



Beverly Anne Gentry

DEC 26, 1945 - JAN 16, 2026



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COMPLETE FUNERAL SERVICES

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Beverly Anne Gentry, 80, of Decatur, Illinois, passed away January 16, 2026, at Fair Havens Nursing Home.

Beverly was born to parents John K. Wallett and Louella M. (Eagleton) Wallett. She was the youngest of four children. Her siblings were Kenneth D. Benskin (deceased), Jerry E. Benskin, and Barbara J. (Shelley) Massey-Viseur. Tragically, her mother passed 3 months after giving birth.

Beverly was adopted by Ted R. Shelley and LaRue E. (Eagleton) Shelley. They had 5 children: Ted W. Shelley (deceased), Billy Roy Shelley (deceased), Nancy (Shelley) Khoury (deceased), Lynn R. Shelley, and Michael L. Shelley (deceased). Beverly's father had 2 more children: Nel (Wallett) Penney and Lori (Wallett) DeFazio. At a young age, she gave birth to Faith Marie Shelley. She was forced to give her up for adoption due to family turmoil. She never gave up searching for her.

Beverly later married John E. Hines and gave birth to Shalako Hines. She later had LeRico Hines with Clarence Banks. She later gave birth to Tinoai Cotton.

Beverly moved to St. Louis, Missouri, in 1977 and started working at National Vendors. She later married James Gentry and helped raise Virginia Gentry and James Gentry Jr.

Beverly is survived by her siblings Jerry, Barbara, Lynn, Nel, and Lori; children Shalako Hines, LeRico Hines & daughter-in-law Leslie C. Hines, and Tinoai (Hines) Cotton; grandchildren Beonika Cotton, Brittani Cotton, Michael Hines, Kristian Hines, Tameka Cotton, Devante' Ambrose, Shatria Hines, Nandia Doll-Hines, Shyla Hines, Lyric Hines, Ky'rah Hines, Gabryelle (Ahsaan) Wilson-Spence, Shariah Hines, and Journey Mershon; and 19 great-grandchildren.

The family wants to acknowledge and give special thanks to the Petersons, the Rushings, the Bannings, and the Scotts for being life-long friends.

Beverly was a great motivator, comforter, provider, and follower of Christ. She loved



Obituary

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the Lord. She enjoyed life and loved to eat. She loved to smile and to see others smile. We love you, Momma!!

Services for Beverly will be held on Friday, January 30, at Graceland Fairlawn Funeral Home. Visitation will begin at 2pm and will be followed by a service at 3pm. Condolences may be shared with the family at <https://www.gracelandfairlawn.com>.



Events


Beverly Anne Gentry

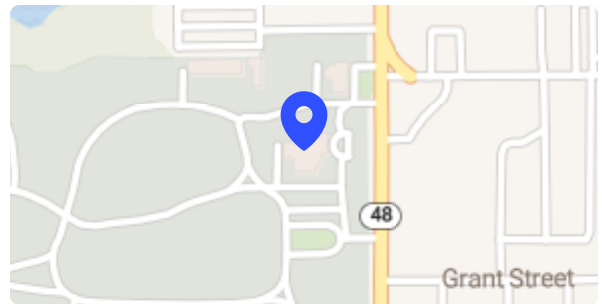
DEC 26, 1945 - JAN 16, 2026

Visitation

 **Friday**, January 30, 2026


 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM CT


 **Graceland Fairlawn Funeral Home**
2091 N. Oakland Avenue, Decatur IL 62526

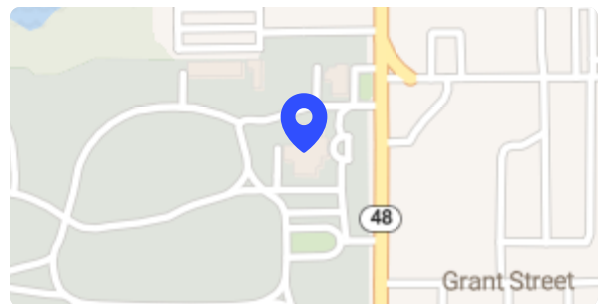


Funeral Service


 **Friday**, January 30, 2026


 3:00 PM CT

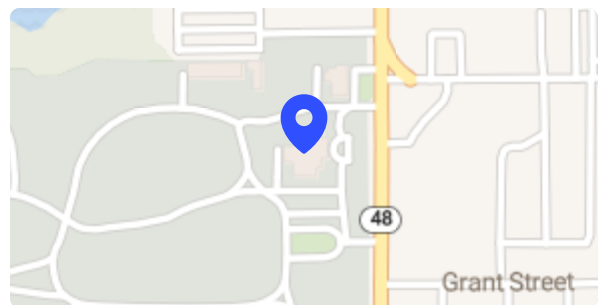
 **Graceland Fairlawn Funeral Home**
2091 N. Oakland Avenue, Decatur IL 62526



Cemetery Details

 **Graceland Cemetery**
2091 N. Oakland Avenue, Decatur IL 62526

 **(217) 615-0724**





Tribute Wall

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Tinoai Cotton lit a candle in honor of Beverly.

Rest in Heaven Momma. I miss you dearly. You will forever hold a big part of my heart. The days seem strange, and I'm struggling to comprehend this. I'm grateful for you loving me and teaching me and having you as my mother. You molded me into the woman I am today and I'm forever grateful. I love you mommy, rest in paradise. Love Your Daughter Tinoai

February 1 at 11:59 PM



Yvette Woods lit a candle in honor of Beverly.

Sending Condolences to the Family, she Truly going to be Missed. She was Crazy about her some Kia... Love you Bev from The Woods, Adams, Banks and Lee Family

January 22 at 7:12 PM



Mary Sue Phillips posted:

I will miss her very much, she was sweet and once you got to know her she would rename you she call me Gurtrude. But she always treated me like I was part of her family as well as my own children. She will be truly missed. Love you granny.

January 22 at 2:17 PM



Tinoai Cotton posted:

I remember was I gave birth to my first daughter Beonika, we came home from the hospital and my daughter was sleep, so I played down to take a nap. I woke up several hours later and my baby wasn't in the bed with me anymore so I started looking for her. I found my baby in the kitchen with my mom, who was sitting at the table drinking coffee and spooning coffee to my newborn baby. My mom loved her coffee and she gave all the grandbabies coffee too.

January 21 at 8:47 PM



Carla Currie King lit a candle in honor of Beverly.

Carla Currie King lit a candle in memory of Beverly Gentry

January 21 at 8:42 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Beverly by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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