

Obituaries



MAE JESSIE POWELL NEWMAN

Before her ending, there was a beginning. Mae Jessie Powell Newman was born on October 9, 1931 in Benton, Mississippi to the parents of the late James and Ella Mae Powell. She was the fourth child of thirteen sisters and brothers.

Mae accepted Christ as Lord and Savior at an early age at Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, where she was a life-long member and gave a long-dedicated life as a servant of Christ. She worked tirelessly throughout the church but her first love was always singing in the choir where she served as president for over 40 years until her health began to fail. Her favorite gospel song that she loved to sing and continually lived her life by was "This Little Light of Mine".

Mae was united in holy matrimony to Earl Newman, Sr. on December 25, 1948. Ten children were born to this union. She also welcomed one bonus son, Willie James Newman, into this union. Earl, Sr. preceded her in death on May 28, 1984. Her daughter, Daisy Mae Brown; Willie James New-

man; along with six brothers, one sister, one granddaughter, two grandsons, and two great grandchildren preceded her in death.

Mae worked as a cook at Ebenezer Head Start Center and Lexington Elementary School until her retirement. It made her happy to help provide students with healthy and nutritious meals. She enjoyed watching the students grow and gain educational opportunities that she was not given as a youth in the Yazoo County School System. However, she was always a woman that would rise up to a challenge as she studied and gained her High School GED at the age of 50 and got her driver's license at the age of 55.

She enjoyed the simple things in life as she focused on her family. She loved beautiful colorful flowers, stylish clothes and hats, jewelry, visiting churches throughout the community, talking on the phone, traveling, watching The Price is Right and Wheel of Fortune on television, visiting with her friends and playing bingo at the Senior Citizen Center.

Mae lived a full and blessed life. She was known throughout the community as someone who would willingly help others. She served as an advocate and friend to so many by regularly visiting the sick and shut in, providing rides to those without transportation, and cooking for those in need of a meal. Mae met each person with a smile and actively displayed love and compassion for all. She was like a "second mom" to many. She constantly shared words of

encouragement and provided inspirational insights to all. She allowed her heart to be her compass and guide in her life.

Mae departed this life on September 8, 2020. She fought a good fight, finished her course, and kept the faith.

She will definitely be missed and leaves to cherish her memory her children, Maple Temple (Chicago, IL), Earl (Barbara) Newman (Springfield, IL), Irene Raghe (Atlanta, GA), Alice (Harry) Hayes (Springfield, IL), Timothy (Kim) Newman (Springfield, IL), Shirley Billingslea (Lexington, KY), Annette Newman (Palatine, IL), Rev. Roy (Jackie) Newman (Springfield, IL); Debra (Argilea III) Taylor (Dallas, TX); daughter-in-law Gloria Newman (Springfield, IL); son-in-law Floyd Brown, Sr. (Milwaukee, WI); 38 grandchildren; 66 great grandchildren; 35 great-great grandchildren; 1 great-great-great grandchild; 5 sisters; 1 brother; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Viewing will be held at Porter and Sons' Funeral Home, Friday, September 18, 2020, 2:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Gravesite service will be held Saturday, September 19, 2020, 11:00 a.m., Antioch M. B. Church, 622 Shipp Rd., Benton, MS. No viewing at gravesite. Masks are required and social distancing will be observed at the viewing and gravesite.

In lieu of flowers please make a donation to Antioch Missionary Baptist Church in care of Deacon L.C. Tate, 2020 Ebenezer Road, Pickens, MS 39146.

MS; four great grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews. Ruth was preceded in death by her husband William Lake (Sonny) Meek, Jr., parents, Sharkey and Louise White and siblings, Lucille White Harris, Col. Charles White, Dallas Bean White, Elizabeth White Moses and Jack White.

Ruth was born on August 16, 1926 in Cruger, MS. During the depression her family relocated to Lexington, MS where she finished high school at Lexington High and attended Drones Business School in Jackson, MS during the WWII years. She

married William (Sonny) Meek on February 22, 1947 in Bowling Green, KY and resided in Lexington raising their family. She was an employee of Holmes County Bank where she attained the position of Vice President and worked for many years until her retirement at the age of 75.

