



Lavelle Carpenter May

December 24, 1926 - July 31, 2019

Lavelle Carpenter May, age 92, passed away peacefully Wednesday, July 31, 2019 at a local hospital. She was born in 1926 in Yazoo City, Mississippi to the late S.E. and Annie Belle Coody Carpenter. Lavelle loved to share stories from her childhood adventures of her siblings and neighbors. A youth filled with outside recreation led to a lifelong passion for being outdoors, and she especially loved vegetable and flower gardening. From her mother, Lavelle inherited a deep love of; cooking, serving others, and the Lord Jesus. Throughout her life, she sought God's will and trusted in his providential wisdom. As a young girl thinking about who she would marry, Lavelle claimed she would never marry a younger man or a preacher. God had other plans. During high school in Petal, Mississippi, Lavelle met F. J. (Joe) May, who was one year younger and who was called to be a preacher. They were married June 30, 1946, and celebrated their 73rd wedding anniversary this year. They shared a wonderful life together, raising a beautiful family while ministering in the Church of God. Their ministry took them from Mississippi to Alabama, Missouri, Illinois, North Dakota, and Louisville, KY. In 1975 their ministry brought them to Cleveland, TN, where they became members of North Cleveland Church of God. Lavelle founded and was a long-time leader of the Ladies Prayer and Praise group at North Cleveland Church. Her family and friends remember her as a prayer warrior, as well as a mentor to numerous women throughout her life.

Above all, Lavelle was a wonderful wife, mother, and grandmother. Her husband, their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren were the joys of her life.

In addition to her parents, she was preceeded in death by four brothers; Robert Carpenter, Raymond Carpenter, William Carpenter, and Stanley Carpenter, three sisters; Ora Belle Buxton, Lurline Hammack, and Juanita Prothro.

She is survived by her loving husband Dr. F. J. May of Cleveland, TN, two sons; Wendell May (Twila) of Louisville, KY, and Flavius May Jr. (Candi) of Shepherdsville, KY, three daughters; Myra Sumner (Jeff) of Springfield, TN, Jeanine Redman (Jerry) and Marilyn Grissom all of Cleveland, TN, two sisters; Mildred Hewes of Pennsicola, FL, Mary

Elizabeth Dobbins of Jacksonville, FL, four grandchildren; Brandon May (Amy) and Rachel Mansilla (Lautaro) all of Louisville, KY, Jennifer Redman of Chattanooga, TN, and Elexus Sumner Braden (Jacob) of White House, TN, four great-grandchildren; Jacob May, Sam May, Jaxson Braden, and Martin Mansilla and several nieces and nephews also survive.

The Remembrance of Life Service will be held Friday evening at 7 P. M. at North Cleveland Church of God, Dixon Chapel with Pastor Mark Williams and Reverend Mitch Maloney officiating. The family will receive friends in Dixon Chapel from 5 to 7 prior to the service.

Graveside Services and Interment will be held Saturday at 11:00 A. M. at Sunset Memorial Gardens with Reverend Travis Porter officiating. Pallbearers will be Wendell May, Jerry Redman, Jeff Sumner, Jacob Braden, Lautaro Mansilla, and Tonnie May. Honorary pallbearers will be members of the Unity Sunday School class. The Jim Rush Funeral and Cremation Services North Ocoee Chapel has charge of the arrangements. You may share your condolences and your memories with the May family at <http://www.jimrushfuneralhomes.com>

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Jim Rush Funeral Homes - August 02, 2019 at 01:47 PM



“ SHE WAS SUCH A BEAUTIFUL PERSON!
Hedy Nance



HEDY NANCE - August 06, 2019 at 02:12 PM



“ I have loved her and Dr.May upon meeting them in 1978 while attending Lee and North Cleveland church of God. Dr. May married my husband & I in 1980.I also,attended his Wednesday night service in the sanctuary, also the Women's praying group on Tuesday mornings.
They were such a loving couple and their children,the whole family I know have such lovely memories of their life!! THANK GOD FOR GODLY PARENTS!
Praying for Dr.May he will be so lost without her! But he knows the comforter!!
Today sweet, wonderful Mrs.May is with her Heavely Father!! What a day that will be when we look upon our precious Savior's face.
Love and prayers to all the family!!



