



Patricia Ellen Bland Ferrell

June 20, 1935 - November 3, 2020

Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford

Mrs. Patricia Ellen Bland Ferrell, 85, passed away peacefully at her home on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, surrounded by her family. A devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother, Ellen was served by her family for the last years of her life. A graveside service will be held Friday, November 6, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. at Oxford Memorial Cemetery. Eric Dahl will officiate. Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford is in charge of arrangements.

Ellen was an unofficial ambassador for the city of Oxford and for her beloved church, Oxford church of Christ. She was well known in Oxford as the owner of the Fabric Center. Ellen taught her employees to greet everyone who entered the store and to provide exceptional customer service. She made a habit of knowing everyone and all their descendants. She knew women who came into the store and who their children and grandchildren were. She never missed an opportunity to invite every person she met to her church.

As much as Ellen loved the store and being around people, there were two significant times that family took precedence over the store – the first time was when Kathy brought Ashley, Ellen's first grandchild, for her first visit. Ellen rushed out to grab Ashley, completely ignoring Kathy and everyone else. The second time was when her husband, Jack, became ill. Ellen was devoted to

her family, and they were her top priority. Kathy remembers the first time Doug brought her home for a visit, Ellen had cookies and milk for them at 2:00 a.m. Kathy was not interested in cookies or milk at that time of night, but she sat and enjoyed them anyway because it was important to Ellen to make her welcome.

Ellen's grandchildren, Ashley and DC, were the highlight of her life. They have many happy memories of her. DC remembers getting shoes from her for every birthday, and he remembers her reading bedtime stories to him when he spent the night with her. She played endless games of monopoly with him. Ashley acknowledges that DC was Grandma Ellen's favorite, but she always knew she was Papaw Jack's favorite.

Ellen loved everybody, and she had the gift of drawing out the best in people. She made all conversations that she had all about the person she was talking to and never about herself. She didn't like arguing or even hearing other people argue, and she always saw the best in everyone.

Ellen's accomplishments include being Valedictorian of her senior class even though they would not bestow the honor on her because she transferred to the school too late. She received a scholarship to the University of Mississippi which was revoked because she spoke out in class against her professor who was teaching evolution. Because Ellen was extremely selfless, most of her family did not even know about these accomplishments.

Ellen is survived by her sons, Steven Edward Ferrell, Douglas Henry Ferrell (Kathy), and Thomas Burke Ferrell; her grandchildren, Ashley Ferrell Brown (John Paul) and Douglas Cargile "D.C." Ferrell (Carissa); her great grandson, Beau Brown; and her sisters, Brenda Weeks and Cecelia Nelson.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Edward Ashford "Jack" Ferrell;

her parents, John Henry and Ida Pearl Bland; and her sister, Sybil Sparks.

Please leave online condolences on the Tribute Wall at www.colemanfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Oxford Memorial Cemetery

Oxford, MS

Previous Events

Graveside Service

NOV 6. 1:00 PM (CT)

Oxford Memorial Cemetery
Oxford, MS

Tribute Wall

MG

“ I remember Mrs. Ferrell from the Fabric Center. She was ALWAYS very pleasant and helpful. I was learning to make little dresses for my daughters and she would me pick easy to make patterns and also with material choices. There was no doubt about her love for God and family. She exuded His grace in the way she treated ALL of her customers.

Rest In Peace, Mrs. Ferrell. 🙏

Mattie Dickens Gipson - November 12, 2020 at 11:26 PM

VV

“ Always enjoyed going into the Fabric Center to see Ellen and look at all the beautiful fabrics. Ellen was always there to answer my questions. She was a sweet lady. My thoughts and prayers are with her family

Vinnie Valentine - November 08, 2020 at 07:16 PM

PO

“ I loved this lady. I was a student at Ole Miss and she gave me a chance by helping me get a sewing machine. Also took good care of me every time I went in the store.

Pearl Carter Owens

Pearl Owens - November 07, 2020 at 12:56 AM

MT

“ Ellen's family and my family go way way back. Ellen had always been a people person and loved everyone that came into her business. I hated when she retired for we have lost a legend. I was just talking about her the other day and thinking of old times. Will always miss you Ellen. Sending prayers to the family.

Mary Tutor - November 06, 2020 at 04:46 PM

SC

“ She was one of my favorite people I loved going to her store and even helping out now and then. I learned a lot about customer service from her. Getting to know her and her family was a joy. I think of her often and I can see her smile. Blessings and Peace to her family.

sue cheney - November 06, 2020 at 04:13 PM

MW

“ I'm so VERY sorry for your as well as all who knew her loss. Ellen was such a special person! She and her mother are a special part of so many of our history of Oxford! May God wrap you all in His loving arms and give you peace. Ms Bobbye Wiley

Ms Bobbye Wiley - November 06, 2020 at 09:36 AM

RR

“ Ellen was always a sweet lady who made everyone around her feel special. My thoughts and prayers are with her family.

Renee Russell - November 06, 2020 at 07:08 AM

KB

“ I knew her from the days my mom shopped with her at the the Oxford Fabric Center during her mother's time in the store! The family was always nice! It was a joy to be in Ellen's presence in The Fabric Store. Submitted by: Katherine Austin Buford, Abbeville MS.

katherine Austin Buford - November 06, 2020 at 03:23 AM

JA

“ I have many wonderful memories of Ellen from visits to the Fabric Center! She was always so gracious and helpful. Prayers for her family.
Jo Acker

Jo Acker - November 05, 2020 at 11:45 PM

MM

“ i was. customer of the Fabric Center for years ad Ellen was wonderful. She got to know me, asked questions about my family and was just lovely. I recall the day i was in the store and she told me she was selling. I felt so sad for her and our town! Bless her! she is beloved.

molly meisenheimer - November 05, 2020 at 10:10 PM

BB

“ My mom took me to the Fabric Center for sewing supplies when I was in high school. She was so helpful and so kind. I originally met her as a small child because Doug was in my class in Elementary school, but it was in the Fabric Center many years later that I really got to know her. She was such a warm and caring person and had a way of making everyone around her feel special. My condolences to her family.

Barbara Bennett - November 05, 2020 at 07:44 PM

EH

“ Ed and I are so sorry for your lost, Ellen was such a wonderful person, I know she is catching up with everyone. May the good God wrap his loving arms around each of you and give you peace. Sending love and prayers.

Ed and Lou Ann Hood - November 05, 2020 at 07:33 PM

KW

“Ellen made me feel so welcome my first Sunday at church! She asked me to sit with her and Jack and Tom. The second week at church she had made me a handmade hat and gave it to me. When I was getting ready to go overseas she gave me a beautiful sewing box that had everything someone could need- scissors, safety pins, a tape measure, etc. etc. — then she said, “Karen, I know you can’t even put a hem in, but I have an idea you are about to learn!!” Ellen was so thoughtful and caring. Such an example of what we should be as Christians. My love to all of the Ferrell family.

Karen Winter - November 05, 2020 at 02:50 PM

RH

“Ellen and Jack were the first people in Oxford my then fiancé wanted me to meet. My life was forever blessed by that meeting. Ellen lovingly made blankets, curtains, pillow cases and table clothes for our girls and our family. We were always welcome in the store and her home and the conversations were long and wonderful. We knew she loved us and we sure loved her. While we are saddened because of our loss, we are thankful for her beautiful life and her profound hope and gain of heaven. We are praying for all who loved Ellen Ferrell - especially the Ferrells and the Oxford church of Christ.

Rena Howard - November 05, 2020 at 02:39 PM