



Donna Bates Martin

May 23, 1947 - July 12, 2025

The hands that held us, prayed over us, and wiped away so many tears are now at rest. On July 12, 2025, Donna Bates Martin went home to be with her Lord, surrounded by the family she built, taught, and loved. She was born on May 23, 1947, in Hohenwald, Tennessee, to the late Ralph and Tommie Gossett Bates.

Donna was a graduate of Hickman County High School, a member of the Centerville Church of Christ and spent most of her years as a homemaker. She created a warm, welcoming home where prayers were spoken daily and everyone knew how much they were loved. Donna worked as a Secretary in the Vocational department of Hickman County High School, where her kindness and steady presence touched both students and staff.

More than anything, Donna found joy in motherhood and later in being a grandmother. She was proud of her family – every child and grandchild was a gift she cherished. She made it known that her greatest blessing was simply being called “Mom” and “GiGi”.

In addition to her parents Donna is preceded in death by her husband Ronnie Martin.

She leaves behind a family rooted in her love and shaped by her quiet

strength; sons, Brett (Heather) Martin and Cory (Nicole) Martin; grandchildren, Jake (Camryn) Martin, Case Martin, Finn Martin, Madison, Jackson and Kennadi; her siblings, Sharon (Darrell) Rochelle and David (Brenda) Bates; and a host of nieces and nephews. Her legacy of faith and love will continue through those she raised, encouraged and prayed for without ceasing.

McDonald Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Martin Family during this difficult time.

Cemetery Details

Memory Gardens

2833 Highway 100 E
Centerville, TN 37033

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 14. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

McDonald Funeral Home, Inc. - Hickman County
102 West End Ave.
Centerville, TN 37033
(931) 729-3561

Visitation

JUL 15. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

McDonald Funeral Home, Inc. - Hickman County
102 West End Ave.
Centerville, TN 37033
(931) 729-3561

Funeral Service

JUL 15. 11:00 AM (CT)

McDonald Funeral Home, Inc. - Hickman County
102 West End Ave.
Centerville, TN 37033
(931) 729-3561

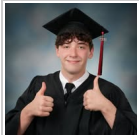
Tribute Wall

WS

“ I cant comprehend that Donna has died. I had no idea.. I use to see deaths on Facebook but have not t been able to log in for a while so I didnt know she had died. The last time I spoke to her via message was when Ronnie had passed away. I am so sorry to her family, She loved you all so much. She was one of the kindest, sweetest people I ever knew and I know she will be remembered and missed always.. May God be with you all.



wanda stone - August 02, 2025 at 12:26 AM



“ Christina Yeager lit a candle in memory of Donna Martin



Christina Yeager - July 24, 2025 at 05:30 PM

JL

“ Jody Loveless lit a candle in memory of Donna Bates Martin



jody loveless - July 20, 2025 at 01:43 AM

BJ

“ *Brenda Jacobs lit a candle in memory of Donna Bates Martin*



Brenda Jacobs - July 19, 2025 at 06:33 PM

MC

“ *Michelle Cripps lit a candle in memory of Donna Bates Martin*



Michelle Cripps - July 19, 2025 at 12:17 PM

SC

“ *Sheila Chance sent a virtual gift in memory of Donna Bates Martin*



Sheila Chance - July 18, 2025 at 07:31 PM

MG

“ *Marilyn Gilliam lit a candle in memory of Donna Martin*



Marilyn Gilliam - July 15, 2025 at 03:00 PM

CA

“ *What a beautifully written obituary.* 🤍



celena atkinson - July 15, 2025 at 08:52 AM

JE

“ *Her beautiful smile, caring spirit, devotion to her family, friendship that spanned the years, strong faith, and caring heart will be the memories carried in the many hearts that knew and loved Donna Martin.*



Truly a blessing in my life, as well as to all who knew her.

*Our love and sympathy to this good family,
Chug and Johnnie Ruth Elrod*

Johnnie Ruth Elrod - July 15, 2025 at 08:30 AM

CM

“ *Condolences to all the family.*



Carolyn Moss - July 14, 2025 at 10:22 PM

JH

“ *Joanie Griggs Holtsford lit a candle in memory of Donna Bates Martin*



Joanie Griggs Holtsford - July 14, 2025 at 04:42 PM



“ *Carole Loveless lit a candle in memory of Donna Martin*



Carole Loveless - July 14, 2025 at 03:58 PM

MB

“ *What a wonderful couple has passed through the lives of all who knew them. First Ronnie and now Donna. Bret and Cory, I'm so sorry for your pain. You had great examples of good parents.*

Mike Bradley - July 14, 2025 at 03:40 PM

RS

“ *Renee Shepard sent a virtual gift in memory of Donna Martin*



Renee Shepard - July 14, 2025 at 02:27 PM

ER

“ I am saddened to hear about this. I have many fond memories of Donna when I went to high school and our after school chats. She was a dear sweet person that stayed connected with me on Facebook. She was always so loving and kind commenting words of encouragement on my post. Cory you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.



