



Mattie Faye Carey

October 31, 1941 - January 25, 2026

With profound sorrow and deep gratitude for a life beautifully lived, we announce the passing of Mattie Faye Blankenship Carey, a beloved mother, grandmother, wife, and friend, who departed this earthly world for her heavenly home on January 25, 2026.

Visitation will be Thursday, January 29, 2026 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Pinkard Funeral Home, Haleyville, AL. Funeral to begin at 6:00 p.m. with Bro. Rayburn Whitman officiating.

A woman of remarkable intellect and gentle strength, she could recite the Huguenot and Hapsburg family lineages from memory and delighted in Victorian houses, delicate teacups, Russian history, pink roses, butter pecan ice cream, and a good love story, always with “a little something sweet before bed.” She found joy in simple pleasures: buttermilk with cornbread, books piled high, a baby snuggled up in her arms, and the quiet beauty of a well-lived day.

Born and raised on a small farm in Mount Hope, Alabama, she attended a two-room schoolhouse and learned early the values of hard work and perseverance. Her childhood was shaped by long days plucking goose feathers for down blankets, milking cows, gathering eggs, churning butter, and working the fields. In every spare moment, she read voraciously, beginning a

lifelong love of learning that never faded.

After high school, Faye left her small hometown for Chicago, where she met the love of her life, another Alabamian far from home, Raymond Carey. They fell madly and deeply in love and were married just six months later, just before he deployed. Together, they built a beautiful life together: raising four daughters, welcoming eighteen grandchildren, traveling the world, and sharing a marriage that spanned 65 years. Raymond remained faithfully by her side day and night until her passing.

She was, above all else, a mother in the truest sense of the word. She soothed childhood pains, mended broken hearts, stood beside her children through life's most defining moments, and she loved fiercely and without limit. Her favorite saying, "A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle," was not just a belief- it was her way of life. She lifted others, spoke for those without a voice, and gathered countless people under her wing, making them feel safe, seen, and loved.

Faye passed as she lived, at home, surrounded by those who loved her. In her final week, more than twenty family members and friends traveled from Ohio, Virginia, North Carolina, and Florida to be with her, a testament to the extraordinary impact she had on so many lives.

She is preceded in death by her parents Susie and Ausie Blankenship and her siblings: Lorene Colburn, Willard Blankenship, Hilliard Blankenship, Leon Blankenship, Bea Potter, and Jean Potter.

She is survived by Raymond Carey, her devoted husband of 65 years; her brother, Dan Blankenship; her four daughters, Melanie Huffman (Jimmy), Susan Riggs (Ricky), Crystal Holder (Kevin), and Amber Carey (Scott Jernigan); her eighteen grandchildren, Nikki Riggs, Jarrett Huffman, Sara

Riggs, Katy Hunt, Morgan Russell, Aric Riggs, Carter Huffman, Russ Fuller, Ryder Fuller, Sydney Jernigan, and Sawyer Jernigan; great grandchildren, Natalyn Baker, Anna Rowe, Emily Rowe, Harper Huffman, Declan Russell, Kade Huffman, and Beckett Russell; and many extended family members and cherished friends who will carry her light forward.

Her love shaped generations, and her legacy lives on in every life she touched. Though her candle has gone from this world, its light continues to burn brightly in all of us.

Tribute Wall



“ *Pinkard Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mattie Faye Carey*



Pinkard Funeral Home - January 28 at 11:33 AM

SN

“ *Susan and family I'm so sorry to hear of your mom's passing, RIP, sending love and prayers* ❤️🙏❤️



Sandy Nichols - March 17 at 06:31 PM

ZT

“ *Oh, my goodness!! This precious lady will truly be missed. I always thought Mrs. Carey was awesome at whatever she did! I'm so sorry for your loss, and will be praying for all of you! HUGS!*

ZELDA (HOOD) TITTLE - January 30 at 09:17 PM

JN

“ *Jenny Rodgers Borden Nelson lit a candle in memory of Mattie Faye Carey*



Jenny Rodgers Borden Nelson - January 30 at 07:59 PM

CR

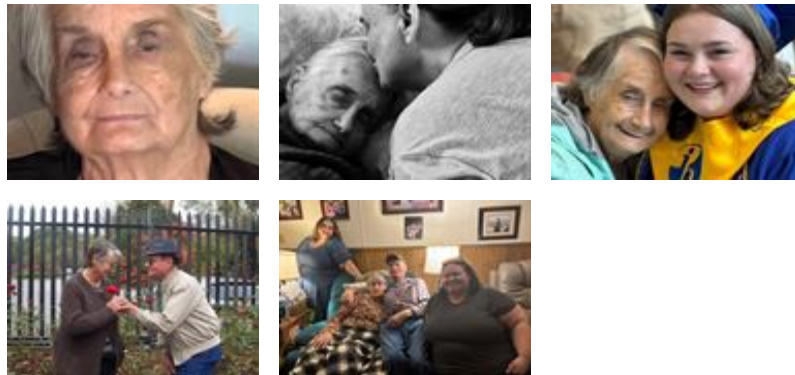
“ Carolyn Rasberry lit a candle in memory of
Mattie Faye Carey



Carolyn Rasberry - January 29 at 02:50 AM



“ 66 files added to the album Life Tributes



Pinkard Funeral Home - January 28 at 11:26 AM

TG

These pictures tell so much of her life. They tell me she has an amazing family and she was a little spunky. But most of all you can really see the love she has for you all. Her family is was and always will be her true love. The blessing of a mom, grandma, wife, sister, friend will be forever kept in the greatest of hearts and memories. The pain of losing someone so precious never goes away but in time will seem to hurt a little less. You will go back and look at all these beautiful memories and find yourself laughing at the memories you all created together. Till that time know that she carries your love with her. I pray one day your heart will hurt a little less. Love you all.

Tiffany Griffin - January 30 at 04:00 AM

AT

“ Mrs Riggs and family i am so sorry to hear the passing of your mother grandmother prayers for you and your family during this difficult time God be with them and comfort them in the time of need sincerely the Tucker Family



Amy Tucker - January 28 at 10:51 AM

CK

“ My heart and prayers goes out to you all. Mrs Faye will be missed but is resting in her forever home now. 🙏❤️



Crystal Kennedy - January 28 at 10:39 AM

SB

“ Susan and family, my prayers are with you all during this difficult time. May God's loving Comforter bring each of you the peace that passes all understanding to guide you through this loss!!!



Scotty Kent Burleson - January 28 at 04:07 AM

DR

“ David and Cookie Rosser lit a candle in memory of Mattie Faye Carey



David and Cookie Rosser - January 27 at 09:05 PM

RB

“ *Ramona B. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Mattie Faye Carey.*



Ramona B. - January 27 at 05:38 PM

RB

“ *Ramona Burnett lit a candle in memory of Mattie Faye Carey*



Ramona Burnett - January 27 at 05:32 PM

RB

“ *Ramona Gaye Burnett lit a candle in memory of Mattie Faye Carey*



Ramona Gaye Burnett - January 27 at 05:00 PM

LG

“ *Prayers for all Faye's family. I grew up with Faye. We ent to school together ther was three of us from Youngstown. Faye Blankenship , Nell Warren and myself. Lucy Mae Spears. Now Faye will be laughing about our teen years with Nell . I'm am so sorry for your loss Hugs for all. Lucy Mae Spears Godfrey.*

lucy Godfrey - January 26 at 08:14 PM

CB

“ Sorry for your loss. Praying for all of you 🙏



Carol Bryan - January 26 at 05:39 PM