Ruth's passion was attending Ole Miss sporting events, particularly football, where she enjoyed her family and friends Saturdays in the Grove each fall until the age of 90. She poured herself into her family and loved spending time with all of her sons, daughters in laws, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Ruth was a member of First United Methodist Church in Lexington. Scripture in John 13:35 says, "By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Ruth lived a life of hospitality and service to oth-

"Skip the Line" Program to ease process time at driver services

Press Release

Governor Tate Reeves said, "It just didn't work right for the people of Mississippi. It was frustrating, confusing, and slow. Today, we're announcing some new efforts to change that. It will help Mississippians to skip the line and get in-and-out quickly. That helps with COVID-19 safety. It's also just better. It treats the people of Mississippi the way they deserve to be treated--with respect for your time and wise use of your tax dollars. I'm grateful to Commissioner Tindell and everyone who has worked diligently on this effort."

Newly appointed Public Safety Commissioner Sean Tindell said, "We are committed to reducing the lines at our Driver Service Bureau. Shortly after taking office, we identified several redundancies in our processes related to renewals of driver's licenses and firearm

permits. We have worked diligently to remove these redundancies, resulting in reduced processing times for customers." The Mississippi Department of Public Safety is excited to offer the "Skip the Line" program to our customers. The program includes several new components to reduce customer wait times.

• Online Appointment System: Effective September 14, 2020, customers can schedule an appointment at the location of their choice in the Troop K (Gulf Coast) and Troop C (Jackson Metro) Regions. This feature will be available statewide on October 1, 2020. All appointments will be given priority service over walk-in customers.

• Skip the Line Cam: Customers can view the lines at all major Driver License stations prior to arriving by visiting [erservicebureau.dps.ms.gov/live-feeds. This feature will be available at all troop locations on October 1, 2020.](https://www.driv-</p></div>
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• Online/Mail-In Firearm Renewal: Effective immediately, all firearm permit renewal applications will be mail-in only. Firearm permit renewal applications are available online at <https://www.driverservicebureau.dps.ms.gov/Firearms/Home>. This program will eliminate the need to renew in person and the requirement that customers be fingerprinted for a firearm permit renewal.

• Removal of Alphabet Schedule: Effective October 1, 2020, all services (including processing of new firearm permits) will be available every day of the week.

For additional information about the "Skip the Line" program, please visit our website at <https://www.dps.ms.gov/> or <https://www.driverservicebureau.dps.ms.gov/>.



OUR HOUSE INC.

Monthly online chat is available for sexual assault victims/survivors in the Mississippi Delta area, the third Monday of each month Safe Online Space (SOS) for Healing Conversations, Monday, September 21, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Visit www.ourhousevoices.com

9-17

WEST GROVE M.B.C

West Grove M.B. Church in Lexington will host its 135th Year Church Anniversary on Sunday, September 27, at 11 a.m.

9-17,24

MEMBER



MISSISSIPPI PRESS ASSOCIATION (USPS 247-680)

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
In Holmes County - \$35.00
In Mississippi - \$40.00
Outside Mississippi - \$50.00



WILLIAM CALVIN FERGUSON, SR.

William Calvin Ferguson, Sr. was born on September 13, 1931 in Durant, Mississippi and died Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at home with his family in Birmingham, AL. He was born to Max Dewitt and Lucille Elizabeth Ferguson. He attended and graduated from Durant City schools, Holmes County Junior College and Mississippi State University, served in the United States Navy during the Korean Conflict aboard the U.S.S. Windham Bay and travelled to Hawaii, Guam, the Philippines, Vietnam, and Japan. Later in his career as an Industrial Engineer in the apparel industry, he was able to travel not only in the United States but also to North Africa, Central America, South America, Mexico, and the Caribbean where he and his wife lived in

ers which was evidence of her faith in Jesus Christ, her savior. She loved many and many loved her. She will be greatly missed.

A celebration of her life took place Friday, September 11, 2020, at 11:00 a.m. for a graveside service, Odd Fellows Cemetery, Lexington, MS. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations to Getwell Church, England Missions Fund, 7875 Getwell Road, Southaven, MS 38672.



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