



## Peggy Jean VanLandingham

July 5, 1937 - June 8, 2026

It is with deep sorrow and loving remembrance that we announce the passing of Peggy Jean VanLandingham, age 88, who passed peacefully to be with her Lord and Savior with her family by her side, on June 8th, 2026.

Born on July 5th, 1937, to Joseph V. Gillis Sr. and Alma Lee Stegall in Hazlehurst, Mississippi, she lived a rich and full life marked by love, kindness, faith, and devotion to her family and community. She touched the lives of many through her generosity, strength, and unwavering commitment to those she loved.

Jean was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Emmitt Lamar VanLandingham, with whom she shared 54 cherished years of marriage.

She leaves behind a loving family who will forever treasure her memory, including her three sons, Philip VanLandingham (Mary), Matthew VanLandingham (Kathy), and Timothy VanLandingham (Lynn); six cherished grandchildren, Pamela Rackley (John), Emily Smith (Austin), Jonathan VanLandingham (Mike), Thomas VanLandingham (Ana), Katie Riddell (Ben), and Kamryn Lampton (Allen); and eleven adored great-grandchildren, Eliza Gray and Knox Rackley, Adelyn and Ezra Smith, Callum and Ellie VanLandingham, Ryder, Ellie Blake, Avery Jean, and Emmitt Riddell, and Eli Lampton. She is also survived by numerous extended family members,

friends, and loved ones whose lives were enriched by knowing her.

Those who knew Jean will remember her for her passionate heart, indomitable spirit, and the vast love, ready opinions, and delicious food she shared so freely. Her over 40 years at Copiah Bank allowed her infectious energy to extend across the county and impact numerous lives. Her legacy, rich with mirth and humor, lives on in the values she instilled in her family and in the countless memories she created with those around her.

She will be remembered as a devoted wife, mother, mother-in-law, aunt, grandmother (to any and all who needed), "LuLu," "MawMaw," great-grandmother, and friend.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Joseph and Alma Gillis, her brothers Hubert and Joseph "Pete" Gillis, and her sister Peggy Spruill.

A service to celebrate her life will be held on June 13th at 11:00 AM, with visitation starting at 10:00 AM, at First Baptist Church of Hazlehurst, MS. Family and friends are invited to gather in remembrance and honor of a life well lived. In lieu of sending flowers, please consider donating to the American Cancer Society or First Baptist Church of Hazlehurst.

Though she will be deeply missed, the love and memories Jean leaves behind will remain in the hearts of all who knew and loved her.

Serving as honorary pallbearers will be Allen Lampton, Ben Riddell, John Rackley, Austin Smith, and Miguel Valadez VanLandingham.



# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 13. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church Hazlehurst  
151 Caldwell Drive  
Hazlehurst, MS 39083

## Celebration of Life

JUN 13. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church Hazlehurst  
151 Caldwell Drive  
Hazlehurst, MS 39083

# Tribute Wall

SG

“ *Sandy Gillis purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Peggy Jean VanLandingham.*



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**Sandy Gillis** - June 10 at 11:59 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Peggy Jean VanLandingham.

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June 09 at 03:44 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Peggy Jean VanLandingham.*



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June 09 at 03:44 PM

WC

“ *Phillip, Matthew & Timothy- I am so sad to see this. I loved your mama and she treated me as one of her own. I'm so sorry that I will be out of town on Saturday.*  
*Wendy*

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**Wendy Cartwright** - June 09 at 03:38 PM

FM

*Jean & I worked together when Trustmark Bank was then First National Bank in 1960. When we came to Hazlehurst Methodist Church, I was surprised to find she was from here. She was a delightful person to be around. My sympathies to her 3 boys and families.*

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**Frankie Mitchell** - June 09 at 06:51 PM

JC

“*Jean was a very good friend to my sister Rachel (Cheroni) Newman. I can never remember a time when she wasn't smiling or laughing about something. Happy memories for me. Ivan Cheroni*

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**James I. Cheroni** - June 09 at 01:43 PM

SH

“*Such fond memories of our beloved "Pooh"! Much love to all of her precious family.*

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**Sue and Jerry Holliday** - June 09 at 11:58 AM