



## Paula Diane Rideout Harris

June 6, 1952 - March 6, 2021

Paula Diane Rideout Harris of Harrisburg, PA transitioned to her heavenly home on Saturday, March 6, 2021, at home with her loving daughter by her side. Paula was born June 6, 1952 in Carlisle, PA. She was the daughter of the late Robert Rideout and Catherine Allen Rideout. Paula was predeceased by her parents, her sisters, Carol Kennerly, Carolyn Phillips, and her brother, Kevin Rideout.

Paula is survived by her loving daughter, Rogette Nicole Harris, and Simon (her cat) who she adored; her brother, Marc Rideout of Los Angeles, CA; and sister, Jayne Rideout of Baltimore, MD. She also leaves to cherish her life several nieces and nephews.

Paula was a servant leader in the community. She was past president and youth advisor of the Greater Harrisburg NAACP. She opened the first official office of the Greater Harrisburg NAACP. Paula was also advisor of the Youth and Government Program for the Camp Curtin Branch YMCA. She was a published author, "The First Black President: The Race to the White House." Paula brought to the Harrisburg community the well-known, "Black Achiever's Program," directed by the Camp Curtin YMCA. She was a volunteer at her church, Living Water Community Church, in the Food Pantry. As a strong Civil Rights leader, she wrote several articles for the Patriot-News, most related to Civil Rights in America. Paula also received many awards and citations for her

servant leadership. Paula was a champion for those without a voice. She was devoted to helping those most in need.

Paula retired from Highmark Blue Shield as a Business Analyst with over thirty years of service. After retirement, she started her own company where she was CEO and President of the Andrew Young National Center for Social Change. She was instrumental in bringing Mr. Young to Harrisburg at which time she obtained his permission to use his name for her company.

Paula loved to travel, especially on boats. She was an avid singer and even sang with the renowned Marian Anderson. Paula had a green thumb, and loved gardening, baking, decorating, and writing. Her sense of humor would keep you crying. Her laugh was infectious, and she could make you laugh even when you were unhappy. Her smile would melt butter.

Let us all remember Paula's final words when she ended any speech, "There is only one race, the human race." Paula loved being a mother, and she was a loving and devoted mother. She never missed any of Rogette's events or performances. Her life was Rogette's life. She was proud of her daughter and told all her friends often how blessed she was to have a loving, caring, and selfless daughter like Rogette. Her daughter reflects her mother.

A Memorial Service will be held at 11:00 A.M., Saturday, March 20, 2021, at Living Water Community Church, located at 206 Oakleigh Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17111. Social distancing will be practiced. Please wear a mask if you attend in person. Please note Rogette, Paula's daughter, has been fully vaccinated and would love to see you. Live stream of Paula's service will be available at [www.livingwatercc.com/livestream](http://www.livingwatercc.com/livestream). Rogette expresses her sincere thanks for your prayers, love, and other acts of kindness during this time of sadness. May God richly bless each of you for your gracious love towards her.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CLICK ON THE SHARE A MEMORY TAB TO POST VIDEOS, SHARE MEMORIES, CONDOLENCES, REFLECTIONS OR SIMPLY YOUR NAME.

# Previous Events

## Flower Delivery

MAR 20. 9:00 AM (ET)

Living Water Community Church  
206 Oakleigh Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17111

## Memorial Service

MAR 20. 11:00 AM (ET)

Living Water Community Church  
206 Oakleigh Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17111

# Tribute Wall

PH

“ *Rogette I was saddened to hear of the loss of your mother. She worshipped the ground you walked on. There was nothing she would not do for you, including risking her own freedom. I smiled thinking of the time we spent together even before you were born. Time passed, but Lambert, Jennifer and I enjoyed hearing/reading about all the accomplishments you had, but it was no surprise because your mother was one of the smartest person I knew. I know your pain and it will take time to learn how to deal with all of this. Hopefully you will find the strength you need to get passed this, unfortunately I have not. As always I wish you well and will keep you in my prays. As for Jayne I wish you, my Kimmie and G well. I love you and will always be here for you. Kiss my Kimmie for me.*

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**Pearl Harris** - March 18, 2021 at 10:16 AM

AS

“ *I knew Paula as a very young child. Her twin sisters Carol and Carolyn were my age. Carolyn babysit my children in the Hoverter homes. I am sorry for Billy and the children and by now grand children however, as the Word clearly states , "To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord " . I pray God peace and comfort engulfs the entire.*  
*Peace and Blessings*  
*Alleean Stanton*  
*Durham, NC*

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**Alleean Stanton** - March 13, 2021 at 06:30 PM

SH

“ I remember Ms Paula she was my trainer at Blue shield years ago. She was very kind i would to send condolences to the family. May God give you peace and comfort in your time mourning. Weeping may endure for a night but joy comes in the morning. God Bless

Sheryl - March 13, 2021 at 10:45 AM

BW

I met Paula years ago Park/Penn Building Jonestown Rd, we became good acquaintances, very nice person, so sorry we didn't keep in touch, ever now and then we would run into each it was like we were in touch. One thing was her love/proud of her daughter. Blessings to you Rogetta, my deepest sympathy and prayers. Barbara Walker

Barbara A. Walker - March 13, 2021 at 04:24 PM

SS

Paula scored high on many levels but its time to take your strength to a higher ground and receive your just reward. Until we cross paths again special memories of you will always bring a smile my friend . Shyanne Singletary

Shyanne Singletary - March 18, 2021 at 03:19 PM