



## Kimkeá Lachea Harris

September 25, 1972 - March 15, 2026

Attorney Kimkeá Lachea Harris was born on September 25, 1972, in Memphis, Tennessee, to Carolyn Harris Bowen and Larry Walker. She attended Hawkins Mill Elementary School and graduated from Trezevant High School in 1990. She attended Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee where she was initiated into Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Pi Chapter on November 8, 1992. After graduating in 1994, Kimkeá went on to attend Washington and Lee University School of Law in Lexington, Virginia. She earned her Juris Doctorate degree in 1997.

Kimkeá confessed her faith in God at the age of nine at St. Matthews Missionary Baptist Church in Millington, Tennessee. She directed and sang in the church choir for many years, remaining active until she left for college.

Kimkeá demonstrated both generosity and care, consistently ensuring her mother's needs were met. She made thoughtful efforts to introduce her mother to modern technology, approaching the process with patience and good humor.

Kimkeá was a talented and dedicated attorney who provided her legal expertise to numerous entities throughout her distinguished career. She served as an Associate Attorney with the law firm of Archibald & Halmon; Assistant District Attorney for Shelby County, TN; Assistant Counsel for

Memphis Shelby County Schools; Assistant Attorney for the City of Memphis; and Associate Attorney at Johnson & Brown. In 2011, she relocated to Chicago, where she proudly served as an Attorney for the Illinois Fraternal Order of Police Labor Council.

Kimkeá was a passionate and humble servant who continually sought ways to improve the lives of others. While in Memphis, she started her own charitable organization called D.O.V.E.S. (Daughters of Virtue Exalting the Savior), which provided fellowship and mentoring to teenage girls. Her dedication to service was exhibited by her 33 years of membership in Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. She was an active member in the Alpha Beta Delta Omega Chapter when she became an Ivy Beyond the Wall.

One of her proudest achievements was successfully spearheading a nationally recognized effort to remove Pervis Payne from death row, after his wrongful conviction, literally saving his life. In this effort, she served as co-chair of the Legal Justice Task Force of the National Bar Association, advocating for fairness and justice within the legal system.

Her greatest love was for her pets. Her first was Kaleb, followed by Justice and Phoenix—and, for the record, she loved her mom too. Kimkeá's love for animals was boundless, and she shared that love generously by fostering dogs and cats in need through PAWS Chicago. The neighborhood is still talking about her Shih Tzu Meet Up, where she lovingly gathered Shih Tzus, their owners, and local vendors for a fun day of connection and community. It was so special that families of other breeds begged to come.

In addition to her beloved pets, Kimkeá was an avid traveler with a passion for international exploration. Curious and fearless, she embraced new cultures and experiences, never hesitating to journey on her own and see the world on her own.

Kimkeá leaves to cherish her memory and thank God for her life: her beloved mother, Carolyn Harris Bowen; her second mothers, aunts Emma Harris, Gracie Collins (Lozie), and Mary Markham (Otho); and her surrogate fathers, uncles John Harris, Willis Harris (Kathy), and Lawrence Harris, Jr. (Inez).

She is also lovingly remembered by her invaluable cousins Kailah Lewis, Chelsea “Tina” Dervin (Shawn), Leah Harris, Paula White (Larry), Korey Garcia, André Harris (Sonya), Joseph Harris (Chauntay), and Markus Harris, who have been a rock for Kimkeá and her mother. She leaves behind her sisters Krystal Irby, Andrea Michelle Walker, Latoya Walker, and Erin Dallas; her brothers Derrick Walker (Bridgette) and Justin Walker (Monique); along with many nieces, nephews, cousins, godchildren, friends, and Sorors.

Kimkeá was truly one of a kind — in more than just her name. Her mother gives thanks to God for the privilege of being her mom and says, “I love you, daughter, and I will see you on the other side.”

