



Mrs. Leola Lathridge

September 23, 1918 - January 1, 2018

Leola Lathridge, who was lovingly known as “Big Mom” and “Momma Lee,” passed away in Kalamazoo, Michigan on January 2, 2018 at the age of 99 years old. Leola was born in 1918 the daughter of Frank Lee Jr. and Hattie Dunlap in Selma, Alabama. She had to drop out of school in the 3rd grade to work in the fields to pick cotton to help her family.

In 1938 at the age of 20, she moved to Kalamazoo, where she met her “First Love” Thorton Lathridge. They united in marriage in 1943.

Leola worked for First Congregational Church for many years, until she retired. She enjoyed spending time with family, cooking, sewing, making quilts and embroidery. Leola’s smile, laughter and her presence will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her. Her love and inspiration will carry on through her grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her husband Thorton Lathridge; daughter, Rosie Lee Wallace; her father, Frank Lee Jr. and her mother Hattie Dunlap.

Leola is survived by her daughter, Peggy Lee of Kalamazoo; a special daughter, Texiriel (“Tex”) Gray of Springfield, MI; sons, Freddie Lathridge of Kalamazoo and James Lathridge of Chicago, IL; 8 grandchildren; 15 great grandchildren and 28 great great-grandchildren.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Ever-Rest Cemetery

3941 S. Westnedge Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 9. 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Mt. Zion Baptist Church
120 Roberson Street
kalamazoo, MI 49007-3557

A Service in Loving Memory

JAN 9. 12:30 PM (ET)

Mt. Zion Baptist Church
120 Roberson Street
kalamazoo, MI 49007-3557

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Leola Larthridge*

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ *Mrs. Leola Larthridge*

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ *Earline Fields And Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Leola Larthridge*



Earline Fields and Family - January 10, 2018 at 04:40 PM



“ *Dallas Boards And Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Leola Larthridge*



Dallas Boards and family - January 10, 2018 at 01:13 PM

JG

“ Jean Her Granddaughter lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Leola Larthridge



Jean her granddaughter - January 10, 2018 at 01:57 AM

GM

“ Glenda Gail McKinley lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Leola Larthridge



Glenda Gail McKinley - January 10, 2018 at 01:28 AM

RF

“ Royetta Fry-Walker lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Leola Larthridge



Royetta Fry-Walker - January 09, 2018 at 11:37 AM



“ 2 files added to the album Life Tributes



Harper Funeral Home - January 08, 2018 at 06:44 PM

PG

“ *Pauline Gardner lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Leola Larthridge*



Pauline Gardner - January 06, 2018 at 09:08 PM

HB

“ *Helen Brooks sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Leola Larthridge*



Helen Brooks - January 03, 2018 at 07:58 PM