Mereda Myers - August 03, 2019 at 11:02 AM



“ Lavelle aka Sister May was one of the coolest women I've known. She treated me like family, as I shared many of her home-cooked meals. I am honored to have known her.

Barry Curtis Steiger - August 02, 2019 at 06:25 PM



“ I can only imagine, as Lavelle May made her entrance into heaven Wednesday. I am sure there was a group of ladies, Lela Ruth, Edna, Blanche, Joanne and others of the ladies Unity prayer group that met faithfully and prayed on Tuesday Mornings for many of us.

As they walked down the streets of gold, someone yells Thank You for not being mad when I called at dinner time and ask Brother May to come and pray with my wife & I when she was deathly sick. Then a voice from the crowd said, "she showed me Gods love, even when I wasn't nice to her". Then someone else said we loved going to the Mays, she would fed us, laughed and pray for us. She was definitely a Prayer Warrior was heard from around the corner. Family members, friends and those she's served in the ministry all those years are gathering around her, so excited to be with her as she sees her Savior face to face.

Then, out of nowhere, there is a group of people from all over the United States and even foreign countries, they were so excited to finally meet the organizer and leader of the Ladies Unity prayer group, who had sent them a "priceless blanket" hat had been anointed with oil and prayed over by her and those other Godly ladies. it brought peace to them during the troubled times of their life.

Someone yells, where's Brother May, Sister May, she tells him, its not yet his time to come, Gods not finished with him on earth.

Then she sees her Savior, the one she was faithful too. The one who she and her husband served selfless for years and He said Well Done my good and faithful servant...WELCOME HOME!

My love and prayers to a great family!
Greta Parker
Phil.1:3

Greta Parker - August 02, 2019 at 05:29 PM



“ 56 files added to the album LifeTributes



Jim Rush Funeral Homes - August 02, 2019 at 11:45 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lavelle Carpenter May.



August 01, 2019 at 08:34 PM



“ Lavelle May will always be remembered as such a blessing to those of us who knew her. She was my idea of a perfect woman of God. Loved and respected her so much.

Barbara Teaster - August 01, 2019 at 04:27 PM



“ What a "Blessing" the F. J. May family has always been to me—in Miinot as my Pastor, or a Camp Meeting Bible teacher, NWBC Professor, or as retired living in Cleveland, TN! She will always be remembered as the most kind, loving, and supportive pastor's wife a parishioner could experience. Brother May's singing, piano playing, and anointed preaching and teaching will always be admired and remembered.

I was privileged and blessed to be chosen by Lavelle to be the only baby sitter that her children ever had.

May God give you peace and comfort at this time when we sorrow together for the loss of her love here on this earth yet rejoice over the hope that she instilled within us for a life well lived. We look forward to eternal life that will not only reunite her and us but will join in the praises of the God that she served.

Nancy (Woehrle) Hansen - August 01, 2019 at 12:01 PM



“ Dear Brother May and Family,
Lavelle was a wonderful woman of God, and my parents (Aud and Lela Ruth Parker) treasured their friendship with Brother May and Lavelle over many years at North Cleveland. You are all in my prayers. Aulma Parker

Aulma Parker - August 01, 2019 at 11:37 AM



“ A life well lived leaves cherished memories for family members who loved and appreciated this precious servant. May God bring comfort to her loved ones and friends.

Barbara Hamilton
Hattiesburg, Mississippi

Barbara Hamilton - August 01, 2019 at 09:16 AM



“ Many fond memories of the Mays from our time in Cleveland. Sis May so enjoyed The School of Theology wives retreats at the chalet near Gatlinburg. She has left behind a wonderful legacy. “Heaven is sounding sweeter all the time”. Brian & Bev Skaar, North Dakota

Bev Skaar - August 01, 2019 at 12:11 AM