



## Opaline Gatlin Ward

November 15, 1933 - July 2, 2021

Opaline Gatlin Ward, age 87, died on July 2, 2021 at NHC Pulaski. She was born in Giles County, TN to Thomas and Retha Gatlin and was the fifth of five children.

Opal was first and foremost devoted to God and her family. She stayed home with her children while they were young, reading them their favorite stories, cooking their favorite meals, and teaching them about Jesus. Once her children were older, she enjoyed her work in the Giles County School system as a cafeteria worker, librarian assistant, and special education assistant. Other places of employment through the years included Abernathy Lake Restaurant, Stephens Pants Factory, Lee Mar Shirt Factory, Wal-Mart, Martin Methodist College Library and the Giles County Public Library. She was a member of Pulaski First Baptist Church but also felt part of the family at First United Methodist Church and Greater Faith Church, both churches bringing her delicious meals and warm Christian fellowship each week.

In addition to her parents, Opal was preceded in death by her husband of 45 years, Clinton Houston (C.H.) Ward, brother Leslie Gatlin Ward, and sisters Addie Mae Ring, Joyce Honea, and Christine Gatlin.

Survivors include her sons Leslie Clinton (Patsy) Ward, Thomas Houston (Hillary) Ward, Anthony Wayne Ward, daughter-in-law Audrey Ward,

grandchildren Nathan Ward, Nicolas Ortiz, Austin Ward, and Ashlyn Ward, and great-granddaughter Addyson Ward.

Funeral services will be held at Bennett-May Pierce Funeral Home on Tuesday, July 6 at 6pm with Rev. Tommy Vann officiating. Visitation will take place prior to the service from 4-6pm at Bennett-May & Pierce Funeral Home in Pulaski, TN.

Memorials can be made to First Baptist Church, First United Methodist Church, or Greater Faith Church, all of Pulaski.

Bennett-May & Pierce Funeral Home and Crematory is in charge of arrangements for Opaline Ward.

## Cemetery Details

### Giles Memory Garden

140 Bethel Road  
Pulaski, TN

## Previous Events

### Funeral

JUL 6. 6:00 PM (CT)

Bennett-May Pierce Funeral Home  
1910 Elkton Pike  
Pulaski, TN 38478

# Tribute Wall

EM

“ *Such a kind lady... so sorry for your loss..*  
*Elizabeth Fry Maxwell*

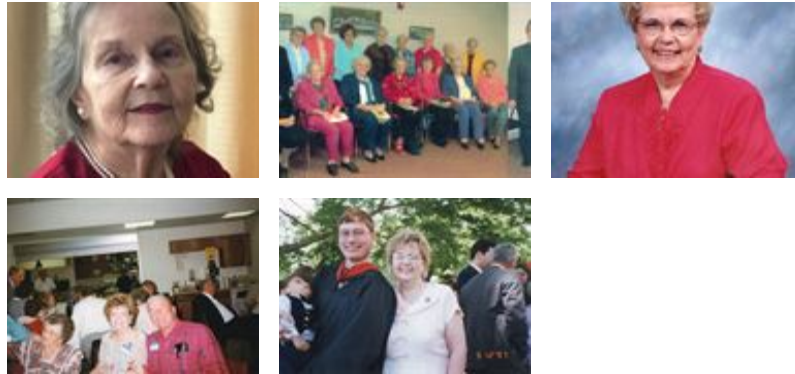


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**Elizabeth Fry Maxwell** - July 08, 2021 at 09:24 PM



“ *115 files added to the album LifeTributes*



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**Bennett - May & Pierce Funeral Home and Crematory** - July 06, 2021 at 03:47 PM

RW

“ *Randy Word lit a candle in memory of Opaline*  
*Gatlin Ward*



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**Randy Word** - July 06, 2021 at 02:06 PM

MT

“ *Marsha Tucker lit a candle in memory of Opaline Gatlin Ward*



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**Marsha Tucker** - July 06, 2021 at 01:34 PM

BA

“ *Tommy and family, so sorry to hear about your Mom's passing. I still love you and think about you often. God's blessings be with you.. Brenda A.*

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**Brenda A** - July 04, 2021 at 11:37 PM

EC

“ *I was one of Mr. Ward's nurses at Williamson Medical Center in Franklin, TN. I worked the night shift. Dearly loved Mr. Ward and Mrs. Opal. we had a connection. I remember her well. He was always peeling his apple with his wooden handled paring knife that she gave me when he passed away. I still have that paring knife to this day, It was an Old Hickory wooden handle, I will always treasure it. I know she is happy with him in Heaven now. Elaine Cunningham, RN (Retired)*

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**Elaine Cunningham** - July 04, 2021 at 06:07 AM

KT

“ *Kathy Thomas lit a candle in memory of Opaline Gatlin Ward*



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**Kathy Thomas** - July 03, 2021 at 10:27 PM

JF

“ My memories of Opal are from when she would come to visit Fayetteville First United Methodist Church when Tommy was Pastor there. She was such a sweet lady and I enjoyed her so much. My prayers have been with her and continue for the family. Jan Duncan Frazier

Jan Frazier - July 03, 2021 at 12:27 PM

Laurie Nwosu

“ I was so blessed to have such an amazing friend through the years. Have the best memories of us together. Going and eating ice cream and a simple chat. Always being there for each other. You will definitely be missed. I love you sweet lady. Rest easy until we see each other again



Laurie Nwosu - July 03, 2021 at 08:47 AM

Laurie Nwosu

Charles Brown wants to wish the family of Opal Ward peace and comfort at this difficult time. God Bless you all

Laurie Nwosu - July 03, 2021 at 11:36 AM

MF

“ Opal was such a wonderful lady. I have such fond memories of her explaining the word of God to me in my Sunday school class and many years later in my mothers Sunday school class. She knew the Word of God like no other. If anyone ever asked me who taught me the Word of God, Opal will be at the top of the list. She is most certainly shining bright in Gods Home now. May she forever Rest In Peace.

Melissa Minatra Firetti

melissa minatra firetti - July 02, 2021 at 09:25 PM