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BarbaraJohnsonTucker.org



Piano

# CELEBRATION of Life

# SONGSTRESS Barbara Johnson TUCKER

Sunrise June 28, 1944 † Sunset April 8, 2026

HOMEcomings † Friday, May 1, 2026 at 11AM  
Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church  
3015 N. MacGregor Way, Houston, TX. 77004



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## OFFICIAL OBITUARY

**Barbara Ann Johnson Tucker**, a devoted servant of God, gifted vocalist, and trailblazing gospel artist, peacefully transitioned from this earthly life on April 8, 2026. Born in Conroe, Texas, she was the beloved daughter of Ernest James and Annie Eloise Lawson Johnson of Montgomery, Texas.

From an early age, **Barbara's** life was rooted in faith, family, and music. She began singing as a child alongside her mother and siblings, Joy and Bud, as part of the Johnson Family. Together, they lifted their voices at Jerusalem Baptist Church in Houston and throughout the Gulf Coast region. Many of their songs were written by her mother, planting seeds of ministry that would flourish throughout **Barbara's** life.

**Barbara** was educated in the Houston Independent School District, attending Jack Yates High School and later Texas Southern University, where her musical gifts were refined. She later served as a voice consultant in the University's Fine Arts Department.

She was united in marriage to the late Kermit Ayers Tucker, and from this union was born a son, Robert Christian Tucker, proceeded in death. Her legacy continues through her beloved grandchildren, M.J. Tucker and Chelsea J'Nai Tucker.

**Barbara** dedicated her life to glorifying God through song, inspiring countless listeners as a faithful member of Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church under Pastor C.W. Kimble and continued under Pastor D.Z. Cofield. Later in her life she became an active member of Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church under Pastor Harvey Clemons.

In 1969, she traveled to New York City, earning

distinction as the sole singing role in the Broadway production *The Great White Hope*, starring James Earl Jones. She also performed at Carnegie Recital Hall and appeared in nationally broadcast commercials.

Her career included performances as an anthem soloist for Houston Oilers and Houston Rockets games, appearances on local Christian television, and singing at the state funerals of Congressman Mickey Leland (1989) and Congresswoman Barbara Jordan (1996).

After retiring from Southwestern Bell Telephone Company in 1992, **Barbara** fully embraced her calling in ministry. Her church presented her in her first full-time ministry concert, marking a new chapter devoted to gospel music.

**Barbara** gained international acclaim as the first artist to record "Order My Steps," written by Glenn Edward Burleigh. The song earned recognition at the Texas Gospel Music Awards for Best New Album and Song of the Year.

Her ministry continued to expand, including a 2000 concert at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., sponsored by Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee. She founded and directed her ensemble, "A Chosen Few," performing widely, including for President Bill Clinton, and contributing to works such as the Christmas cantata *Born to Die*.

A founding member of the Houston Post Office Chorale, **Barbara** shared her gift across Texas for 25 years. In 2005, she released *A Glimpse of History*, a tribute to African American musical contributions. Even at age 71, she recorded "All That You Have Done," continuing to testify of God's goodness through song.

**Barbara Johnson Tucker's** life was a testimony of faith, perseverance, and divine purpose. Through every note, she pointed others toward Christ, embodying Psalm 98: "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord."

### Preceded in Death

Her father, Ernest James Johnson; her mother, Annie Eloise "Dear" Lawson Johnson; her sister, Mattie Joyce Clayborn; her adored nephew, Antony Clayborn; and her son, Robert Christian Tucker.

### Cherishing Her Memory

Her grandchildren, M.J. Tucker and Chelsea Tucker; her brother, Ernest "Bud" Johnson; her niece, Tiffany Clayborn McDaniel; her great-nieces and great-nephews, Jaylen, Jaiwan, Jalaiya, and Gabby; her goddaughter, Hedreich Nichols; her son in the ministry, Keith Eason; and a host of other cherished family and dear friends.

She leaves behind a legacy of love, music, and unwavering faith that will resonate for generations. Her family and friends established the **Barbara Johnson Tucker Foundation** in her honor to preserve her voice, advance her mission, and inspire future sacred music artists.

**"Well done, thou good and faithful servant... enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."**

**Matthew 25:23**

# CELEBRATION OF LIFE & LEGACY

*Rev. Ronald Bell*, OFFICIANTING  
GOOD HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

## Processional of Clergy & Family

### Musical Selection

"I Just Want To Praise You"

*Min. Michael Pickett*, DIRECTOR

### Scripture Reading

Old Testament - *Rev. Phillip L. Allen* - WALK OF FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH

New Testament - *Rev. Dr. Lucious Davis* - CHRISTIAN HOME BAPTIST CHURCH

### Prayer Of Comfort

*Rev. Arlan Potts* - PAGEVILLE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

### Musical Selections

"Little Innocent Lamb" (arr. Bartholomew)

*Dr. Jan Taylor*, DIRECTOR

"Lift Up Your Heads" (arr. Ashford)

*Isaac Moshay*, DIRECTOR

### Family Expression

*Min. M.J. Tucker* - EAC GLOBAL

### Musical Selection

Piano Tribute

*Phillip Hall*, PIANIST

### Resolutions / Acknowledgments - MEDIA DESIGNATION

### Words Of Comfort

*Rev. Harvey Clemons* - PLEASANT HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

### Musical Selection

"Faithful Over A Few Things" by G. Burleigh

*W. Keith Eason*, DIRECTOR

### Eulogy

*Bishop Ed Johnson*, CHRIST WORSHIP CENTER

### Musical Selection

"Dear God I Thank You" by Eloise Lawson Johnson

*Dr. Jacqueline Chambers*, PIANIST

### Benediction

*Rev. Ronald Bell*, OFFICIANT

### Recessional

"Order My Steps" by G. Burleigh



## THEIR HERITAGE

I hope to leave a heritage.  
To my dear children **"three"**.  
A heritage of faith and trust,  
And love and loyalty.  
A heritage of faith in God,  
And trust in other souls.  
Of love for all,  
And loyalty to all our country's goals.  
I pray that they will have the strength  
And courage to go on.  
However dark and long the night.  
However dim the dawn.  
This is the only heritage,  
Of which I am concerned.  
That they may grow and profit by  
The lessons I have learned.  
Then if I die in poverty,  
And leave them not a cent.  
I still will feel my time on Earth,  
Was well and richly spent.

*-Eloise Lawson Johnson*

Thank You All and we  
pray your lives be well and  
richly spent



DEAR MOM,  
WE HAD A GREAT  
TRIP IN TENNESSEE!  
SHOW WAS A-OK  
AND SO WAS THE  
SCENERY. WISH YOU  
AND I COULD PLAY  
THIS TOWN 1 DAY!  
SEE YA  
REAL SOON. HAROLD