Emily Weatherspoon Rolon - July 14, 2025 at 02:16 PM

VF

“ Sharon so sorry to hear about your sister. Prayers for the family

Vicki Frazier - July 14, 2025 at 01:38 PM

SA

“ Steve A Atkinson lit a candle in memory of Donna Martin



Steve A Atkinson - July 14, 2025 at 12:20 PM

NT

“ Nan Thomas lit a candle in memory of Donna Martin



Nan Thomas - July 14, 2025 at 12:10 PM

SG

“ Stanley & Judy Gordon lit a candle in memory of Donna Martin



Stanley & Judy Gordon - July 14, 2025 at 10:53 AM



“ James Arthur (Tank) & Dana Atkinson lit a candle in memory of Donna Martin



James Arthur (Tank) & Dana Atkinson - July 14, 2025 at 10:41 AM



“ Sandi Westover lit a candle in memory of Donna Martin



Sandi Westover - July 14, 2025 at 10:21 AM

LD

“ laura DeLong lit a candle in memory of Donna Martin



laura DeLong - July 14, 2025 at 09:17 AM

PH

“ *Deepest sympathy and prayers for you all.* ”



PAULA HAY - July 14, 2025 at 07:42 AM

BP

“ *Belinda Potts lit a candle in memory of Donna Bates Martin* ”



Belinda Potts - July 13, 2025 at 11:56 PM

JM

“ *I'm so sorry for your loss Sharon. Sending prayers to you and your family.* ”



Janie McCord - July 13, 2025 at 11:23 PM

BM

“ *Keeping family in our thoughts and prayers!* ”



Bobby/Sandy McFarlin - July 13, 2025 at 11:14 PM

MH

“ *Mark And Charlene Hall lit a candle in memory of Donna Bates Martin*



Mark and Charlene Hall - July 13, 2025 at 08:01 PM

SH

“ *Donna was such a sweet lady and friend. I loved her and will miss her.* 💕🙏💔😭



Sarah Hinson - July 13, 2025 at 04:55 PM

SS

“ *Sissy Scroggins lit a candle in memory of Donna Bates Martin*



Sissy Scroggins - July 13, 2025 at 04:22 PM

JG

“ *John & Wanda Givens lit a candle in memory of Donna Bates Martin*



John & Wanda Givens - July 13, 2025 at 02:56 PM

RH

“ *We are thinking of u.*

Ruby & Rex Horner - July 13, 2025 at 12:09 PM

RS

“ *We are so sorry of the death of Donna Martin.*

Regina & Martha Shelton - July 13, 2025 at 12:09 PM

KB

“ *Karen Bowen sent a virtual gift in memory of Donna Bates Martin*



Karen Bowen - July 13, 2025 at 11:06 AM

PT

“ *Mrs. Donna had the sweetest heart and soul. Heaven gained an angel.*

Paula Talley - July 13, 2025 at 10:06 AM

MB

“ *MICHAEL BATES sent a virtual gift in memory of Donna Bates Martin*



MICHAEL BATES - July 13, 2025 at 09:38 AM

RG

“ *Ronald Gammons lit a candle in memory of Donna Bates Martin*



Ronald Gammons - July 13, 2025 at 09:32 AM

GL

“ *Gerry Loveless lit a candle in memory of Donna Bates Martin*



Gerry Loveless - July 13, 2025 at 08:52 AM

GG

“ *Glenda Carol Gilmer lit a candle in memory of Donna Bates Martin*



Glenda Carol Gilmer - July 13, 2025 at 08:37 AM

CB

“ *Connie Bowen lit a candle in memory of Donna Bates Martin*



Connie Bowen - July 13, 2025 at 12:40 AM

DB

“ My heart hurts for each and every one of you! She was one of the sweetest people I have ever known and I will miss her. Loved her bunches!

Debbie Bradley - July 12, 2025 at 11:36 PM

DS

“ So sorry for your loss. My deepest sympathy goes out to all of the family. Love you Finn ❤️



Debbie Semore - July 12, 2025 at 11:17 PM

CA



celena atkinson - July 15, 2025 at 08:51 AM

CM

“ Cheeva McClearen lit a candle in memory of Donna Bates Martin



Cheeva McClearen - July 12, 2025 at 10:40 PM

MS

“ Sending hugs, love, and prayers to all the family.

Barry, Melissa, & Ashley Shelton



Melissa Shelton - July 12, 2025 at 10:11 PM

PT

“ *Paula Talley lit a candle in memory of Donna Bates Martin*



Paula Talley - July 12, 2025 at 09:48 PM

ES

“ *Ed And Melinda Sullivan lit a candle in memory of Donna Bates Martin*



Ed and Melinda Sullivan - July 12, 2025 at 08:41 PM

RM

“ *Roy & Sharon McCoy lit a candle in memory of Donna Bates Martin*



Roy & Sharon McCoy - July 12, 2025 at 08:40 PM