



## Emma Lou Spears

September 12, 1943 - September 18, 2023

EMMA LOU SPEARS, AGE 80

and a resident of Franklinton passed away September 18, 2023 at her daughter's residence. Emma was a 1961 graduate of Franklinton High School. She was a longtime member of Bethel Baptist Church where she enjoyed helping with the sewing circle ministry, mailing birthday/sympathy and an array of other correspondence cards to members of the congregation. She was also coordinator over the kitchen and planning of meals for a number of years. In each ministry, she loved working alongside her friends at church. Amongst numerous health trials and battles, she was a breast cancer survivor and survive she did! Emma lived to have a variety of occupations, but the one she said she loved the most was her time at First Guarantee Bank in Amite, working with Dr. Cefalu at his clinic, and her 20 years serving as a Washington Parish landfill employee for Creel Brothers where she retired. Emma was an avid gardener and had a natural green thumb. She loved to plant vibrant, beautiful flowers around the yard and to work in her vegetable garden every year. When asked which flower was her favorite, she had a hard time naming just one because she found beauty in so many. She said if she had to pick, it would be Red Tulips or any kind of Lily would be her favorite. She also took pleasure in cooking and having a good cup of coffee with her family and friends.

Survived by:

Son and Daughter in law: Dewaine and Mimi Strickland of Broken Arrow, Ok.

Daughters and a Son in law: Jelaine Strickland,  
Johnna and Rusty Creel all of Franklinton,

10 Grandchildren and their Spouses and an ever growing number of great-grandchildren.

Sisters and Brothers in law: Margie and Jimmy Busby of Amite,  
Loretta S. Bracey and Karen Spears of Franklinton  
Gaylon and Tammi Spears of Texas.

Also numerous nieces, nephews and their families.

She was preceded in death by her parents Fred Spears, Sr. and Ethelee Schilling Spears, her grandparents, infant sister Freddie Viola Spears, brother Fred Spears, Jr., brother in law Sidney Bracey, nephew Chase Busby and her children's Dad, Harold Strickland. She had special memories of her Uncle Hollis and Aunt Thelma Spears.

Visitation will be at Bethel Baptist Church on Wednesday, September 20th from 9am until the funeral service at 11am with Rev. Joey Miller officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

Pallbearers: Rustyn Creel, Brandon Voght, Justin Loftin, Dylan Ruffino, Trey Thomas, Andrew Pigott

Honorary Pallbearers: Jamie Busby, Chesley Spears, Clay Edwards, Marco Rico, Jeremy Tullos, Gerald Graham

The family would like to give a special thanks to Riverside Medical Center, Good Samaritan Living Center, Dr. Fabre, Pulse Home Health and Community Care Hospice.

In her honor and in lieu of flowers the family encourages memorial donations to Bethel Baptist Church and/or the Washington Parish Food Bank.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

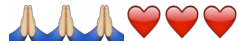
SEP **20**. 9:00 AM (CT)

Bethel Baptist Church  
42592 Bethel Road  
Franklinton, LA 70438

# Tribute Wall

PL

“ I'm sorry for your lost . I just found out about it. If I had known about it I would have been there. Sending prayers and hugs to all of you.



Pauline Martin Lofton - October 01, 2023 at 05:29 PM

CJ

“ Loretta and family, I am so sorry for the loss of your sister, Emma Lou. I always enjoyed talking with her at the landfill. So kind and sweet. May your memories and time together give you great comfort and joy. Your in my thoughts and prayers. Cathy Johnston

Cathy Johnston - September 20, 2023 at 10:25 AM

DT

“ Loretta and family, sorry for your loss. Praying for your family in the coming days.

Devon Thomas - September 19, 2023 at 06:06 PM

BJ

“ This picture of your sweet mom is just how I remember her . Her family , Mama , Daddy and all siblings are truly one of the kindest, group of people I've ever known . God Bless and comfort you all is my sincere prayer 🙏

Betty S. Jones - September 19, 2023 at 05:45 PM



“ Sweet Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Emma Lou Spears.



September 19, 2023 at 05:03 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. We are out of town and unable to attend service. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

**Edna Kennedy** - September 19, 2023 at 09:45 AM



“ So sorry Loretta! You and Fred were the only siblings I really knew , plus your sweet Mom. I heard you speak of Emma Lou many times and knew she had a special place in your heart. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. 🙏

**Linda Bateman** - September 19, 2023 at 09:30 AM



“ Omgoodness the stories I could tell from my childhood with the Busby's I used to go with them to y'all grandmas all the time. And of course Ms. Emma Lou , and Mr Fred was always there. To help us find something to get into. I'm so sorry for your loss. I Loved Ms. Emma Lou. To send you all Big Hugs



**Melinda Morris Mixon** - September 19, 2023 at 08:30 AM

MR

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with all of you.*

---

**Mittie Rohner** - September 18, 2023 at 09:53 PM




SG

“ *Johnna, Jelaine, and the rest of your family, I am so sorry for the loss of your loved one! Prayers for peace and comfort, my thoughts and prayers are with you all!*

---

**Sherry Graham** - September 18, 2023 at 07:58 PM

PV

“ *Loretta, Margie and family, So sorry to hear of Emma Lou's passing. I've known your family forever. Prayers for the coming days. Love you all!!!*   

---

**Peggy J Verberne** - September 18, 2023 at 07:47 PM

BC

*I am so sad to hear about Lukie. Gosh!! I lived her so much. Prayers for all of you guys. I wish my health would allow me to travel as I would love to see you all again. Prayers to all of you for your great loss.*

---

**Barbara Jean Spears Cantrell** - September 18, 2023 at 07:59 PM