



Suellen A. Gardner

September 6, 1956 - October 2, 2025

SuEllen Aurelia Gardner was born on September 6, 1956, in Washington DC, to Mrs. Hazel M.

Gardner and Mr. Garfield Gardner.

She was raised in a Christian home by her mother, alongside her six sisters, Evelyn, Rosalee,

Marilyn (Chuckie), Joyce, Janet, and Jewel. Under the tutelage of Second Baptist Church

Southwest's then minister of music, Mother Hazel M. Gardner, SuEllen's home was often filled

with love, laughter, and melodious tunes of gospel. Guided by the musical talent of their mother,

the sisters formed a singing group, many times singing songs of praise in Second Baptist Church

Southwest, once located at 1201 M Street SW, in Washington DC. SuEllen was baptized at

SBCSW at an early age, under the leadership of the late Reverend Jesse A. Brown, who often

deemed her as his "little princess".

As the little princess grew older, she became an active member of the church, lending her

melodic voice to multiples choirs, including the Youth Crusaders, the Angelic Choir, the United Fellowship Choir, and the Gospel Ensemble. Whether a background vocalist or a featured soloist, her voice echoed like a siren's song. It, much like her personality, was vibrant and pure. And when she sang a song, she told a story. One that she graciously shared with every listening ear.

SuEllen often sang a song – reminiscing on her tenure with the Gospel Ensemble – where the lyrics mimicked the faith she carried with her daily. The lyrics read, “What a Great God I serve. He’s better to me than I deserve. He cares like a mother and sticks closer than a brother. The least that I can do is praise His holy name.” SuEllen loved the Word of God and lived faithfully committed to His holy name.

After graduation, she began her career as a government employee at The U.S. Department of Transportation and later retired from The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Her years of service to the federal government spanned over forty years.

Once retired, SuEllen found solace in the company of family. She was known to many as the life of the party. Her smile and candidness added flare to the mood of any room. She was a vibe all on her own!

While she too, enjoyed the pleasantries of soap operas, shopping, and music, she specifically enjoyed spending quality time with her only son, Garfield Shadaun “Bunky” Gardner. The relationship between mother and son is and ever shall be inseverable.

SuEllen leaves to cherish her memory, her loving son, Garfield; adoring sisters, Evelyn, Rosalee, Marilyn (Chuckie), Joyce, Janet, and Jewel; and a host of nieces and nephews – Angie, Kim, Rene, Paul, Gwen, Paulette, Trish, Schaun, Vicky, Austin, Layton, Gayle, Donnie, Bun Bun, Michael, Eric, Mickey (may he rest in peace), Earl, Rob, Victor, Shayla, Kaya, Braxton, Kenon, Sincere, Davon, Davianna, and Tyla.

Cemetery Details

Lincoln Memorial Cemetey

4001 Suitland Road
Suitland, MD 20746

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **23**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Second Baptist Church SW
5501 Silver Hill Rd.
District Heights, MD 20747

Funeral Service

OCT **23**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Second Baptist Church SW
5501 Silver Hill Rd.
District Heights, MD 20747

Tribute Wall

WR

“ *With Love, Your Cuz'n Retta purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Suellen A. Gardner.*



With Love, Your Cuz'n Retta - October 13, 2025 at 12:19 AM

TA

“ *TaVonna purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Suellen A. Gardner.*



TaVonna - October 09, 2025 at 06:51 PM

CS

“ *Calvin Jenkins Sr. lit a candle in memory of Suellen Gardner*



Calvin Jenkins Sr. - October 09, 2025 at 01:28 AM

BB

“ *When I think of SuEllen, I think of "The voice", the smile and the laugh! I appreciated the fact that she entrusted her son to go on excursions with me when he was a little thing! I will always remember SuEllen*♥♥



Barbara Bundy - October 08, 2025 at 05:24 PM

CS

“ Calvin Jenkins Sr. lit a candle in memory of Suellen Gardner



Calvin Jenkins Sr. - October 08, 2025 at 04:45 PM

JB

“ Most of my funniest and memorable times were spent with you. You and I, against the world sis! You will always be truly missed. Your sister Jewel.

Jewel Bruce - October 07, 2025 at 04:33 PM

AB

“ My beautiful auntie, I'm going to miss you, especially our long conversation about any and everything! MISS YOU FOREVER ❤️ you're niece Angela

Angela Bruce - October 07, 2025 at 04:18 PM



“ We the March Family and Marshall-March Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

Marshall-March Funeral Homes - October 06, 2025 at 11:31 AM

PA

Aunt SuEllen,

*Dear GOD ALMIGHTY CREATOR of all, To you be the glory. I pray for every lasting watch over family and friends. Aunt SuEllen, I keep hearing your laughter and seeing your beautiful face and remembering the way you pronounced your words. Thank you for the encouraging words you gave me every time we saw. It was like the opening benedictions. I'm very sorry for your leaving so soon, too soon. There is wisdom, comfort and blessings in Psalms 91 and 23. May the GOD keep us safe under the wings in the most high place where we have refuge for many generations. Love your niece, Patricia *Trish*

patricia - October 13, 2025 at 09:26 AM