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

MAR **20**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Calahan Funeral Home - Legacy Center  
7046 S. Halsted  
Chicago, IL 60621

# Tribute Wall

WB

“ *My condolences! Kimkea and I not only shared the same birthday (September 25th) but we shared the same academic pedigree (Fisk University and Washington and Lee Law School). What a loss...*

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**William Burton** - April 05 at 11:55 AM

RS

“ To the family of Sis. Kimkeá Harris:

*The North District of the Chicago Annual Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church joins you in honoring the life of one who answered our Heavenly Father’s call.*

*We extend our deepest condolences as you grieve this loss. While our hearts are heavy, we do not grieve without hope. We look forward to the day of rejoicing when all of God’s children will gather to inherit eternal joy. May the legacy of her life and work continue to speak on her behalf.*

*Kimkeá was a devoted friend whose commitment and excellence were evident in all she pursued. Though small in stature, she was a powerful presence—an accomplished attorney, a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, and a tireless advocate. Her work on the Purvis Payne case reflected extraordinary energy, passion, and intellect, grounded in an unwavering belief in justice. Even illness could not diminish her resolve.*

*We recognize that words may offer limited comfort during this time of sorrow, but please know that you and your family are in our prayers. As Scripture reminds us, “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted” (Matthew 5:4). May our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be your source of strength and peace.*

*We take comfort in knowing that our risen Savior has welcomed this faithful servant into her eternal reward. In that assurance, we rejoice and give glory to God.*

*Farewell. It is well.*

*Humbly submitted,  
This 24th day of March 2026.*

*Rev. Dr. James M. Moody, Sr.*

*Presiding Elder, Chicago North District of the AME Church  
Lady Corlis S. Moody*

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**Rev. Dr. James Moody, Sr.** - March 24 at 01:48 PM

AB

“ *Rest well Kimkea. You will be missed.*

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**Anthony Beattie** - March 20 at 11:21 PM

KJ

“ *I'm still trying to process this...I'm truly saddened and shocked by the passing of my Fiskite sister. Even though we didn't talk all the time, everyone who attended Fisk University understands that kind of bond- we can go years without communicating and still pick up like no time has passed. Whether it was her coming to San Francisco during one of her many traveling adventures, or me visiting Chicago - she always kept me laughing.*

*I met Kimkea' in the summer of 1990 in Jubilee Hall- and I am so grateful for the memories. I'll always remember her for her humor, her compassion, her realness, and her heart.*

*This one really hurts... but I'm holding on to God's promise that "to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord". That brings me comfort- knowing she is now at peace.*

*I'm keeping her mother and her entire family lifted in prayer- trusting that God will surround you with comfort, understanding and strength- now and in the weeks and months to come.*

*Kimkea' , your light will stay with us forever- you will never be forgotten.*

*Until we meet again...*

*Fisk FOREVER '94*

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**Kahn Jackson** - March 20 at 04:41 PM

MJ

*This is beautiful. ❤️*

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**Marion Jones** - March 20 at 10:21 PM

TR

“*Kim was a dear friend. We became neighbors around age 5 and remained friends. On behalf of the Granderson and Rankins’ families, we send our thoughts and prayers to the entire family of Kim. Although we weren’t blood related, the love was and will forever be there.*”

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**Tiffany Rankins** - March 20 at 01:01 PM

SH

“ Kimkea was a bright light, a mentor, and a dear friend.

*In high school, I was part of D.O.V.E.S. (Daughters of Virtue Exalting the Savior), and Kimkea was my mentor. I'll never forget the day they “kidnapped” my twin sister and me for initiation—I had no idea at the time that it would become one of the most meaningful experiences of my life. Through that group of powerful women, led by Kimkea, I learned what it meant to be a woman who loves Christ. I came to understand that being an educated Black woman and loving Christ is powerful, purposeful, and defining.*

*As I grew older, Kimkea remained a constant in my life. She showed up for my graduation, wedding, the birth of my children, and so many moments in between. Most recently, when I faced a challenging situation with my first-grade son's teacher, I didn't know how to approach it. The very first person I reached out to was Kimkea. As always, she guided me with Christian wisdom, grace, and truth. I still have the voice message she sent me, and I will cherish it forever.*

*I don't believe it's a coincidence that the last time we spoke, it was about Jesus. She lived for Him. She strengthened my walk with Him. She poured into my son's walk with Him. And I know, without a doubt, that she is now with Him.*

*I love you, Kimkea. May your sweet, one-of-a-kind soul rest in Heaven.*

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**Sheryl** - March 19 at 10:30 PM

MJ

*Beautiful. She was indeed a sister in Christ. ❤️*

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**Marion Jones** - March 20 at 10:26 PM

RS

“ I had the privilege of first working across the table from Kimkea, and more recently, standing alongside her at the ILFOP. She was truly one of a kind and someone who could light up any room with her stories, her warmth, and that unforgettable smile and laugh. Her presence was a gift, and she will be deeply missed. Rest well, my friend. You fought a good fight.

