



## Bernice Cecilia (Carter) Mbadugha

November 18, 1946 - June 23, 2019

Bernice Cecilia (Carter) Mbadugha was born on November 18, 1946 to Eliza Jane Carter (nee Powell) and Joseph Lorenzo Carter. She passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her family, on June 23, 2019.

Bernice was born and raised in New Brunswick and enjoyed a childhood on John Street. She began her undergraduate studies at Rutgers University and completed her Bachelor's degree in Comparative Culture at the University of California, Irvine. Bernice loved to travel and lived in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and Anambra State, Nigeria with her family. She worked as a journalist at The Daily Star in Nigeria and, upon her return to New Jersey in 1985, was a copywriter at WCTC news radio. When faced with a career change, she embarked upon a successful tenure at Merrill Lynch Financial Services, rising to the rank of VP of Special Investment Services. Before retirement, she had the opportunity to achieve her childhood aspiration to teach, becoming a dedicated math and english teacher in middle and high schools.

A prolific and talented writer, Bernice earned her Master's of Arts in English from Middlebury

Breadloaf School of English in 2013. Her work has been featured in numerous poetry anthologies and publications.

She was predeceased by her mother Eliza Jane Carter; father Joseph Lorenzo Carter; brothers Joseph and Vincent Carter, and former husband Robert O. Mbadugha.

Bernice is survived by her admired big brother Wilton Powell (Lillian); loving daughters Bessie N. A. Mbadugha (Jason Keiper) and Nkechi E. Mbadugha (Alvin Lyte); doting sons Madueke O. C. Mbadugha and Ositadinma L. Mbadugha; adored grandchildren Jalen Washington, Kees Keiper, Karina Keiper, and Miles Lyte; cherished cousins, nephews and nieces; devoted friend and neighbor Barbara Newman (Bernie); many treasured friends including her lifelong best friend Diane Simpkins (Cuthbert), and her beloved dog Billie.

Viewing will be held at Anderson Funeral home in New Brunswick, NJ on Saturday July 6, 2019, from 1 to 3 pm. A celebration of Bernice's life will begin at 3 pm.

Repast - Greenhouse Loft 431 Raritan Ave., 2nd Floor, Highland Park, NJ

Memorial contributions may be made to Middlebury Breadloaf School of English at  
[go.middlebury.edu/give](http://go.middlebury.edu/give)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 6. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Anderson Funeral Service  
201 Sandford St.  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901  
(732) 545-7312  
<https://www.andersonfuneralservice.net>

## Service

JUL 6. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Anderson Funeral Service  
201 Sandford St.  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901  
(732) 545-7312  
<https://www.andersonfuneralservice.net>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Bernice Cecilia (Carter) Mbadugha*

September 22, 2022 at 02:41 PM



“ *Bernice was a fellow poet that I have always respected. She was kind, sweet, and intelligent with mounds of talent. Though I haven't seen her in a few years, I will never forget her. May she Rest In Peace.*

**Barbara Barnes-Bey** - July 10, 2019 at 11:41 PM



“ *Barbara Barnes-Bey lit a candle in memory of Bernice Cecilia (Carter) Mbadugha*



**Barbara Barnes-Bey** - July 10, 2019 at 11:37 PM



“ *Amani lit a candle in memory of Bernice Cecilia (Carter) Mbadugha*



**Amani** - July 08, 2019 at 08:04 AM

TJ

“ *Tanisha Jacob lit a candle in memory of Bernice Cecilia (Carter) Mbadugha*



Tanisha Jacob - July 06, 2019 at 11:48 PM

MB

“ *M G Boone lit a candle in memory of Bernice Cecilia (Carter) Mbadugha*



M G Boone - July 06, 2019 at 11:11 AM

MB

“ *Bernice "Bunny" was a special good soul. She will be missed & remembered with much love. Marilyn & Glen* 🌸💖🙏



M G Boone - July 06, 2019 at 11:10 AM

LP

“ *LILLIAN Powell lit a candle in memory of Bernice Cecilia (Carter) Mbadugha*



LILLIAN Powell - July 05, 2019 at 09:16 PM

DD

“ *Dr. & Mrs. Simpkins (Tuffy and Diane) purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Bernice Cecilia (Carter) Mbadugha.*



---

**Dr. & Mrs. Simpkins (Tuffy and Diane)** - July 04, 2019 at 05:02 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Bernice Cecilia (Carter) Mbadugha.*



---

July 03, 2019 at 02:13 PM

MS

“ *Much love, Pearsons (Andrew, Kirsten, E, M, L, S) purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Bernice Cecilia (Carter) Mbadugha.*



---

**Much love, Pearsons (Andrew, Kirsten, E, M, L, S)** - July 02, 2019 at 10:07 PM

LA

“ *I will remember Bernice for her calm, concentrated focus in the writers' group. I pray that survivors will feel comfort and peace as you journey through grief. LaVerne E. Austin*

---

**LaVerne Austin** - July 02, 2019 at 02:55 PM

SE

“ *Syngenta Product Technology & Engineering purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Bernice Cecilia (Carter) Mbadugha.*



---

**Syngenta Product Technology & Engineering** - July 02, 2019  
at 09:04 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Bernice Cecilia (Carter) Mbadugha.*



---

July 01, 2019 at 09:28 PM



“ *Praying for your family during this difficult time of loss. Bessie, I know that you have so many loving memories of your mother; take peace in celebrating those memories as you all heal from her departure. Much love to you all!*

---

**Pamela Torain** - July 01, 2019 at 07:29 AM

RR

“ *Thank you Bessie, for giving us all a tiny chance to meet her, when you brought her to book club in Hillsborough. I am so sorry for your loss. May her memory always be a blessing to you.*

---

**Rachel Royce** - June 30, 2019 at 01:35 AM

TJ

“ *Bernice was a cool, down to earth lady. She was a fellow Scorpio. I'm in shock and still saddened by the news of her passing. I'm glad to have met her. May she rest in peace as she lived her life in peace.*

---

**Tanisha Jacob** - June 29, 2019 at 03:56 PM