



Lydia Ruth Matthews

May 24, 1924 - March 22, 2017

Lydia Ruth Matthews, 92, of Laurel, passed away Wednesday, March 22, 2017, at her daughter's residence in Ellisville.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, March 24 at Memory Chapel, with interment to follow at Matthew Cemetery. Visitation will be from 5 until 8 p.m. Thursday and again at 12 noon Friday, at Memory Chapel. Rev. Ramsey Coutta and Rev. Caleb Rawls will officiate.

Lydia, who retired as director of YWCA, lived life as a godly example to her children, her church, her friends, and with all she came in contact. She expressed the joy of knowing Christ through a life full of service to others. She was very active in her church, school, and community and served in volunteer service and political committees. She was always considerate of others and always giving, loved her children, and worked hard to educate them. She was affectionately known as "Mammaw" to her grandchildren, great grandchildren, and great great grandchildren.

Great is your reward in Heaven!

She was preceded in death by her parents, Clyde W. Gavin and Candace Moss Gavin; brothers, Alman, Julius, Charles "Tank", and Wendell Gavin; grandson, William Slade Russell; great granddaughter, Faith Elizabeth

Walters; and husbands, Odell Ulmer and Benton H. Matthews.

Survivors include her son, Ray Myrick (Amy) of Laurel; daughters, Phyllis Beyer (Larry) of Missouri City, Texas, Mary Ann Bryant (Rev. Eddie) of Ellisville, and Helen Lyons (Joe) of Ocean Springs; 10 grandchildren; 20 great grandchildren; 3 great great grandchildren; brothers, James Carlon Gavin of New Britton, Connecticut, Bobby Gavin of Natchez, and Marvin Gavin of Laurel; and one sister, Willie Clyde Moore of Laurel.

Pallbearers will be Ronnie Gavin, Bruce Gavin, Bart Gavin, Greg Gavin, Andrew Gore, and Michael Lewis. Honorary pallbearers will be Jim Gavin, Joe Mauldin's Sunday School Class at Pleasant Home Baptist Church and the Deacons of Pleasant Home Baptist Church.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that memorials be made to the Pleasant Home Baptist Church Building Fund, 386 Matthews Road, Laurel, MS 39443.

The family would like to express their grateful appreciation to the hospice personnel at Compassus and to her caregivers.

To sign the online guest book, visit www.memorychapellaurel.com.

Cemetery Details

Matthews Cemetery

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **23**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Memory Chapel Funeral Home
3100 Audubon Drive
P. O. Box 674
Laurel, MS 39440
(601) 428-5235
memorychapel@comcast.net
<https://www.memorychapellaurel.com/>

Visitation

MAR **24**. 12:00 PM (CT)

Memory Chapel Funeral Home
3100 Audubon Drive
P. O. Box 674
Laurel, MS 39440
(601) 428-5235
memorychapel@comcast.net
<https://www.memorychapellaurel.com/>

Service

MAR **24**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Memory Chapel Funeral Home
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Tribute Wall

SB

“ Dear family, what an exemplary life your mother, grandmother and friend lived. Prayers for you. Sharon Barham

Sharon Barham - March 23, 2017 at 03:29 PM

FJ

“ What a celebration must be occurring in heaven! No way exists in this little space for me to share with you, precious family, how much I loved "Miss Lydia Ruth." As a teen, she loved Dorothy and me. She modeled Christian love, compassion, and gentleness to us. She mentored, guided, and made us feel loved and important. She mothered us and shared with us her godly children of our age. She encouraged us, taught us Scripture, and showed us how to love and serve Jesus. I'm so sorry that distance and scheduling prevent my sharing your celebration of her homegoing. I'm certain that Dorothy will be among the first to greet her in her new home. I weep briefly with you while we anticipate the close dawning of joy--"Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning (Psa. 30:5)!
Frank Jones

Frank Jones - March 23, 2017 at 12:24 PM

FB

Mrs. Lydia Ruth was like my second Mom growing up at Pleasant Home church. I loved her dearly. So sorry that I could not be there today. My love and hugs go to Phyllis, Ray, Mary Ann & Helen. Frances Grice Bullock & Nick Bullock.

Frances Grice Bullock - March 24, 2017 at 07:38 AM

SH

“ *Susan Holmes lit a candle in memory of Lydia Ruth Matthews*



Susan Holmes - March 23, 2017 at 10:10 AM

MB

“ *Margaret and John Barnhart purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Lydia Ruth Matthews.*



Margaret and John Barnhart - March 22, 2017 at 08:32 PM

CE

“ *Dear Helen, Joe and Family.
Carolyn and I send our deepest sympathy. We have been praying
and will continue to In Christ love,
Charles and Carolyn*

Charles and Carolyn Etheredge - March 22, 2017 at 06:21 PM