



Melba Stephens Haley

January 13, 1937 - December 11, 2021

John 14:1-3 1Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 2In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

Melba Haley passed away at her residence in Denham Springs on Saturday December 11, 2021. She was 84 years of age.

Survived by her daughters Glenda Sue Thomas (John A.), Diane Font (Kenny), Cathy Warner (Ray, deceased), son B.J. Stephens (Carol).

Nine grandchildren, twelve great-grandchildren and one expected great-great-grandchild in February 2022

One Sister Margaret McBeth (Buddy)

One Brother Edward Stephens (Shawn)

Preceded in death by her husband Walter Haley, son James Haley, granddaughter Amy Font, parents Broadus and Vertlee Stephens, step-mother Vernie Stephens, three sisters Jerry Rials, Wilda Haley and Betty

Street, brother Percel Stephens

She leaves behind a very special niece Carolyn Whaley (Adney), who she considered her other daughter

Visitation will be at Crain Funeral Home (1109 Bene Street, Franklinton) on Wednesday December 15th from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm. A funeral service will be held in the funeral home chapel at 1:00 pm Wednesday with J.R. McBeth (nephew) and Eld. Burdette Thomas officiating. Burial will follow in the Hays Creek Southern Baptist Church Cemetery.

Pallbearers: Daniel Warner (grandson), Scott Stephens (grandson), James W. Haley (grandson), Chad McMichael (grandson-in-law), Derrick Whaley (great-nephew), Devin Whaley (great-great-nephew)

Honorary Pallbearers: Buddy McBeth (brother in law), Cecil Street (brother in law)

Tribute Wall

TS

“ *She was literally the sweetest lady you could have met I remember going over to her house with Murphy Jay and she was just a blast to be around she made me feel like I was definitely a part of the family Jay loved his Aunt Melba he would tell me so many stories. I'm sending many prayers for her family sending many hugs and much love R.I.P. Aunt Melba*



Tina Smith - December 15, 2021 at 01:41 PM

TA

Yes one of the greatest. Just like mawmaw. Miss them all so much. I wished I wouldve known about it and all the arrangements though instead of being told by someone who read it on Facebook. I dont get on there every day and someone could call someone like they used to. I missed the service and I love that woman just as much as everyone else. Rest in peace Aunt Melba, I bet you had a great reunion when you got to Heaven! Miss and love all yall so much!Tina when yall get the chance and are this way, come by and see us. Love yall!

Tabitha Athey - December 18, 2021 at 02:30 PM

AD

“ While feeling sad and so distant from those of you who also loved her, I want to celebrate the Momo Haley that I knew. The Momo Haley who features in so many early and most special memories of my sister and I growing up. The Momo Haley who was a central feature of any gathering of family, year-round. The Momo Haley who always had time for me, no matter how rushed my day was.

Momo Haley provided me with a sense of tradition and family. Of unconditional love and support. Of feeling cherished, important and valued.

She was the person that brought the family together, organizing Halloween parties and Easter egg hunts for us each year and even as a young teenager, I looked forward to these special times together. She always scheduled the family gatherings for Thanksgiving before Thanksgiving and Christmas before Christmas because she understood that her children needed their own traditions, but it was important that she kept her traditions too. Her early celebrations always kicked off the festive season and after Thanksgiving dinner, Lynn, Chris, Amy and I would put up her Christmas tree. Two desserts will always remind me of her: ice box fruit cake that you kept in the freezer and lemon ice box pie. Graham crackers and condensed milk, licked from the can, for those of us lucky enough to be around when she was making them.

She always had us around for sleepovers as kids and played games, dolls and dress-ups. She shared stories from her childhood in which she'd made her own dolls and dress-up from items found. She knew the time with us as young ones was limited and did her best to get as much time with us as possible. I'll never forget playing in her closet. She loved hats and high heels and I remember finding shoes, boxed up like new, way in the back of her closet. With a smile, she let me in on a little secret (just between us girls)... She would hide brand new shoes in the back of her closet and if my papa would ask if they were new, she would say, "I found them in the back of the closet", or "I've had these a while..."

She kept photo albums for each grandchild and I loved looking through them as a kid, including the shots where her long fake nails were in the frame. She loved Church and Jesus. She never met a stranger and loved taking her time grocery shopping when we were kids, lingering in each aisle, chatting to people along the way. She always had moon pies and vanilla wafers.

She took great pride in her family, the lives she helped create and their children and their children. You could see the pride in her face when she was surrounded by her family. She looked you in the eyes with a smile every time she greeted you before giving you a hug and a kiss. With that look and smile, you knew, "I matter. I am loved. I am cherished."

Thank you, Momo, for giving me these wonderful memories and traditions, for providing me with a fondness for family gatherings and a sense of belonging to something greater and bigger than myself. I love you. I miss you. I will never forget you.

*With all of my love,
Ashley*



Ashley Davidson - December 15, 2021 at 03:28 AM

CW

“Wow, I have many memories of time I shared with my mother. Every morning I would give her a call and always started our conversation with calling her Melba Jean, or Melba Ann, or Melba Louise, or Melba Jane, or several others Melba's. She would tell me that she always looked forward to my calls because she never knew what her name was going to be for the day. She was my mother and I loved her deeply. I will miss you so much mother. I know you are 100% joyful with your new body. I told you that I felt like you had aged 10 years in this last year, well you are now look 10 years younger. Crain's has done an amazing job. Thankful for them. Rest In Peace. Your baby girl.

Cathy Warner - December 14, 2021 at 06:04 PM

AS

I love this story. I can see the smile on her face too. I'm sad that I'm not with you all today. I know that she can feel how much I love and miss her. I'm thinking of you all today.

ashley - December 15, 2021 at 05:46 AM



“Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Melba Stephens Haley.



December 13, 2021 at 09:16 PM