



Ms. Mary Louise Willis

December 29, 1963 - May 22, 2026

Mary Willis-Patterson, 62, of Marianna, Arkansas, transitioned from this earthly life on Friday, May 22, 2026, at 10:16 a.m. at Baptist Health Medical Center in Little Rock, Arkansas, surrounded by her loving children.

Mary was born on December 29, 1963, to the late L.Z. Willis and Earlene Willis. She accepted Christ at an early age at Third Zion Missionary Baptist Church. She later became a faithful member of Spring Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Haynes, Arkansas, under the leadership of Rev. Cedric Coleman.

From a young age, Mary carried a strength that defined her life. She was a hardworking mother who dedicated her life to caring for her children and family. She believed in showing up, standing strong, and doing what needed to be done.

After many years of dedicated service, Mary retired from the Arkansas Department of Corrections. Later, she continued her working career as an employee in the Security Department at East Arkansas Community College, where she poured her heart into her work until her health began to fail.

Mary found joy in the simple things in life. She loved her children deeply and cherished every moment spent with family. She enjoyed fishing, riding four-

wheelers, and creating lasting memories with those she loved most. One of her greatest joys was spending weekends, spring breaks, and summer vacations with Nariah. Mary believed life was about making simple memories that would last forever.

She was sharp, confident, and truly one of a kind. Mary was honest, outspoken, and never afraid to speak her mind. If she said something, she meant it. Through her strength, resilience, and love, she leaves behind a legacy that will never be forgotten.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents, L.Z. and Earlene Willis; one daughter, Tamaneka Branscomb; and three brothers, Leroy Willis, Shannon Willis, and Levester Willis.

She leaves to cherish her precious memories: two daughters, Monicka "Punkin" Branscomb of Marion, Arkansas, and Nikki Willis of Conway, Arkansas; two sons, Jason Willis of Siloam Springs, Arkansas, and Jeremy Willis of Joplin, Missouri; twelve grandchildren, Javuntae, Jaylain, Jaella, Kaela, Ivan, Nariah, Marley, Jasmine, Kobe, Olliey, Brantley, and Maila; special companion, Everett "Dwayne" Patterson; two bonus daughters, Tameecia Patterson and LaEsha Palmer; one sister, Cheryl "William" Petty of Arkansas; two brothers, Ronald "Roberta" Willis of Zion, Illinois, and Edgar "Joanne" Willis of Brinkley, Arkansas; one aunt, Helen "Tyrone" Jackson of Marianna, Arkansas; two uncles, Herbert "Mae" McCoy and Ozell "Carlita" McCoy, both of Zion, Illinois; special friends include Wilma, Lavern, Sharon, Jeanette, Mark, Randy, Eashie, Patricia, Kristy, Brandi, and Felicia; along with a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, and friends.

Cemetery Details

Marianna Memorial Park Cemetery

972 West Chestnut Street
Marianna , AR 72360

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 5. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Marianna Funeral Home
28 Court Square
Marianna , AR 72360

Service

JUN 6. 11:00 AM (CT)

Lee High School Auditorium
523 Forest Ave
Marianna , AR 72360

The family will line up at Marianna Funeral Home, 28 Court Street, Marianna, AR 72360, at 10:30 AM to process to the high school. If you would like to coordinate with the family, the colors selected for the service are black, white, and shades of pink.

Repast

JUN 6. 1:00 PM (CT)

Lee High School
523 Forest Avenue
Marianna , AR 72360

The repast will be held in the cafeteria of the high school.

Tribute Wall



“ *Mary, we shared a lot of laughs & stories. Rest easy in the arms of the Lord. So sad your time here was cut short friend. My sincere condolences to the Willis family.*
Diane



Diane - June 06 at 03:35 PM



“ *Beautiful Whisper was purchased for the family of Ms. Mary Louise Willis.*



May 29 at 03:49 PM



“ *Travis Hurst and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Ms. Mary Louise Willis.*



Travis Hurst and Family - May 29 at 12:12 PM



“ *Travis Hurst and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Mary Louise Willis.*

Travis Hurst and Family - May 29 at 12:12 PM

MW

“ Mark Wilson purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Ms. Mary Louise Willis.



Mark Wilson - May 29 at 11:42 AM

MW

“ Mark Wilson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Mary Louise Willis.

Mark Wilson - May 29 at 11:42 AM

SM

“ I remember when I got reassigned to Maximun Security and that day I was really nervous. When I met you we just clicked instantly. We became good friends and over the years we shared so many stories of our children. We told each other things we couldn't share with anyone else. I will cherish all the fun times we had and hold them dear to my heart. Rest easy my friend until we meet again ❤️💔



Sheila Miller - May 28 at 10:26 PM

SM

“ Sheila Miller lit a candle in memory of Ms. Mary Louise Willis



Sheila Miller - May 28 at 10:11 PM

JW

“ You were a great sister in law. I enjoyed the time I spent with you, you will be missed greatly. Prayers and condolences to the family. R I P



Joanne Willis - May 28 at 02:45 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ms. Mary Louise Willis.



May 27 at 08:20 PM

EJ

“ I will miss you my lovely niece



Elnora James - May 27 at 06:23 PM

WI

“ Hey friend I can't believe you're gone but I know you're resting the arms of the Almighty God. No more suffering... Love Wilma

Wilma - May 27 at 04:40 PM

CW

“ Sister in Law you will be missed

Charlotte Wade - May 27 at 12:33 PM

CC

“ *My deepest condolences to the Willis family on you loss. She was a co-worker of mine while in corrections. She was a very good person. May God give the family strength, and guidance during this homegoing*



Christopher Chatters

Christopher Chatters - May 27 at 10:55 AM

ST

“ *Willis family and friends, Sincere Condolences to you. Praying for comfort strength and peace today and always. 🙏*



Shirley Williams Thorn - May 26 at 10:54 PM

PG

“ *Pastor, William Gay lit a candle in memory of Ms. Mary Louise Willis*



Pastor, William Gay - May 26 at 09:21 PM

AA

“ *Andre Akins lit a candle in memory of Ms. Mary Louise Willis*



Andre Akins - May 26 at 08:26 PM

LG

“ *Sending hugs to the Willis Family during there time of sorrow..from the Gayden Family..We Love you*



Loretta Gayden - May 26 at 03:38 PM

FB

“ *Felecia Bell lit a candle in memory of Ms. Mary Louise Willis*



Felecia Bell - May 26 at 02:54 PM

BM

“ *My condolences to the Willis family*

Barbara Mitchell - May 26 at 01:27 PM