



Katie Giardina

January 22, 1945 - February 18, 2023

Katie Giardina was born in Birmingham, AL on January 22, 1945, to Jessie Hale. Her father, Jimmie Hale, had passed away several months prior to her birth. A few years later her mother remarried and had another daughter, Ann.

Katie and her sister Ann grew up going with their mother to the Jimmie Hale Mission.

Throughout their childhood, Katie and Ann participated in the work of the mission which included preaching the gospel, helping feed and provide shelter to the homeless.

Katie graduated from Phillips High School and was soon married. Over the next several years she had four children. She became a single mom when her marriage did not work out.

Katie and her mother, Jessie Hale Downs, purchased a home in Woodlawn in the fall of 1970.

Katie lived in that same home until she needed residential nursing care at the end of 2021. In

1974, Katie married Phillip Giardina who was the love of her life.

Katie made sure her children knew Jesus and were in church every time the doors were open.

Her home was the center of life for the neighborhood children. Katie treated everyone as family.

She always made sure everyone had something to eat and wear if they needed it.

Katie was a remarkable woman. She did whatever it took to care for her children. She was a

hard worker her entire life and she taught her children how to be hard workers too. In the early

1970s she became the first woman automotive manager of a K-Mart. She later left that job to

work with her mother at the Jimmie Hale Mission to manage their thrift store. When Jessie Hale

Downs retired in 1990, Katie left her position at the mission as well.

Katie started selling used uniforms at the Bessemer flea market. This was more than a job, this

was her ministry. She prayed for her customers and would often give them clothes for free if

they could not afford them. As people purchased clothes she would tell them that Jesus loved

them and she would offer to pray for them. She also made sure to pray for all of her fellow

vendors. She worked at the flea market until 2018 when she became physically unable to

continue.

Katie was preceded in death by her parents, Jimmie Hale and Jessie Hale Downs, her sister

Ann Wilson and her husband Phillip Giardina. She is survived by her sons Bubba (Melany)

Justice, Scott (Tonya) Justice, daughters Rhonda (Craig) Hunt, Sherry (Eddie) Martin,

grandchildren Jessilyn (Heath) Lancaster, Sally (Josh) Forakis, Austin

(Maddie) Hudson, Matt

(Lexi) Hudson, Amber (Austin) Jenkins, Connor (Catherine) Justice, Corey

(Aimee) Justice,

Kelsie Justice, Zac (Ariel) Martin, and Andrew Martin, and 10 great grandchildren.

Cemetery Details

Oak Hill Cemetery

Moundville, AL 35474

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 23. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Deerfoot Memorial Funeral Home
5360 Deerfoot Parkway
Trussville, AL 35173

Funeral Service

FEB 23. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Deerfoot Memorial Funeral Home
5360 Deerfoot Parkway
Mailing Address PO Box 118
Trussville, AL 35173
(205) 655-3444
<https://www.deerfootmemorialfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall

JP

“ I was so blessed to know Katie, Ann and their mother, Jessie when I was a student at Howard College, now Samford University. I spent time in their apartment too with them. There was so much love and laughter and faith. Their lives forever changed mine for the better. The hearts of Katie, Ann and Jessie were so kind and all had servant hearts. Katie was so loving towards her Mother. I know all of you miss them terribly. I do also. I look forward to seeing them again as we will some day. May you all be comforted. Jenny Pair who used to come to the Mission with students from the college...especially Pat Corr Taylor from Moundville.

Jenny Pair - August 02, 2023 at 08:38 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Katie Giardina.



February 22, 2023 at 05:37 PM

BM

“ Birmingham Bravo & Timberline Mgmt purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Katie Giardina.



Birmingham Bravo & Timberline Mgmt - February 22, 2023 at 01:54 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Katie Giardina.*



February 21, 2023 at 04:37 PM



“ *Darlene Giardina purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Katie Giardina.*



Darlene Giardina - February 21, 2023 at 01:29 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Katie Giardina.*



February 21, 2023 at 10:05 AM



“ *Your ASG Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Katie Giardina.*



Your ASG Family - February 20, 2023 at 04:52 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Katie Giardina.



February 20, 2023 at 04:44 PM