



## Mary Childress

July 23, 1929 - September 27, 2019

Mary Evelyn Hensley was born July 23, 1929 to Rev. Jim and Pearl Hensley near Bolivar, MO. She passed away on September 27, 2019 at the age of 90.

Mary was united in marriage to Ralph L. Childress on November 7, 1946. Three children were born to this union.

She was saved at the age of twelve, and was a charter member of Southside Missionary Baptist Church in Bolivar where she served as pianist.

Mary loved her hometown and enjoyed working on many projects with the Bolivar Community Betterment Association. The most important things in her life were her faith in God, her family, and her love of music. She opened Childress Music in 1967 and operated it until her retirement.

Mary is survived by a son, Jerry Childress of Bolivar, MO; two daughters and their spouses, Barbara and Dusty McMurren of Berryville, AR and Lisa and Brett Jarvis of Bolivar, MO; three granddaughters, Baylee Bass and husband Jeremy of Berryville, AR, Addie Jarvis of Bolivar, MO, and Jena Brent of Branson, MO; four great-grandchildren, Carolynn Bass of Berryville, AR, Preston, Abigayle, and Adysen Brent of Branson, MO; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, parents, one brother, Wilbur Hensley; two sisters, Opha Redman and Winifred McGinnis; and daughter-in-law Barbara Childress.

Funeral Services for Mary Childress will be held Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at 11 Am at the Butler Funeral Home in Bolivar, MO. Visitation will be held Monday, September 30, 2019 from 5-7 PM at the Butler Funeral Home in Bolivar, MO. Graveside services will be held at Greenwood Cemetery.

Memorial contributions can be made in Mary's honor to the Southside Missionary Baptist Church.

# Cemetery Details

## Greenwood Cemetery

S. Dunnegan Ave.  
Bolivar, MO 65613

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 30. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Butler Funeral Home - Bolivar  
407 E. Broadway  
Bolivar, MO 65613  
(417) 326-5233  
<https://butlerfuneralhome.com/>

## Funeral Service

OCT 1. 11:00 AM (CT)

Butler Funeral Home - Bolivar  
407 E. Broadway  
Bolivar, MO 65613  
(417) 326-5233  
<https://butlerfuneralhome.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Childress*

October 05, 2023 at 05:18 AM



“ *Mary Childress*

January 26, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ *Mary was an amazing woman. I have known her almost my whole life. She was a pillar of our community and loved music so much. She even sold my daughter her first flute. She will live on the souls that she touched.*



**Donna Binns** - November 11, 2019 at 11:54 PM



“ *Mary Mckee lit a candle in memory of Mary Childress*



**Mary mckee** - October 02, 2019 at 02:32 PM



“ *Lisa and family: I am so very sorry for your loss! Mary was such a special lady and will be sorely missed. Treasure the memories! Our thoughts and prayers are with you!*  
*Jennifer Smith*

**Jennifer Smith** - October 01, 2019 at 06:52 PM

VS

“ *Mary was my accordion instructor many years ago...I can still remember when I first met her. I was probably 10 or 11 years old and I thought she was a beautiful woman with her gorgeous hair and her pretty smile. I was determined to learn to play like her and I still play the accordion Mary sold to my husband, Terry, as a gift to me for our 20th wedding anniversary over 27 years ago. I know she made a difference in the lives of many people just as she did mine...thank you for the memories...Vickie Scott Sowers*

Vickie (Scott) Sowers - October 01, 2019 at 12:38 PM

TH

“ 1 file added to the album Video



Taylor Howe - September 30, 2019 at 04:11 PM

MM

*AGreat song for a great lady*

Mary mckee - October 02, 2019 at 02:38 PM

JW

“ *So sorry to learn of Mary's passing. She was a special lady 💔 I took accordion lessons from her. My dad, Bysor Shelenhamer, wanted me to learn how to play "San Antonio Rose" like she played it. Of course, I couldn't! No one could play it like she did 💔 She will be missed. Sorry I won't be able to attend her service. Prayers for comfort and peace. Judy Wollard*

Judy Wollard - September 30, 2019 at 01:42 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Mary Childress.*



September 30, 2019 at 01:14 PM



“ *Mary was a good lady! I know she will be greatly missed!*



**Larry & Melissa Crites** - September 29, 2019 at 02:15 PM



“ *I remember being at one of the music "play off" where so many of the local talent came together to enjoy a full and very long night of all kinds of musicians! Mrs. Childress was right there in the middle of it all! She not only made sure everyone both young and elder, were taken care of, introduced me to a few different instruments, but also made sure to keep all the kids running around in check. Such an amazing person. I am truly sorry..... She will be missed by many.....*

**Patti Butler** - September 29, 2019 at 01:57 AM



“ *I and my family are so sorry for your loss . John Choate*

**John Choate** - September 28, 2019 at 10:08 PM

SA

“ Jerry, Barbara & Lisa, I was just talking about your Mom the other day & how she taught me to play the accordion. My sincere condolences to your families.

*Shirley (Hook)Albright*

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**shirley albright** - September 28, 2019 at 08:23 PM

MW

“ Lisa I will always remember your love and kindness you and your mom gave me when my mom Martha Jones passed. Your mom was also there for me when my grandmother Pauline Hensley passed and because of your mom and family my grandmother's life was celebrated at your church. We send our love to your family now.

*Jeff and Mary (Hensley) Warner*

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**Mary (Hensey) Warner** - September 28, 2019 at 06:35 PM

DR

“ My first job was teaching piano lessons in her studio. She was a very classy lady.

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**Dana Rocha** - September 28, 2019 at 02:17 PM

DJ

“ So sorry for your loss your mom was a very special lady . Debbie and Kenny jackson

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**debbie jackson** - September 28, 2019 at 01:38 PM