



Melba M. Jackson

March 12, 1939 - January 30, 2026

Melba M. Jackson of Graceville, Florida entered her heavenly home on January 30, 2026. She was born on March 12, 1939, the daughter of Ronald Martin and Mertice Carroll Martin. Melba was preceded in death by her parents and infant brother, Billy Durwood Martin.

Her parents always encouraged education, so it was no surprise that Melba graduated as the valedictorian of the Poplar Springs High School class of 1957. She fulfilled a dream of obtaining her A.A. degree from Chipola Jr. College in the 90's.

After graduation from high school, Melba worked at the Cash Drug Store where she learned to wrap gifts professionally and earned the honor of being the family gift wrapper. She always said this was her favorite job. She left there and worked as a bookkeeper for Martin Plumbing, owned by Aldean Martin. The business was closing due to Mr. Martin's health, so she began work at Poplar Springs school as secretary to then principal, Kenneth Yates. Melba then obtained a bookkeeping job with Superintendent Gerald Commander, Holmes County School Board. She left this position in 1977 to become head bookkeeper for Cody Taylor, Holmes County Clerk of Court. Computers were introduced into the workplace during her tenure. She distrusted them and continued keeping hard copy ledger books. Melba retired in 2003.

Melba instilled a strong work ethic into her daughters. When Hurricane Eloise hit in 1975, the courthouse was closed. Melba was unaware, reported to work, and remained until the storm passed. In 1977, the area received snow. Once again, Melba reported to work to find the courthouse closed but finished out her work hours.

After retirement, Melba enjoyed taking bus trips and cruises with the Jackson County Senior Citizens and the Cornerstone Ministry. She could often be found at neighborhood gatherings where good food was plentiful.

Melba was a long-time member and former trustee board member and women's ministry leader of Faith Assembly of God Church where she faithfully attended until her health prohibited attendance.

Melba is survived by her daughters, Teresa Sheets (Mike) and Cindy Jackson. Special friends, Sherrill Russell and Tina Pickron, all of Graceville; several cousins; and extended family at Sodalis Assisted Living Facility in Defuniak Springs. The family would like to thank Sodalis and the Bonifay Nursing Home for the exceptional care provided to our mother.

A Home going service will be held 10 AM (CST), Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at the Chapel of James & Lipford Funeral Home with Rev. John Broome officiating. Burial will follow in Marvin Chapel cemetery.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Monday, 5 PM until 7 PM.

Previous Events

Home-going Service

FEB 3. 10:00 AM (CT)

James & Lipford Funeral Home
5390 Cotton Street
Graceville, FL 32440
(850) 263-3238
<https://www.jamesandlipford.com>

Tribute Wall



“ James & Lipford Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Melba M. Jackson



James & Lipford Funeral Home - February 10 at 12:29 PM

JH

“ Cindy, the greatest hurt I ever experienced was when my mom died. I grieved for a very long time until the Lord reminded me that the day my mom closed her eyes in death she saw Jesus face to face. Ron and I are praying for you and your family. We know how much you, and many others, are going to miss Ms. Melba. I hope you will find comfort in knowing she left a beautiful legacy and her full reward is in focus, resting at the feet of her Savior, Christ Jesus.
Jackie and Ron Harvey

Jackie Harvey - February 07 at 01:26 PM

AW

“ A very special Lady. Always had a smile. Girls you had the best.
Ann

Ann Whiddon - February 05 at 08:53 AM