



Melba Sanford Edwards

November 14, 1944 - November 29, 2022

Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford

Melba Sanford Edwards, 78, passed away Monday, November 29, 2022 in Oxford, Mississippi. A visitation will be held Thursday, December 1, 2022 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The service celebrating her life will be held Friday, December 2, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. Both the visitation and service will be held at Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford. Interment will immediately follow the services at Shiloh Cemetery. Dane Sanford will officiate. Coleman Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Melba was born on November 14, 1944 to the parents of Thurman and Stella Sanford in Morton, Mississippi. After graduating high school, she began employment as an Administrative Assistant/ Payroll Clerk.

Melba was married for 51 years to Thomas Dean Edwards. They shared four children, seven grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. She loved spending time with her family. One of her greatest joys was gathering her family for Sunday lunch where they created new memories and relived past one.

Melba and Thomas Dean enjoyed traveling and experiencing new places. They enjoyed traveling out west to visit family and their annual trip to visit with

the 509th Air Force Squadron friends from Thomas Dean's military days.

Melba was very involved with the Homemakers Association of Pontotoc and loved their luncheons and their many service projects for the community. She loved Christmas and donating to the Angel Tree and Samaritan's Purse. One of the highlights of the month was the time she spent with her Bunco ladies. They were especially important to her after the passing of Thomas Dean. She loved her church family and their Wednesday night dinners. Melba will leave an empty space in the lives of many friends, as well as her family.

Although Melba has departed this life, her memory will live on in those who loved and cherished her the most.

Melba is survived by her children, Shawn (Kathy) Edwards, Keith (Meredith) Edwards, Rickey Rutz, and Hope (Joey) Gardner; her grandchildren, Meghan Edwards, Aubrey Edwards, Kristina (Josh) Kyle, Cody Edwards, Hailey Edwards, Makon Edwards, Marleigh Edwards, Tyler Gardner, and Ben Gardner; her great-grandchildren, Thomas Kyle and Grace Kyle; and her siblings, Sherry (Mike) Sherman and Dane (Beth) Sanford.

She was preceded in death by her son, Jimmy Edwards; her husband, Thomas Dean Edwards; her brothers, Bo and Buddy Sanford; and one sister, Sue Ferguson.

In lieu of traditional flowers, donations can be made to the Gideon's Bible Association at (<https://www.gideons.org/>) and The American Cancer Association at (<https://www.cancer.org/donate>).

Coleman Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Edwards family during this time of loss. Please leave online condolences to her Tribute Wall at www.colemanfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Shiloh Cemetery

CR 429
Oxford, MS

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 1. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford
601 Commerce Parkway
Oxford, MS 38655
(662) 234-3900
info@colemanfuneralhome.com
<https://www.colemanfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Service

DEC 2. 1:00 PM (CT)

Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford
601 Commerce Parkway
Oxford, MS 38655
(662) 234-3900
info@colemanfuneralhome.com
<https://www.colemanfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford created a Webcast in memory of Melba Sanford Edwards



Coleman Funeral Home - December 01, 2022 at 12:14 PM

MM

“ Calvin Lau and Margie Molnar met Melba and Tommy at the various 509 bomb wing reunions. Calvin served with Tommy in the 509 air force unit. Calvin enjoyed renewing his friendship with Tommy and loved the many reunions we shared together. We have fond memories of these fabulous reunions. Margie texted Melba regularly and came to enjoy her true friendship. She will be missed. We send our sincere condolences to her family.

margie molnar - December 02, 2022 at 01:40 AM



“ 36 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Coleman Funeral Home - December 01, 2022 at 11:23 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of *Melba Sanford Edwards*.



November 30, 2022 at 10:19 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams* was purchased for the family of *Melba Sanford Edwards*.



November 30, 2022 at 09:24 PM

LK

“ Love my memories of summers spent visiting with Hope and spending time with Thomas Dean & Melba.
Sending love to the family! ❤️
Lisa Kreysa (Reeves) and family!

Lisa Kreysa - November 30, 2022 at 09:23 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Melba Sanford Edwards.



November 30, 2022 at 09:06 PM

SS

“ A great lady and super friend!
Love you sweet friend!

Scott C Stringer - November 30, 2022 at 08:52 PM

DP

“ Melba and Thomas Dean were special friends of ours for many years. Our prayers are with this precious family.

Donna Patton - November 30, 2022 at 08:37 PM

RF

“ Ricki Rutz & Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Melba Sanford Edwards.



Ricki Rutz & Family - November 30, 2022 at 05:47 PM

PP

“ John and I met Melba and Tommy through the 509th Veterans Group. We had wonderful times with them both and spent a few days in a cabin in Pigeon prior to a reunion that was held there. She loved the music. Being from the Midwest - we always teased Melba about her southern speech. We will always remember that she was always "fixin'" to make or do something. Always a wonderful smile and a great friend. Love Paula & John

Paula & John Pretre - November 30, 2022 at 05:32 PM



“ Sending all our Love and Prayers to the Edwards family. Keith we send all our love. Scott April Noah Zach Eli DW Rosie and Etta Sharp Sharp Truck Sales and Accessories Lebanon Tennessee

Scott Sharp - November 30, 2022 at 08:24 AM