 06:21 AM

MA

“ *Mini Armstrong lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt*



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**Mini Armstrong** - April 26, 2017 at 10:52 PM

LB

“ *Linda Booth lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt*



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**Linda Booth** - April 26, 2017 at 11:32 AM

LD

“ *Lewis Driskell lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt*



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**Lewis Driskell** - April 26, 2017 at 12:19 AM



“ *A Jeffrey LaValley lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt*



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**A Jeffrey LaValley** - April 25, 2017 at 04:22 PM

LC

“ Lydia Coleman lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt



Lydia Coleman - April 25, 2017 at 10:42 AM

WS

Lois Holt opened the door that allowed many to enter. We are eternally grateful.

woodrow stanley - April 28, 2017 at 10:26 AM

JC

Mrs. Holt was truly "one in a million".

Jim Cleaves - April 30, 2017 at 08:14 PM

BW

“ Barbara Wright lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt



Barbara Wright - April 25, 2017 at 09:15 AM

JF

“ Janice Womack & Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt



Janice Womack & Family - April 24, 2017 at 09:21 PM

JM

“ *Jean Montgomery lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt*



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**Jean Montgomery** - April 24, 2017 at 08:32 PM

AW

“ *I had the honor to meet and care for this beautiful lady seven years ago. I will always remember her strength and sweet smile. Rest now sweet Lois, you have made the world a better place.*



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**Aileen Wright** - April 24, 2017 at 05:50 PM

CW

“ *Cathryn Williams-Sanders lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt*



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**Cathryn Williams-Sanders** - April 24, 2017 at 03:47 PM

VW

“ *Heaven has another angel.*



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**VIOLET WARNER-ELDRIDGE** - April 24, 2017 at 03:42 PM

BD

“ *Brenda Dilworth lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt*



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**Brenda Dilworth** - April 24, 2017 at 12:54 PM

FC

“ *My deepest sympathy to your family. God will comfort you during this difficult time. (Romans 15:5)*

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**Farmon&Irma Childress** - April 24, 2017 at 02:55 AM

NJ

“ *What a beautiful woman! She was graceful, compassionate, talented, knowledgeable and filled with wisdom! She spoiled her husband, Edgar and she supported her sister, Ruth. She set a most elegant table, baked the most delicious lemon meringue pies and opened her home to many students from various African countries. She loved raspberries, asparagus and freshly cut flowers. She loved Bethel AME Church and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. She was virtually deaf, had severe arthritis and was bed-ridden. That was then; now she is free of pain, can hear perfectly and is in the safe hands of GOD. Dear friend, rest in Heaven! Love in Christ, Nina M. Jones-Lewis*

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**Nina M. Jones-Lewis** - April 23, 2017 at 05:32 PM



“ *Monica Garfield sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Lois E. Holt*



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**Monica Garfield** - April 23, 2017 at 03:08 PM