



Mary Elizabeth Childress

January 9, 1935 - April 10, 2026

On Friday, April 10, 2026, Mary E. Moss Childress, age 91, of Tullahoma, Tennessee, peacefully transitioned from this life at NHC Tullahoma. Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 12:00 PM at Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church located at 301 S. Washington Street in Tullahoma, Tennessee. Burial will follow at Watson Memorial Park in Winchester, Tennessee. Friends may visit at the church on Wednesday from 10:00 AM until the time of service.

Mary was born on January 9, 1935, to the late Phillip Moss and Nancy Wilkerson Moss. She proudly attended the historic Asia School (Franklin Co., TN), which helped shape her strength, resilience, and values. In 1953, she married George Childress, and they had two children: Jeffery & Joyce.

A dedicated and hardworking woman, her employment included Genesco, TN Apparel, Ascend Credit Union, and Walmart. In 1970, she became a homeowner, serving as a trailblazer for her family and as a testament that with faith, determination, and God's blessings, anything is possible.

She accepted Christ as her personal Savior and united with Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church, where she was baptized by Rev. James A. Crutchfield, Jr. She faithfully served on the Usher Board and remained committed to her Christian walk.

For many years, she was also a dedicated member of the Walter Denny Lodge, where she served her community in various ways.

Mary was the beloved matriarch of her family, a woman of quiet strength,

grace, and unwavering love. Cooking was her love language, and she shared it generously through cherished family dinners, weekend gatherings, and her annual Christmas morning breakfasts. Her gold-winning biscuit recipe, recognized by 4-H in Tennessee, remains a treasured part of her legacy. She was a devoted mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend. Her gentle spirit, kind heart, and pleasant demeanor left a lasting impression on all who knew her. She was known for leaving others with a smile and a simple, heartfelt reminder to “have a nice day.” Her life was a beautiful reflection of grace, and her influence will continue to live on in the many lives she touched.

She was preceded in death by her son, Jeffery W. Childress; son-in-law, SFC Thomas Blake; siblings, Clarence Moss, Jessie Allgood, Elaine Hayworth, Sandra Burnette, and Phillip Moss, Jr.; and brothers-in-law, Rev. Fred Blackwell, Jr., Gary Robinson, and Joe Allgood.

She leaves to cherish her memory: her devoted daughter, Joyce Blake; granddaughters, Dr. Monica Blake (Michael) Beasley, Carla Childress, Felecia Childress, and Latoy Berry; grandsons, George Childress and Dameon Berry; 13 great-grandchildren; loving sisters, Kay Blackwell and Linda Robinson; sisters-in-law, Leona Moss and Waldean (Samuel) Wilkerson; brother-in-law, William Hayworth; along with a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, and dear friends.

Though she is no longer with us in body, her spirit will forever live on through the love she gave and the legacy she leaves behind.

Online condolences may be made at www.davesculbertsonfuneralhome.com
Daves-Culbertson funeral home is honored to assist the family of Mary Elizabeth Childress.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 15. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church
301 S Washington Street
Tullahoma, TN 37388

Funeral Service

APR 15. 12:00 PM (CT)

Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church
301 S Washington Street
Tullahoma, TN 37388

Burial

APR 15.

Watson Memorial Park
Winchester, TN

Tribute Wall



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mary Elizabeth Childress.*



April 15 at 07:54 AM



“ *I worked with Ms. Mary at Walmart and she was a true blessing to this world! I enjoyed our talks and just being with her. You will shine bright in heaven Ms. Mary! Take your rest!*

Gena - April 14 at 05:52 PM



“ *To Family and Love Ones left behind. I am so sorrowful to hear of Cousin Mary's Passing. When we would visit Mary she always greeted us with Love and a Smile. Remembering many years ago when Mary and Henry lived in Indiana she left an example of Love and Peace and Humility. Mary Loved GOD her family and People. We will not be able to attend her Memorial Service and that hurts us all here. Family, Please continue to look towards the Hills from which comes our Help. We Love you all. Family Please know that Mary is Loved and will be Missed.*

*Indianapolis, Indiana Family
Debera Larkins-Greene 🙏🙏*

Debera Larkins-greene - April 14 at 04:16 PM

MH

“ *Minnie Henderson lit a candle in memory of Mary Childress*



Minnie Henderson - April 14 at 11:43 AM

GD

“ *I met Mary while working at Tennessee Apparel Corporation. A precious lady.*

Ginger Delius - April 14 at 11:40 AM

FE

“ *I miss you so much already but you'll forever in my heart always* 💜



Felecia - April 14 at 03:41 AM

EF

“ *Estella Fuqua lit a candle in memory of Mary Childress*



Estella Fuqua - April 13 at 10:25 PM

JT

“ *Miss Mary wasn't one to seek you out, but when you was in her presence you felt welcomed and her smile warmed you to your core! Just a sweet simple soul that you felt blessed by just being close to her! Joyce, Monica and Carla I send my deepest condolences on your and your loved ones loss! A purer soul such as Miss Mary's doesn't pass this was often. She will be missed! Sincerely, Jennene Tillman (Williams)*



Jennene Tillman - April 13 at 06:49 PM