



## Mary Vernita Larry-Gartley

August 26, 1957 - July 9, 2024

Mary Vernita Larry-Gartley, "Auntie Mary", "Vernita", was born on August 26th, 1957, to Elnora Logan Hunter and Robert Gartley. Mary spent her earliest years in Chicago, Illinois, then moved with her family to Compton, California in 1969. She later moved to Los Angeles, California, then Virginia, before finally settling in Augusta, Georgia. Skilled in construction, Mary loved to build things. She worked at McDonald Douglas (currently Boeing) and General Motors from 1987-1999. She united in marriage with James "Jimmy" Larry. Their union brought the beautiful Vernita Lashae Larry, who preceded her in death. She divorced and later briefly remarried Godfrey Okeagu. She spent her final years with her special friend, Oscar Whipple.

Civically, she was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star (Ruth & Martha) and provided service to help the elderly in the communities she lived and worked in. Raised Baptist, she was an avid learner. Vernita became a pursuer of knowledge and devoted the remainder of her life to the service of her family's ancient ancestral traditions. She became a member of the religious organization that her elder sister, Chief Hounon Amengansie Mama Sagbé, founded and built with Chief Hounon Amengansie Mama Zodédé, The Mami Wata Healers Society Temple of Mawu. Through this globally, highly esteemed spiritual organization, she followed her ancestral traditions to the best of her capabilities.

She loved to travel (Egypt, Israel, West Africa) and celebrate the exquisite joys of life with her friends. She is preceded in death by her dear

mother, Elnora Logan Hunter, her father Robert Gartley Sr., her elder brothers Robert Gartley Jr., & Earl "Metro" Gartley, beloved daughter Vernita Lashae Larry and her sister Chief Hounon Amengansie Mama Sagbé (Vivian Hunter-Hindrew). Mary leaves to cherish her memory her younger brother Patrice Gartley and sister Connie White, Her nephews, Jarrett Hindrew, Larry Adams, Carlos Adams, Metro Gartley Jr., Darryl Gartley and Chief Bonsofo Daniel N'Sougan. Her nieces, Patricia Ann Gartley, Amber Gartley, Jasmine Gartley. Her cousins, Nikita & Emonie. Her cousin and caretaker, Chief Hounon Amengansie Mama Zodédé (Afiwa Negue). Her grandniece Leeandra Gartley and a host of other grandnieces, grandnephews, and cousins. Her best friends who stuck with her until the very end, Gina and Katherine. Lastly, she leaves her legacy to forever be remembered and chronicled by the members of The Mami Wata Healers Society Temple of Mawu as Mamissii Ahouassinami Tonevo, Warrior. Mother. Auntie Mary.

Chance and Hydrick Funeral Directors, 2502 Richmond Hill Rd., Augusta, Ga 30906.

[www.chanceandhydrick.com](http://www.chanceandhydrick.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Hillcrest Memorial Park

2700 Deans Bridge Rd.  
Augusta, GA 30906

# Previous Events

## Funeral

JUL 26. 11:00 AM (ET)

Chapel of Chance and Hydrick Funeral Directors  
2520 Richmond Hill Road  
Augusta, GA 30906  
[info@chanceandhydrick.com](mailto:info@chanceandhydrick.com)

# Tribute Wall

RS

“ I want to offer my heartfelt condolences to Abosa and the entire family for the loss of Auntie. Her presence will be greatly missed. I had the privilege of knowing her for over two decades, and she was a source of inspiration and guidance to me. As one of Mama Zogbe's many godchildren, I witnessed Auntie's unwavering support for her. Auntie and I had a unique bond, and her warm smile had the power to light up any room. While her absence leaves a void, I find solace in her comforting words: "When you hear of my passing, don't worry about me; rejoice and know I'm a soldier going home."  
Sincerely,  
Mama Bie (Ruby Stockdale)

---

**Ruby Stockdale** - July 25, 2024 at 03:26 PM