



Geraldine Hester

September 3, 1938 - June 9, 2026

Geraldine Hester, 87, passed away on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Booneville. She was born on September 3, 1938, to Carl and Ruth Ashcraft.

Geraldine loved her family deeply. She was a devout Christian and a caregiver/caretaker. Her mother often referred to her as “The Big Boss.” She was known as “Meme” to her grands and great-grands. She was an animal lover especially to her beloved dog, Crystal, and her two cats, Tom and Jerry. Geraldine enjoyed gardening, messing with her flowerbed and working crossword puzzles. She enjoyed listening to music. Elvis and The Gaithers were her favorites.

She leaves behind her husband of 51 years, Terry; son, David Qualls (Pam) of Saltillo; granddaughter, Amanda Jooste (Nic); great-grandchildren, Nico Jooste and Bodhi Jooste; A host of nieces and nephews that she loved dearly. And a special thanks to Rickey Butler, Brenda Barnes, and Sherri Ashcraft for their generous support, loyalty, and dedication during her most difficult times; brothers in law, Bill Isbell and Wayne Gray.

Geraldine is preceded in death by her parents; grandsons, CJ Qualls and Joe Qualls; nephew, Timothy Gray; niece, Catherine Howe; brothers, Roy Milton Ashcraft (Lena Pearl), Cleyone “Pick” Ashcraft (Allie), and Bobby Loyd Ashcraft (Ruby); sisters, Eloise Butler (C.S.), Zera Grace Ashcraft, Shirley Ann Isbell, and Wanda Jean Gray; nephew, Roy Wayne Ashcraft and niece Marilyn Sappington.

Visitation will be held on Friday, June 12, 2026, from 1:00 PM until 3:00 PM at Booneville Funeral Home. Funeral services will follow at 3:00 PM in the Chapel. Bro. Jerry Wallace and Bro. Terry Tedley will be officiating. Burial will be in the Liberty Memorial Garden. Booneville Funeral Home will be in charge of arrangements.

Pallbearers will be Gary Ashcraft, Michael Gray, Jeff Ashcraft, Greg Davis, Randy Isbell, Danny Isbell and Rickey Butler. Honorary pallbearers will be H.L. Richie, Donald Davis, Wayne Gray, James Ray Brown, Tulon Lambert, Danny Stites, and Chris Hart.

Cemetery Details

Liberty Memorial Gardens

Booneville, MS

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 12. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Booneville Funeral Home
506 North Third Street
Booneville, MS 38829
(662) 728-6607
<https://www.boonevillefuneralhome.net>

Funeral Service

JUN 12. 3:00 PM (CT)

Booneville Funeral Home
506 North Third Street
Booneville, MS 38829
(662) 728-6607
<https://www.boonevillefuneralhome.net>

Burial

JUN 12 (CT)

Liberty Memorial Gardens
Booneville, MS

Tribute Wall

AJ

“ I would stay with Meme and Pawpaw for weeks at a time during my childhood. I would wake up to her listening to her favorite local gospel station on the FM and smell the aroma of bacon and chocolate and biscuits in the air. She was also the one that introduced me to some classic movies like *The Ghost and Ms Muir*, all *The Shirley Temples*, *Alfred Hitchcock classics*, *Ghost*, and *Dirty Dancing*. Hints my love for *Patrick Swayze*. I still laugh when I watch *Dirty Dancing* and remember her standing in front of the tv, hands on her hips, in the attempt to block me from seeing the “dirty” parts.



She let me learn to drive in her little white Mazda on some old county backroads. And the endless trips she made to come stay with the boys in Oxford. I would get home from work and she would be hula hooping or on the floor playing with the boys. She was a very cool lady and I'm so very blessed to have had her in my life.

Amanda Jooste - June 10 at 11:19 PM

CW

“ Aunt Geraldine liked to introduce me as ‘the one who made her an AUNT - followed by ‘doesn’t she look just like me? Never waiting on an answer. She has been with me through every major event of my life. She was my first babysitter and lived with my family in Illinois. She will be missed. Carolyn & Don Whitehead

Carolyn Whitehead - June 10 at 08:13 PM