



Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin

January 26, 1930 - July 13, 2017

On Thursday July 13, 2017, Mary Lee Franklin went into the presence of the Lord. Her caring, supportive and productive life began in Columbus, Mississippi on January 26, 1930. Arriving in Kalamazoo with her parents, Ruby and Earnest Griggs in the late 1940's, she graduated from Kalamazoo Central High school.

As a working high school graduate, by the year 1950 Mary Lee met Quincy, the man she would marry and support for the next 67 years of her life. They married in January 1951 in Seattle, Washington as he prepared to be sent to serve in the Korean War. After his nearly 2 years of service, they began their family. Throughout the 1950's, their family would grow to include five children. While rearing her young family, Mary Lee proved to be her husband's greatest emotional and spiritual support in his work and as he finished college.

Aside from her roles as wife and mother, Mary Lee's work career included Hospital Healthcare Providers and Laborer for Gibson Guitar Company. Later in life, she would use her mothering/nurturing skills as a Daycare Provider.

Mary Lee served the community in many ways. In her role as Deaconess in two area churches, she served God's people. She served as a representative of the City of Kalamazoo to its sister city in Numazu, Japan. In her quiet personal ministry, she was known for sharing her Godly gift of cooking. Always

caring and generous, her habit was using the Word of God in her direct and loving way to encourage her immediate and extended family, as well as friends.

Mary Lee Franklin was preceded in death by her son, Quincy Jr.

She is survived by her husband and soulmate, Quincy Sr.; their daughter, Sylvia (Luther) Hamilton of Kalamazoo; their son, Anthony (Eloise) Franklin of Lincoln, Texas; their son, Gary Franklin and their son , Steve Franklin of Kalamazoo. Mary Lee was blessed with a host of grand, great and great-great grandchildren as well as a large extended family and dear friends.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 21. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home - Chapel
521 Douglas Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

Family Hour

JUL 22. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Fresh Fire A.M.E. Church
2508 Gull Road
Kalamazoo, MI

A Service in Loving Memory

JUL 22. 11:00 AM (ET)

Fresh Fire A.M.E. Church
2508 Gull Road
Kalamazoo, MI

Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin



Harper Funeral Home - July 20, 2017 at 09:05 PM



“ Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ Mr. Franklin, Walter and I send our condolences to you and your family for the loss of Mrs. Franklin. May the wonderful memories that she left comfort you during this difficult time.

Gloria Elizabeth Hall - July 25, 2017 at 05:36 PM

JD

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Judie Days - July 24, 2017 at 09:48 AM

JP

“ *James Phillips lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin*



James Phillips - July 22, 2017 at 09:13 AM

BP

“ *Barbara Phillips lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin*



Barbara Phillips - July 22, 2017 at 09:10 AM

HB

“ *Hal & Janet Buchanan lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin*



Hal & Janet Buchanan - July 21, 2017 at 10:27 AM

JP

“ To my Dear Family,
I stared at my computer for a while contemplating what to say, how to encourage you. There aren't any right or wrong words to share when someone is hurting from losing a loved one so I'll speak from my heart. Cousin Mary Lee was so much to so many. She gave of her home, food, wisdom, Mother Wit, conversation, hugs and laughter!
Her natural ability to deal with everyday matters spilled over into her tutelage to all of the young parents who asked for advice. I certainly considered her a go to source as a young Mother myself. We had so many memorable conversations at the Kitchen island.
The Franklin's were always so generous to the rest of the family. When I'd hear there was an invite for a family dinner or barbecue I looked forward to good food, laughs and conversations!
She really loved her family, all of us ; and made sure we knew it. Cousin Mary Lee was always so kind to me. Her quite demeanor and strength is something I've always admired.
When I've experienced pain and loss such as this I recite Proverbs 3 5&6, My Mom's "go to" verses until I can truly apply them to my situation.
I apologize for such a long comment, I wanted to share why and how I loved and will miss my Cousin Mary Lee. I will continue to pray for you all.
Love you, Cousin Joycelyn Phillips

Joycelyn Phillips - July 20, 2017 at 09:25 PM

JS

“ *Mary and I have been best friends for 65 years. In life we have been like sisters. She was my friend. We were both expecting our first child at the same time, living just 3 doors away from each other. Mary became my very best friend from that day forward. she will always be in my heart. I am thankful for her life and the chance to share it with her. Mary you beat me across the finish line. You had a successful run. Thank God for you. Hold my spot til I get there; I will see you in the morning.*



