Celebration of Life

for



Brenda Faye (Thurman) Seals

Sunrise: June 28, 1966 **Sunset: October 25, 2026**

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters."
Psalm 23:1-2

Friday, October 30, 2026 | 11:00 a.m.

Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church
803 Simpson Highway 540E
Mendenhall, Mississippi 39114
Reverend Willie Barber, Pastor & Officiant

Order of Service

Processional ..... Clergy & Family

Mistress of Ceremonies ..... Sister Nichola Sta-en Young

Song ..... Pastor Willie B. Hobbs, Jr.

Scripture Readings

Old Testament ..... Pastor G. Mitchell Chatman

New Testament ..... Pastor Aaron Williams

Prayer ..... Minister Tony Tillison

Song ..... Sister Eliza Barber & Sister Lela Magee

Words of Encouragement ..... Pastor Dr. F. Bernard Mitchell

Remarks ..... (Two Minutes) ..... Family & Friends

Tribute as an Usher ..... Sister Marilyn Jafry

Tribute as a Church Member ..... Brother Charles Womack

Song ..... Sister Lela Magee

Obituary ..... Read Silently ..... Soft Music

Acknowledgments ..... Sister Nichola Sta-en Young

Song ..... The Tillman Family

Eulogy ..... Pastor Willie Barber

Recessional ..... Funeral Directors of J&M Funeral Home



"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me."
John 14:1



Obituary

Brenda Faye (Thurman) Seals *was born June 28, 1966, to John and Mary Louise Thurman. She departed this life on Sunday, October 25, 2026.*

Brenda, at an early age, joined Water Grove Missionary Baptist Church where she was a choir member. She grew up in Simpson County where she attended Mendenhall School. She later met and married Bruce Seals and joined Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church and she served on the Usher Board. She remained a faithful servant until her death. She enjoyed serving as an usher.

Brenda enjoyed being with her children, grandchildren, and her family. She loved being outside with family and friends. She had a natural ability for growing plants and flowers.

Brenda was a direct care worker, and she enjoyed helping the elderly.

Brenda leaves to cherish her precious memory: a loving husband, Bruce Seals of Mendenhall, Mississippi; her mother, Mary Louise Thurman; her mother-in-law, Ruby Hays; two daughters, KeAricca Craft and C'Aricca Craft, both of Magee, Mississippi; bonus daughter, Shemicka Byrd, also of Magee, Mississippi; two sons, Nathaniel (Ronnisha) Thurman of Byram, Mississippi, and Bryan (Rahquetta) Thurman of Mt. Olive, Mississippi; three sisters, Avis (Robert) Grant of Magee, Mississippi, Teresa (Terry) Thompson of Pearl, Mississippi, and Merica Thurman of Gulfport, Mississippi; five brothers, Eric (Rand) Thurman of Prentiss, Mississippi, Emmanuel Thurman and Wiley Thurman, both of Mendenhall, Mississippi, Lee M. Williamson of Brandon, Mississippi; and Jonathan Thurman of Gulfport, Mississippi; four sisters-in-law, Edna Janice Womack of Ypsilanti, Michigan, Mary McLaurin of Laurel, Mississippi, Angelia Brakefield of Jackson, Mississippi, and Rachetta (James) Ayers of Waynesboro, Mississippi; 25 grandchildren along with a host of nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

Brenda was preceded in death by her father, John E. Thurman; her son, Joshua Thurman; and her brother, Samuel Thurman.

This Is Not Goodbye

I did not want to leave you. It was just my time to go. I know your heart is breaking. So, I need to let you know that although you can no longer see me. I'll be forever by your side. I promise time will numb the pain and help dry the tears you've cried.

