



## Pearl J. Beckham

February 26, 1919 - February 11, 2020

Pearl J. Beckham was born February 26, 1919 in Yuma, Arizona. She passed away February 11, 2020 just 15 days shy of her 101st birthday.

Her family now deceased included parents Frank & Bessie Johnston; brothers Walter, George, Donald, Ben, Claude, Clyde; beloved sisters Elizabeth and Patsy.

Survived by brother Alvin Johnston in Alaska.

Pearl was married to Jefferson Beckham from 1936 until his death in 1976.

Her children include daughters: Bettye Fue, Pamela Barker

Sons: John T. and Jerold Beckham. Son Jeffrey is deceased.

Four granddaughters, two grandsons, two great-grandsons, one great-granddaughter, and one great-great grandson.

Pearl never met a stranger. She belonged to many groups including Mother's Club, Sewing Club, Theta Chapter of Phi Epsilon Phi sorority, Eastern Star, and Calvary Baptist Church since 1949. In early 1960's she became a Licensed Vocational Nurse through Santa Barbara City College, pursuing this career until her late 80's.

Pearl will be laid to rest on Tuesday, February 18 at the Santa Barbara Cemetery at 11:00 AM.



# Cemetery Details

## **Santa Barbara Cemetery**

901 Channel Drive  
Santa Barbara, CA 93108

# Previous Events

## **Graveside Service**

FEB 18. 11:00 AM (PT)

Santa Barbara Cemetery  
901 Channel Drive  
Santa Barbara, CA 93108  
(805) 969-3231

# Tribute Wall



“ My Nana...

*Where do I begin? She would embrace me as she give me little kisses and then say "BecBecBec."*

*She made chow chow, Hoppin Johns and corn beef Willie, chili beans and funeral sandwiches.*

*She taught me how to make a pie crust, and I remember she would let me roll out some dough for sugar and cinnamon. She made the best stew and dumplings but this kid would hide the carrots in her house plants that she had by the dinner table. I have pondered if she ever knew why those plants were so healthy.*

*I remember when I was moving across the United States...she gave me her Mobile gas card to make sure I made it safely. She had hardly any income, of course that thought did not occur to me at the time.*

*At Christmas she would make peanut butter balls dipped in chocolate. She'd have to hide them from my Uncle Jerry and I. She loved to make little Christmas ornaments out of walnuts and then cover them with gold spray paint.*

*When it came time for my first born to have rice cereal in a bottle she said "BecBec you put a hold in that nipple big enough a doggie could run through it"*

*She worked faithfully taking care of her patients as an LVN and eventually I believe some of her patients were younger than her. I imagine that if we got to pick any item to have in heaven from earth she would have probably picked a washing machine, no dryer because she would hang everything she washed on the clothes line in the back yard.*

*She welcomed everyone equally and her coffee may have been what inspired Starbucks into business.*

*I have memories of her sitting at the sewing machine making the little sponges and aprons to match, a very endearing wedding present that was a norm.*

*I always felt like I was her favorite, although I'm sure that's how she made everyone feel.*

*I remember sneaking in her room to use her "pinky shears" poor*

*NaNa had to hide them.*

*I remember she would drive us up to Santa Maria to visit "Uncle Benny".*

*She loved Roses, Gardenias, and Avon. She didn't talk too much about how to live a Christian Life, she did it. She generously shared her home and mailbox to whom ever needed it. She knew no stranger.*

*The last time I spent with my Nana, we sang "Jesus Loves Me" she knew every word. That was in 2017.*

*Blessed Assurance, we will see each other again. I love you.*

---

**Rebecca Barker Lavelle** - February 18, 2020 at 12:28 AM



“*Aunt Pearl over the years we lost contact but I remember when I was a little girl and I used to go to your house in summer time will we set at the table eating toast and jelly for breakfast and eggs you made us for breakfast, but I remember, you are the one that bought my first bra I remember when I was 11 and I was at your house and you asked me were my bra was, I told you my mom said I had to wait until I was 13 because thats how old she was before she gat her first bra, you jump all over my mom's case for it and then took me shopping and gat me my first bra,  
I remember Uncle Jeff cut my first three oldest boys hairs for the first time and my fourth son I named after him, Aunt Pearl i love you so much, and Uncle Jeff and my Mom tell them i said I said hi you always was liike a mom to my mom and you'll always be in my heart I love you so much I enjoy the time that we had together love you.  
Miss you so much I wish I would have been closer so I could of visited you more love you RIP Aunt Pearl*”

---

**Cathy Smith** - February 16, 2020 at 02:22 PM

JB

“ As a young boy I remember Aunt Peal cooking eggs. Every time I would visit she would ask me how do I want my eggs. She taught me the term SUNNY SIDE UP. And I always would order sunny side up. She always made me feel very special. And how she loved that cast iron skillet. I think it's still on a stove somewhere. I also remember Uncle Jeff. He would take me to the barber shop, set me up on the booster seat that made me as tall as him. He cut my hair and talked to me as if I was a man. Once he took me to a shoe store and bought me my first pair of hard soled shoes. I really felt important, walking and listening to my foot steps. Aunt Pearl loved to sit around the kitchen table and talk. She spoke of her church and her friends at church. One time I showed up with my guitar and played old hymns, she sang along and raised her hands to heaven with tears running down her cheeks. I always knew she was filled with Gods holy spirit. Aunt Peal if you can read this, thank you for making me feel special. And tell Uncle Jeff thanks for making me fell important . Love always, Jimmy Bordier

---

**Jim Bordier** - February 16, 2020 at 11:04 AM

MJ

“ My favorite Aunt Pearl story was when my wife and I and the kids stopped to see her at her house on Pedregosa St. and told her we were camping nearby at Refugio Beach. She left the room and moments later, came out with her sleeping bag and said, "I'm going back with you." And she spent the night with us, sleeping in a tent on the ground! We thoroughly enjoyed her company and then the next day, she got a surprise when her brother Clyde showed up for a visit from Belize.  
*Fond memories of an amazing gal.*

*Michael and Julie Johnston*

---

**M. J.** - February 15, 2020 at 09:24 PM

CM

“ *As a child, I was especially happy when we were able to get together with Aunt Pearl. She was very loving and acted like I was her favorite, (which I knew wasn't true). But I sure felt special. Her laugh was infectious and she was pure joy.*

*Until we meet again, Aunt Pearl.*

*Connie Johnston McLean*

---

**Connie McLean** - February 15, 2020 at 08:13 PM