



## Joyce Delane Blackledge

March 11, 1925 - January 20, 2016

Joyce Delane Blackledge, 90, of Laurel, MS passed away Wednesday, January 20, 2016 at her home in Mill Creek. Joyce was born on March 11, 1925 in Laurel, MS, the daughter of Ellis Blackledge and Odie Henderson Blackledge. She lived her entire life in Mill Creek. Joyce was an employee at JC Penney in Laurel for more than 40 years, starting her career at the JC Penney store in downtown Laurel and retiring from the store at Sawmill Square Mall. Joyce was a member of First United Methodist Church in Laurel where she was in service in many areas. She was a member of the Wesley Fellowship Sunday school class; served as treasurer of the Thirty-Niners; held various offices in United Methodist Women; and after her retirement from Penneys worked as a church office volunteer every Monday afternoon for many years. Joyce was a member and treasurer of the Country Gardeners Club. One of the many joys of her retirement was growing flowers and making beautiful flower arrangements. Joyce was a true Southern lady – loving, gracious, kind, compassionate, refined. Her goal in life was to be in service to God and to everyone she met. Her love and acceptance was felt by everyone who knew her. Survivors include her loving and devoted sister, Wema Blackledge; her sisters in law Bonnie Blackledge and Carolyn Blackledge Nine nieces and nephews: Ken Blackledge, Stan Blackledge, Gregory Blackledge, Karen Milner, Stewart Milner, Steve Milner, Karla Milner Martin, Pam Blackledge Hunt, and Janice Blackledge Clark. And a host of cousins and grand and great grand nieces and nephews that loved her dearly. She was

preceded in death by her parents, Ellis Blackledge and Odie Henderson Blackledge; her brothers Jim Blackledge and Wayne Blackledge; and her sister Beatrice Blackledge Milner. Services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, January 23, 2016, at Memory Chapel with burial to follow at Blackledge Cemetery in Jones County. Rev. Mark Anderson will officiate. Visitation will be at Memory Chapel from 5 until 7 p.m. Friday.

Joyce's niece, Karla Milner Martin, will sing one of Joyce's favorite songs, Hymn of Promise. Pallbearers are Gregory Blackledge, Stan Blackledge, James Clark, Cody Pitts, Stewart Milner, Steve Milner, and Justin Blackledge. To sign the online guest book, visit [www.memorychapellaurel.com](http://www.memorychapellaurel.com).

# Tribute Wall

VC

“ You're in our thoughts & prayers.

Viki & Larry Coffman - January 23, 2016 at 09:17 PM

ML

“ So sorry for your loss our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Mike & Cindy Leggett

Mike and Cindy Leggett - January 22, 2016 at 09:28 PM

TM

“ Joyce Delane Blackledge

Todd Martin - January 21, 2016 at 11:32 PM

DH

“ My deepest sympathies. Joyce was a lovely lady and a devoted Christian. She will certainly be missed.

Dale hunt - January 21, 2016 at 10:43 PM

LA

“ Weazy, Pam, Janice and family members, all of you are in our thoughts and prayers. May all of your wonderful memories of this wonderful lady give you peace during the days and weeks ahead. God bless all of you.

Lyle & Carroll Allen - January 21, 2016 at 08:42 PM

DR

“ To the entire Blackledge family, I extend my sincere sympathies in the passing of your dear family member.

*I will never forget Joyce and her kindness to me in my adolescent and teen years growing up in Lake Church. Joyce also gave me my first employment opportunity at J. C. Penney at the age of 16. She was so patient and helpful to me and to everyone she supervised. I also will never forget the many times she and Wema entertained the youth from Lake Church and their community. What wonderful memories!*

*The entire Blackledge family has been a true blessing to know and I truly benefited from their guidance and friendship for so many years. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

*Sincerely,  
Donna*

---

**Donna Rustin Riles** - January 21, 2016 at 03:59 PM