You can reach me in your memories. Just think of me, I will be there. In your dreams, we can visit yesteryear where we didn't have a care. Please carry on and live your life. I beg you to try. Just know we'll meet again one day as this is not goodbye. ***-Love You All - Brenda***

Tributes

In Loving Memory of My Beloved Wife



It broke my heart to lose you. You have left an empty space. The love we had together cannot ever be replaced. I will never forget you, all the happy times we shared. The joy you brought into my life can never be compared. You're with me every moment. Now that we're living apart, you live on as precious memories like keepsakes in my heart. I miss you more than words can say, my beautiful, wonderful Wife. Only time can heal my pain. You were the one true love of my life.

LOVE YOU FOREVER BRUCE

For My Daughter in Heaven

I hide my tears when I say your name.
But the pain in my heart is still the same.
Although I smile and seem carefree, there is no one who misses you more than me!

LOVE YOUR MOTHER



Your Love Will Live Forever Our Queen



You were the heart of our family – our Queen, our Matriarch, and the one who helped hold us all together. Your love covered us, your prayers carried us, and your strength showed us how to keep going even when life was hard. You gave us a sense of family that we will carry for generations. We will miss your voice, your smile, your presence, and simply knowing you were there. But most of all, we will forever be grateful that God chose YOU to be ours. You gave us roots, you gave us love, and you gave us each other. We love you, we honor you, and we will carry your legacy with us always.

Rest Well, Our Beautiful Queen
Your family is your legacy – and your love will live on through us.

LOVE YOUR CHILDREN

Tributes

To Our Grandmother

To a special grandmother – patient, kind, and true; no other friend in all the world, will be the same to you. When other friends forsake you, to Grandma you will return, for all her loving kindness, she asks nothing in return. As we look upon her picture, sweet memories we recall, of a face so full of sunshine, and a smile for one and all. Sweet Jesus, take this message, to our dear Grandma up above; tell her how we miss her, and give her all our love.

LOVE YOUR GRANDCHILDREN

My Sister

For over a half a century, we lived right beside each other close enough to see one another and check on one another, share a conversation, laugh together, and simply know that the other was there.

Now, we look next door, and I know you won't be there. That is a pain in our hearts that we are still trying to understand. We know God called you home, but a sibling is never truly ready to say goodbye. There will always be an empty place beside me now, a place that no one else can fill.

We will miss seeing you, talking with you, laughing with you, and knowing that our sister was just next door. We will miss the comfort of simply having you near.

Our hearts hurt because we love you. But we find comfort knowing that our bond did not end with your passing. You will live on in our hearts. Until we meet again, our sweet sister, rest peacefully. We love you more than words could ever say.

YOUR SIBLINGS

In Loving Memory of Our Wonderful Aunt

You were one in a million, one of a kind, like a rare crystal, so hard to find. Your humor will be missed and your loving heart.

It all happened so fast, it's so sad we had to part. You were struggling so much, it's no surprise that God took your hand and whispered "Just close your eyes. I will take care of you now, you can rest in peace." Reunited with your loved ones, and out of pain. A devasting loss but heaven's gain.

You will be truly missed and though of every day. So many things we didn't get a chance to say. Your memories will last a lifetime and fill us all with love. Now it's your time to rest and sleep tight with the angels up above.

FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS
YOUR NIECES & NEPHEWS

Brenda, *you came into our family in a special way and left us with memories that will never fade away. You were more than just my son's wife, You became a part of our family, a part of our life. Although God called you home, and we had to say goodbye. There are days I still wonder why, and tears fall from my eyes. I wish I could see your smile once more, hear your voice again, and hug you like before.*