*Love you Always
Josephine Sudduth
Best of Friends*

Josephine Sudduth - July 20, 2017 at 06:09 PM

PF

“ *PATTERSON FAMILY lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin*



PATTERSON FAMILY - July 20, 2017 at 09:10 AM

HT

“ *Hazel Tellis lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin*



Hazel Tellis - July 19, 2017 at 08:12 PM

SF

“ So sorry to hear my Mrs..Franklin passed away, such a beautiful soul. You will always be in my heart.....was such a wonderful Mother in Law. LOVE YOU REST IN HEAVEN SHAUNA FRANKLIN AND DEVANTE WILKERSON

Shauna Franklin - July 19, 2017 at 06:56 PM

VO

“ Our condolences to Franklin Family in the loss of your loved one.

The Ollie Family



Vivian Ollie-O'Neal - July 19, 2017 at 03:31 PM

KD

“ Kevin Dunigan lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin



Kevin Dunigan - July 19, 2017 at 12:06 PM

RH

“ Roxanne Harris lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin



Roxanne Harris - July 19, 2017 at 09:24 AM

CF

“ *Charleston Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin*



Charleston Family - July 18, 2017 at 10:56 PM

EA

“ *Pastor Ervin and Joyce Armstrong offer our prayers and condolences to the family of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin. In memory of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin a candle is lit*



Ervin M Armstrong - July 18, 2017 at 09:42 PM

MM

“ *I will always remember you and love you for helping me with my first child, I remember the day I called you to babysit for my daughter. The price you quoted me, I couldn't afford, but you had me call back and you asked me how much can I afford? I told you and you said yes! You babysit for me for 5 years and you were wonderful and excellent to me a single mom at the time and my daughter. Thank you for showing me Gods goodness in you Mrs. Franklin, I know you are at God's right side!*

To the Family: Thank you for sharing your Mom with so many. My thoughts and prayers are for you.

Merry Sue Mitchell-Battles - July 18, 2017 at 12:03 PM

CD

Condolences to our long time friend, Quincy and family...all of you are in our thoughts and prayers.

Charles & Ann Dunigan - July 21, 2017 at 06:22 PM

AB

“ *Angela Brown lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin*



Angela Brown - July 18, 2017 at 09:03 AM

AW

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Andrew Wilkerson - July 17, 2017 at 10:25 PM

AB

“ *Angela Brown lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin*



Angela Brown - July 17, 2017 at 06:03 PM

SW

“ *Sonia Wilkerson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin*



Sonia Wilkerson - July 17, 2017 at 11:58 AM

EF

“ *Earline Fields And Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin*



Earline Fields and Family - July 16, 2017 at 03:03 PM

JE

“ *Jo Ann Embrey lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin*



Jo Ann Embrey - July 16, 2017 at 01:34 PM

HB

“ *Quincy and family do you have our deepest condolences. Helen (Mills) Brooks & Barbee's*

Helen (Mills) Brooks - July 16, 2017 at 12:15 PM

HB

“ *Helen (Mills) Brooks sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin*



Helen (Mills) Brooks - July 16, 2017 at 12:11 PM

GM

“ *Gregory Moorehead lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin*



Gregory Moorehead - July 15, 2017 at 10:50 PM

JD

“ *Judie & Henderson Days lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin*



Judie & Henderson Days - July 15, 2017 at 06:39 PM

PG

“ *Pauline Gardner lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin*



Pauline Gardner - July 15, 2017 at 06:22 PM

RW

“ *Our deepest condolences to Quincy and family on the passing of our cousin Mary. When I lived with my aunt Ruth Griggs, Mary's mother, during my middle school years I got to know Mary and Quincy quite well by babysitting their children. God Bless you all. Mt 6:11 Give us this day our daily bread. With Love R.J. & Anita*

R.J. & Anita Wilkerson - July 15, 2017 at 02:51 PM

AW

“ *Andrew And Dawn Wilkerson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary Lee Franklin*



Andrew and Dawn Wilkerson - July 15, 2017 at 02:29 PM

AW

She Will Be Missed Lots Of Great Memories

Andrew and Dawn Wilkerson - July 15, 2017 at 02:31 PM