



Harriett Porter Baker (SOUTHEAST)

November 10, 1926 - November 29, 2025

Harriett Porter Baker passed away November 29, 2025 at the age of 99 years old.

The daughter of the late Robert and Sadie Porter, Harriett graduated from Central High School. She received a BS in Elementary Education from Central State University and a master's degree in Elementary Education and Administration from the University of Louisville.

Harriett retired from Jefferson County Public Schools system after thirty years. She served in many positions as a teacher, resource teacher, teacher core team leader, assistant principal, and principal. After one year of retirement, Harriett returned to the Board of Education to work in the Classified Personnel Department.

At the age of five Harriett was enrolled in the Jewel K. McNari dance school. Using her love and talent of dance, she was the co-founder of Willis-Baker school of dance for twelve years.

Harriett enjoyed life to the fullest. She was a member of a social club, The Meritoriettes, for 50 fun years. As a tour guide, she traveled to the most interesting places all over the world with friends and family.

In her later years Harriett lived at Brownsboro Park Senior Community where she experienced excellent care, good food and a loving extended family.

Harriett was a member of Quinn Chapel AME Church for over ninety years, but in later years joined St. Stephen A.M.E. Church, Hanover Indiana, Rev. A. D. Reed Pastor.

Predeceased in death by her great parents, Robert and Sadie Porter, beloved husband, Robert Baker and loving sister, Jeanette Beckham.

Harriett is survived by her brother, Robert J. Porter, Jr. (Beverly); niece, Renita Bartley (Desdale); nephews, John Beckham, Jr. (Anna), Clifford Beckham and Robert J. Porter III (Jeanine), and seven great nephews; Mark Beckham, Tony Beckham, Darryl Beckham, Darren Beckham, Brandyn Porter, Julian Porter and Lennox Bartley; God daughter, Joann Wilson and God children, Niki and Norman Wilson.

Special thanks to Dr. Rajesh Ko Sheth for over thirty years of excellent care and compassion.

Visitation will be held December 8, 2025 10:00 am - 12:00 pm at A. D. Porter & Sons Southeast, 4501 Bardstown Road, Louisville, KY 40218.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to your local food bank.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

1600 Newburg Rd
Louisville, KY 40204

Previous Events

Visitation Only

DEC 8. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

A. D. Porter and Sons Funeral Home - Southeast
4501 Bardstown Road
Louisville, KY 40218
(502) 491-7885
a.d.portersoutheast@gmail.com
<https://adporters.com/>

Tribute Wall

AJ

“ *My deepest sympathy and love to Bobby, Beverly and the family . Harriett was a Blessing to me. I loved being her neighbor and friend.*



Agnes McDaniel Jouseal - December 09, 2025 at 10:54 AM

RB

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Renita Bartley - December 09, 2025 at 09:17 AM

RB

“ *3 files added to the tribute wall*



Renita Bartley - December 09, 2025 at 09:13 AM

AS

“ I was fortunate enough to have Ms. Baker as my principal while attending Stephen Foster Elementary in the mid 60's - early 70s. I remember her as a dynamo dressed to the nines, always reminding us she had the highest of expectations for her students. Ms. Baker leaves a long-standing, historical legacy for which her family can be proud. May God continue to keep you in his care.

Alicia Smiley - December 08, 2025 at 02:12 PM

KD

“ Harriett Baker was my first principal when I began teaching at Cotter/DuValle School in 1969. It was also her first year as an administrator, and it was a very challenging year for us both, to say the least. Harriett was a strong person, however, and couldn't have been more supportive of this novice teacher. It is not too much to say that I owe my 56-year teaching career to Harriett Baker. God Bless her.

Ken Dennis - December 07, 2025 at 02:45 PM

GJ

“ Mrs. Baker, was a beautiful soul, who taught me how to speak properly, memorize my parts in plays and just to be a Godly woman in church and in God's eyes
. Mrs. Baker I will truly miss you. I love you.

Gwendolyn M Jackson - December 06, 2025 at 10:53 AM

ET

“ Oh my. My amazing, beautiful Kindergarten teacher has crossed that threshold. I will miss her and our long telephone chats. She helped lay a foundation for me that has carried me to this very day. Thanks, Mama Baker, for your love and wisdom. You will always be missed.

Your student,
Emma J. McElvaney Talbott

Emma Talbott - December 05, 2025 at 11:22 AM

JS

Deepest sympathy goes out to the Porter family. God will take care of everyone.

Joyce Stewart - December 06, 2025 at 07:57 PM

DL

To the family of my beloved Kindergarten teacher Harriet Porter Baker at Phyllis Wheatley Elementary school on St Catherine with thattv2 main building and those portables. You taught and laid the foundation for many California children. Thank you for your excellent teaching skills. Rest well until that day of resurrection. Lean on and into the everlasting arms of Jesus
Matthew 5:4 to the family.

Dorothy J. Russell Letcher - December 08, 2025 at 03:54 PM

RB

Thank you Mrs. Stewart

Renita Bartley - December 09, 2025 at 08:48 AM

ML

“ My Condolences and Prayers for
The Baker, Porter Families and Friends

Marva L. Valentine - December 04, 2025 at 12:04 PM

RB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Renita Bartley - December 03, 2025 at 09:27 PM

ED

She was one of my best friends for 50 plus years, and her brother, Bobby was the best man in my 1966 wedding. And I can call him a best friend also. I often visited she and Robert Baker on many occasions for jovial conversations about anything and everything. These visits continued after Robert's death. She was always friendly and down to earth. She had many strong suits, and what stuck out for me was her charitable giving and thinking about others, especially her parents, when she had a room built for them on the first floor of their home as they aged to keep from going up many second floor steps. Always a best stylish dresser was an attribute you could'nt help but notice. There was always a beer in her fridge with my name on it when I would visit. Now there is no one else to visit as I will miss her dearly. Bobby, her brother, was a dedicated caretaker who lives in Ohio as if he lived in Louisville. They talked every week, and he was here at the drop of a hat if something was wrong. Now that's love. All the loving things one can say about her and family goes back to well grounded parental home training, something many kids need today but missing in their lives. I'll miss that beer with my name on it. God bless the family during their time of bereavement. Eugene Donan.

eugene donan - December 07, 2025 at 11:07 PM

CW

Oh, my precious Kindergarten teacher at Phyllis Wheatley Elementary. I will miss her so much. She was once my teacher, my dance teacher, and later became my best friend throughout my entire adult life. Some of the conversations, belly laughs and girlfriend chats we shared with carry me on until I see her once again. When I didn't receive my annual Christmas card and then mine was returned "Does Not Live Here", I knew she had left me and was with Robert and resting in the arms of Jesus. Rest well my beautiful angel friend. I'll keep telling the story of how you touched and poured into so many young lives with heart felt loving, caring, compassion.

Carolyn Tucker Runyon Walters - January 26 at 10:49 AM