



## DON'T CRY FOR ME

Don't Cry For Me  
Don't cry for me.  
I will be okay.  
Heaven is my home now,  
and this is where I'll stay.

Don't cry for me.  
I'm where I belong.  
I want you to be happy  
and try to stay strong.

Don't cry for me.  
It was just my time,  
but I will see you someday  
on the other side.

Don't cry for me,  
for I have no more fears.  
All my pain is gone,  
and Jesus took my tears.

Don't cry for me.  
This is not the end.  
I'll be waiting here for you  
on that day when we meet again.

## Acknowledgements

The family of Lessie Bell Jenkins would like to thank everyone for their kindness and love shown to us during this time. Your phone calls, text messages, visits, thoughts, and prayers have been a tremendous comfort and warm hug during our time of bereavement.

We would like to extend a special thanks Adoration Home Health & Hospice, especially Linda Patterson; Bonita Collins; Christy Bell; Maria Winters; and Pam Doorman for their care, support, and loving treatment of our mother and grandmother, Lessie Bell Jenkins, during this time.

May God continue to bless each of you.

### Honorary Pallbearers

- Johnny A. Jenkins Jr.
- Albert Earl Richardson, Sr.
- Jefferson Grayer
- Tyrone Richardson
- Tonny Grayer
- Eddie Moton
- Joshua Richardson
- Michael Jenkins

All Great-Grandsons and Great-great-grandsons

- Leonard Thurman
- Samuel Thornton
- Roosevelt Thornton
- Calvin Thornton

### Active Pallbearers

- Derek Jackson
- Eric Jackson
- Darryl Jenkins
- Albert Earl Richardson Jr.
- Calvin Richardson
- Matthew Richardson

### Flower Bearers

Family & Friends

### Interment

New Pleasant Grove Cemetery  
210 Wilson Holmes Rd  
Benton, MS 39040

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO:



SHAFFER-COLLINS FUNERAL HOME  
247 WEST SIXTH STREET  
YAZOO CITY, MISSISSIPPI 39194  
OFFICE: 662-746-3985

"OUR FAMILY SERVING YOUR COMMUNITY"



A LIFE FULL OF  
GRACE AND LIGHT

MOTHER

# Lessie

BELL JENKINS

SUNRISE:  
MARCH 4, 1922



SUNSET:  
FEBRUARY 16, 2026

Saturday, February 28, 2026 | 11:00 am  
New Pleasant Grove M.B. Church  
647 Terrell Rd Benton, MS 39040  
Rev. Clarence Blackmon, Jr. Pastor

# Lessie BELL Jenkins

Lessie Bell Jenkins was the sixth child born to the late Scott Thornton and Mattie Hill Thornton on March 4th, 1922, in Yazoo County, Mississippi. While surrounded by her loved ones, Lessie Bell departed this earthly journey peacefully on February 16th, 2026, in Bentonia, MS.

Growing up in Phoenix, Mississippi; Bentonia, MS; and Bolton, Mississippi, Lessie Bell accepted Christ at an early age. She joined New Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor Cox. She was a faithful member of New Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church, where she faithfully attended until her health failed her.

In the 1940s, Lessie Bell married Reverend Johnny A. Jenkins Sr. To this union, seven children were born. Lessie Bell Jenkins also had a son, Bobby Lee Thornton.

Lessie Bell spent her life as a farmer and mother. She spent her years in Bentonia, MS; she was known as a woman who was a hard-worker, helping hand, good cook, and an extraordinary mother. Lessie Bell always had a word for you, like "Don't pick up no hitchhiker.", as you left her home; this was to make sure that you kept safe until the next time she saw you. Throughout the years, she served as her family matriarch; she was a mother when some needed one, a grandmother when you missed yours, and a therapist that always kept it real when you needed to talk about your life. Lessie Bell Thornton Jenkins was one of a kind that many were lucky to come across.

Lessie Bell Jenkins was preceded in death by one daughter, Minnie Lee Jenkins; a son, Bobby Lee Thornton; her parents, Scott and Mattie Hill Thornton; siblings: Clemmie Thornton, Lula Mae Fisher, Johnny Thornton, Excell Thornton, Lillie Mae McPherson, and Reverend George Thornton; grandchildren: Benjamin O. Haggard, Florette Willard, Deidra (Trina) Jenkins, and Andrew (Drew) Jackson; sons-in-law: Henry Jackson, J.C. Grayer, and Clifton Miller. Lessie Bell Jenkins was also preceded in death by her husband, Reverend Johnny A. Jenkins Sr.

Lessie Bell Jenkins leaves to cherish her loving memories one son: Johnny (Earnestine) Jenkins, Jr. of Bentonia, MS, five daughters: Mary Lee Jenkins of Jackson, MS; Virginia Jackson; Flora Bell Miller; Dorothy Jenkins, all of Yazoo City MS; Rosetta Grayer, and Katherine (Albert Earl) Richardson both of Bentonia, MS. Lessie Bell also leaves to cherish her memories alot of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, great-great-great grandchildren whom she loved and treat oh so wonderfully. Lessie Bell also leaves a host of niece, nephews, cousin, and friends

# Order of Service

~Mistress of Ceremony ~  
Sister Margaret Blackmon

- Processional.....Clergy and Family
- Scripture Reading  
Old & New Testament.....Rev. Troy Davis
- Song.....Choir
- Prayer.....Bro. Samuel Thornton
- Song.....Choir
- Words of Comfort.....Pastor Willie Richardson, Sr.
- Acknowledgements.....Sis. Margaret Blackmon
- Reflections..... (2 Minutes, Please).....Family
- Obituary.....Read Silently
- Solo.....Ureka Richardson
- Eulogy.....Pastor Clarence Blackmon
- Shaffer-Collins Funeral Directors In Charge
- Recessional.....Clergy, Family, and Friends

## IF ROSES GROW IN HEAVEN

If roses grow in heaven,  
Lord, please pick a bunch for me.  
Place them in my mother's arms,  
And tell her they're from me.  
Tell her that I love her,  
And miss her, and when she turns to smile,  
Place a kiss upon her cheek,  
And hold her for a while.  
Because remembering her is easy,  
I do it every day,  
But there's an ache within my heart,  
That will never go away.

Love, Your Children (Mary Lee, Virginia, Johnny,  
Rosetta, Flora Bell, Dorothy, and Katherine)

## GRANDMA,

God looked around his garden  
and found an empty space.  
Then he looked down upon this earth  
And saw your tired face.  
He put his arms around you  
And lifted you to rest.  
God's garden must be beautiful  
He only takes the best.

Love, your grandchildren.

## IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR WONDERFUL GRANDMOTHER

Of all the special gifts in life  
however great or small,  
to have you as our Grandmother  
was the greatest gift of all.

May the winds of love blow softly  
and whisper in your ear  
"We love and miss you Grandmother  
and wish that you were here."

Deep in our hearts,  
your life is kept to love and cherish,  
not forget.  
No more tomorrows we can share  
but yesterday are always there.

A silent thought, a secret tear  
keeps your memory ever near  
in our hearts forever.

Love, Darryl, Cynthia (Cindy), Shanta (Tae)

TRIBUTES