My heartfelt condolences to her mother, aunts, cousins, and all of her extended family. My thoughts are with you during this incredibly difficult time.

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**Rolanda Sudduth** - March 19 at 09:41 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray* was purchased for the family of Kimkeá Lachea Harris.



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March 19 at 04:18 PM

BD

“ *Broadview Police Department purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray* for the family of Kimkeá Lachea Harris.

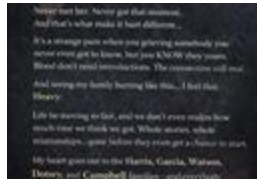


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**Broadview Police Department** - March 19 at 12:03 PM

TC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Trellious Campbell - March 19 at 08:15 AM

TN

“ As an attorney, there are times when you are happy to see your opponent. I always felt this way when I found out that Kimkea and I would be negotiating a contract or arbitrating a labor issue. I knew we would represent our clients zealously but that we would work honestly with each other. We had many fun conversations and it was truly a pleasure being opponents, and trying to work towards a solution. I will miss Kimkea greatly. She was one of a kind. My sincerest condolences to her family, friends, co-workers and clients.

Tiffany Nelson-Jaworski - March 19 at 12:15 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Kimkeá Lachea Harris.



March 19 at 12:08 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Kimkeá Lachea Harris.



March 18 at 10:41 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kimkea' Lachea Harris.

March 18 at 10:41 AM

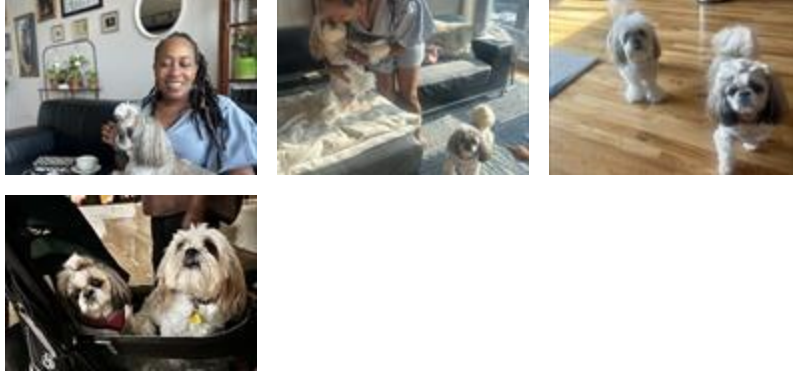


“ Kimkea was a labor attorney for our IL FOP for many years. She was always a joy to work with and assisted us with everything we needed. We are both shocked and saddened to learn of her passing. We extend our deepest condolences to her family and friends who will remain in our thoughts and prayers. - Glendale Heights Police Department FOP Labor Unit

Glendale Heights FOP - March 18 at 09:37 AM

JC

“*Kimkea was both a neighbor and a friend. She exuded kindness, care, and compassion for hearts big and small. I will miss chats over tea and playdates with the pups. Most of all, I will miss her laughter and humor. May her soul find rest.*”



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**Jen Crichlow** - March 17 at 06:55 PM

OF

“*Oak Park FOP purchased the Simply Elegant Sp  
athiphyllum for the family of Kimkeá Lachea  
Harris.*”



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**Oak Park FOP** - March 17 at 06:20 PM

OF

“*Oak Park FOP planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kimkea' Lachea  
Harris.*”

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**Oak Park FOP** - March 17 at 06:20 PM

IK

“ ILFOPLC family-of all who adored Kimkea purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Kimkeá Lachea Harris.



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**ILFOPLC family-of all who adored Kimkea** - March 17 at 01:13 PM

PI

“ PBPA and PBLC of Illinois purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Kimkeá Lachea Harris.



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**PBPA and PBLC of Illinois** - March 17 at 01:09 PM

LF

“ Love from Kelsey Burnette and family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Kimkeá Lachea Harris.



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**Love from Kelsey Burnette and family** - March 17 at 11:53 AM

LF

“ Love from Kelsey Burnette and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kimkea' Lachea Harris.

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**Love from Kelsey Burnette and family** - March 17 at 11:53 AM

TH

“ *Kimkea was a ray of sunshine. Everywhere she went, she carried that light with her, whether it was her love for life or her passion for fighting injustice. She was a beautiful person inside and out and I will miss my friend dearly.*

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**Terre Holmes** - March 17 at 11:27 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Kimkeá Lachea Harris.*



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March 17 at 09:16 AM