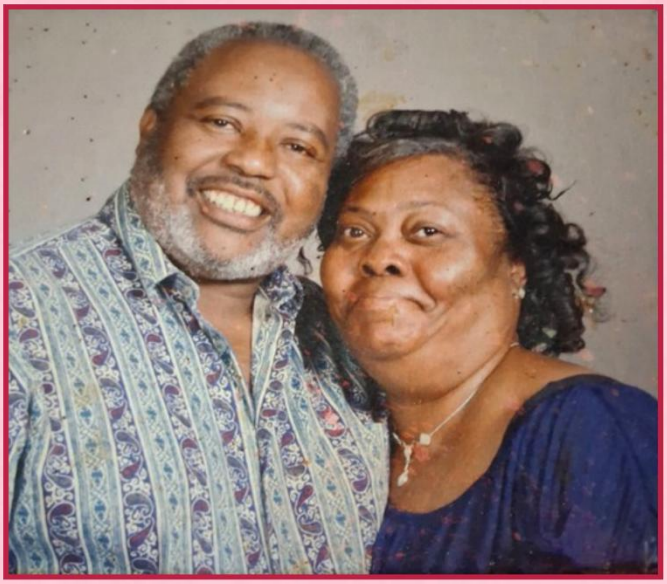
Thank you for the love you gave, for the memories you left behind, for the special place you hold in my heart, a place no one else could ever fill. You may no longer walk beside us, but your love will always stay. And though my heart is filled with sorrow, I trust God to guide me day by day. You were my daughter-in-law, but you were so much more than that. You were a precious part of our family, and a love I can never take back.

Until we meet again in Heaven, where sorrow and pain are gone, I'll hold you close within my heart and remember you as the days go on.
Rest peacefully, my dear daughter-in-love

YOUR MOTHER-IN-LOVE, RUBY

Cherished Memories...











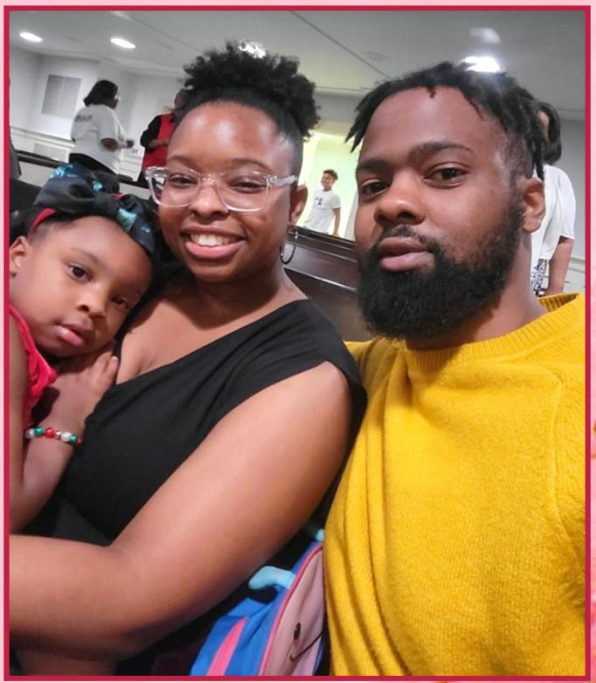




















Cherished Memories...









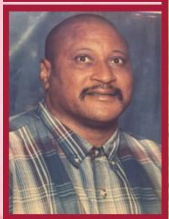
























Acknowledgments

The Seals and Thurman families express our deepest appreciation for your kind expressions of sympathy during this difficult time. Though our hearts are bowed in sorrow over the passing of our beloved wife, mother, daughter, daughter-in-law, grandmother, sister, and aunt, your love and support have helped ease our burdens, and we are truly grateful.

Your prayers, comforting words, and many acts of kindness will never be forgotten. From the depths of our hearts, we thank each of you. May God bless you and keep you in His loving care.

Honorary Pallbearers

Byran Thurman
Nathaniel Thurman
Eric Thurman
Wiley Thurman
Emmanuel Thurman
Lee Mavin Williamson
Jonathan Thurman

Active Pallbearers

Terry Thompson
Tabuyz Camper
Lamond Owens
Dennis Craft
Raymond Craft
Cedric Fletcher
Brandon Mills
Gromico Womack

Flower Girls

Nieces

Interment

Bethlehem Church Cemetery

Repast

Home of Mrs. Ruby Hays
112 Eddie Womack Road
Mendenhall, Mississippi 39114



Services Entrusted to

J & M Funeral Home, LLC
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Mendenhall, Mississippi 39114
(601)847-2911 • www.jandmfuneralhome.com
"Your Trust, Sacredly Kept"

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