



Bettye Hamill Vickers

May 22, 1941 - August 25, 2025

Bettye Hamill Vickers was born May 22, 1941, to Margaret and Oakley Hamill at their small country house on Raymond Williams Road on a sunny day in early spring. She attended elementary school in Louisville and high school in Starkville. Bettye graduated from Starkville High School in 1959, then attended Mississippi State University where she received her B.S., Masters, and doctoral degrees in education and administration. Bettye enjoyed educating children for nearly 40 years.

Her career path allowed her to teach children in Picayune, Macon, Starkville, Columbus, and Greenville. Bettye's education and experience made it possible for her to become a school administrator. Bettye began her administration career in Jackson Public Schools as a principal. She then followed opportunities as a principal in Dallas, Texas, and Hartselle, Alabama. She was proud to have been awarded "Principal of the Year" for Jackson Public Schools and receive our nation's "Blue Ribbon School of Excellence" for her school in Wiley, Texas. She was recognized by President Bill Clinton at the White House. She then moved back to Winston County to serve as Head of School for Diamond Grove Psychiatric Hospital for Children and Adolescents in Louisville.

After retirement, Bettye enjoyed being close to her family and traveling to Scotland, Italy, Greece, and France. Her favorite cruise was in Alaska where

she enjoyed the beautiful landscapes.

Throughout her life, Bettye's family home on her family farm was her forever home. She enjoyed her family and friends visiting her there and at her condominium on the Ross Barnett Reservoir in Jackson, Mississippi.

She once said her motto of life was captured in two songs, "Don't Worry, Be Happy" and "Come hell or high water, I am going to enjoy life till I die."

Bettye passed away peacefully with her son by her side at her family home on Raymond Williams Road on a sunny day in late summer. Graveside services and interment will be Saturday, August 30 at 11 a.m. at Bevill Hill Cemetery with Bro. Robert Mayfield officiating.

Bettye is survived by her son, Ron Vickers and daughter-in-law, Lisa of the Pugh's Mill Community; and her granddaughter, Claire Vickers Adam and husband, Gage, of Huntsville, Alabama. Bettye was preceded in death by her parents.

Serving as pallbearers are Gage Adam, Steven Denson, Jack Haynes, Jim Lofton, Kyle Jackson, and Doug Shaw. Memorials in honor of Bettye may be given to Bevill Hill Cemetery Fund, c/o Norma Jackson, 245 Raymond Williams Road, Sturgis, MS 39769.

Services are under the direction of Massey Funeral Home, 724 North Columbus Avenue, Louisville, MS. Memories and condolences may be shared with the family by signing the guest register at www.masseyfuneralhome.net.

Previous Events

Graveside

AUG **30**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Bevill Hill Methodist Church Cemetery
Betheden-Bluff Lake Road
Louisville, MS 39339

Tribute Wall

KG

“ Ron, we are so sorry to hear about your mom’s passing. We all wish we could be there for the funeral but I’m in Savannah and just found out tonight and can’t get there to pick up mom and be there in time. We all have such wonderful memories of her and your entire family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all! She will definitely be missed!

Kaye Lunsford & Charlotte Green - August 29, 2025 at 08:20 PM

MD

“ Ron, your Momma was always so sweet to me going back to fifth grade, I remember going out to your Granmaws to ride you Honda AT70 on weekends, , all the rides you and your mom gave me to school...She was just a wonderful woman and I am so glad that I knew her and I am so glad I can still call you my friend.. God bless

Mark Duncan

Mark Duncan - August 29, 2025 at 05:04 PM

SF

Ron ,I just learned of your mother's passing. She was such a sweet lady ,always a lady.May God bless you and your family sending love your way. Shirley Franklin

Shirley Franklin - September 25, 2025 at 07:17 PM

AL

“ Ms. Bettye was a very kind lady! I serviced her office equipment when she worked at Diamond Grove Adolescent Center. Praying for family and friends! May God bless you!

Alan - August 29, 2025 at 04:41 PM

DW

“ She taught me in the fourth grade at Overstreet Elementary in Starkville. She was absolutely wonderful! We reconnected on Facebook after I moved back still as sweet and kind as ever. My deepest sympathies to all of you 🙏🙏

DeLynn Gray Willard - August 28, 2025 at 07:06 PM

PB

“ Ron and Lisa,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this sad time. Bettye was so nice to us, and I know you all will miss her terribly. May you feel the comfort and peace that we ask for in our prayers.

Phil and Carrie Barker - August 28, 2025 at 12:38 PM

CY

“ Sending my heartfelt condolences to the family,praying for strength & comfort during these trying times! 🙏🙏🙏



Cynthia,Bishop-Harris - August 28, 2025 at 11:20 AM

BD

“ My first girlfriend loved her we text each other every day baby Charles Dawkins Lisa text me tell me what happen

baby charles Dawkins - August 28, 2025 at 11:01 AM