



## Mary Helen Barber

November 9, 1928 - May 17, 2019

Mary Helen Barber, long-time educator and resident of Centerville, passed away peacefully after a long illness on May 17, 2019. She was 90.

Mary Helen was born on November 9, 1928, in Linden, to Kinchen William and Edna Hinson Barber. She graduated from Perry County High School in 1947, and later earned her Bachelor of Science in 1958 and Master of Arts in Education in 1975 from Austin Peay State University. She loved children and turned that passion into a 46-year career, first as a classroom teacher and later as a librarian, for the Hickman County Independent School District.

She was an active member in several community service organizations, holding leadership positions in the Centerville Womans Club and Hickman County Chrysanthemum Society. She also served in a number of educational organizations and was a member of the Centerville Church of Christ for more than 50 years.

Mary Helen had a gift for cooking, taking great pride in serving others and always looking for the next best recipe from the numerous cookbooks she collected over the years. She also loved to sew, quilt, crochet and embroider--handwork she generously shared with family and friends.

In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by two brothers, James

Levi Barber and Guy Villous Barber, and four sisters including Ruth Louise Barber, Gusta Jane McKee, Grace Frank and Nora Aline Ellis. She leaves behind loving nieces and nephews, devoted extended family and many throughout her community that were honored to call her friend.

A visitation will be held from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Saturday, May 25, 2019 at McDonald Funeral Home, Inc., 102 West End Avenue, Centerville, Tennessee. A funeral service will take place at 1:00 PM on Saturday, May 25, 2019, at McDonald Funeral Home, Inc., followed by burial in Downey Cemetery in Hohenwald, Tennessee.

# Cemetery Details

## Downey Cemetery

780 Centerville Hwy  
Hohenwald, TN 38462

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 25. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

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

## Funeral Service

MAY 25. 1:00 PM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall

 Paula Talley

“ *This makes me so sad. She was a great lady. I loved working in the library with her at school.*

Paula Talley - May 30, 2019 at 10:23 AM

BQ

“ *Bernard Qualls lit a candle in memory of Mary Helen Barber*



bernard qualls - May 22, 2019 at 09:36 AM

RS

“ *To:Barber Family,  
We are thinking of you during this difficult time & Mrs Mary Hellen Barber  
Will be missed with a smiling face.*

Regina & Martha Shelton - May 21, 2019 at 09:05 PM

SM

“ *Sharon McCoy lit a candle in memory of Mary Helen Barber*



Sharon McCoy - May 21, 2019 at 12:27 PM

PA

“ *Ms. Barber was a very special lady and will be missed!* ”



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**Phillip & Letitia Allen** - May 19, 2019 at 04:42 PM

JA

“ *Joe Abbott lit a candle in memory of Mary Helen Barber* ”



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**Joe Abbott** - May 19, 2019 at 10:23 AM

DH

“ *Dwight & Jewel Barber Hinson lit a candle in memory of Mary Helen Barber* ”



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**Dwight & Jewel Barber Hinson** - May 19, 2019 at 02:18 AM

JM

“ *Joyce Mayberry lit a candle in memory of Mary Helen Barber* ”



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**Joyce Mayberry** - May 18, 2019 at 10:51 PM

BP

“ *Becky Palmer lit a candle in memory of Mary Helen Barber*



Becky Palmer - May 18, 2019 at 10:47 PM

CM

“ *Cheeva McClearen sent a virtual gift in memory of Mary Helen Barber*



Cheeva McClearen - May 18, 2019 at 09:40 PM

PP

“ *Pat And Becky Bates Palmer lit a candle in memory of Mary Helen Barber*



Pat and Becky Bates Palmer - May 18, 2019 at 09:30 PM

LR

“ *Linda Duncan Riley lit a candle in memory of Mary Helen Barber*



Linda Duncan Riley - May 18, 2019 at 02:58 PM

DP

“ *My Aunt Mary Helen was the best! We would see her every summer and it was always a delight. Besides the best cooking ever (she'd put Paula Dean to shame), she loved me and I have never forgot that love. She encouraged my love for reading and sent me books throughout the year. One year she took my brother and I to Nashville for a movie and dinner at Shoney's. She was a giver and I will miss her all the rest of my days.*

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**Donna Pfeifer** - May 18, 2019 at 02:37 PM

GO

“ *RIP Miss Barber!!! I will never forget the many school years and memories.*

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**Gary Ola** - May 18, 2019 at 02:31 PM

RB

“ *Randall & Sandra Barber lit a candle in memory of Mary Helen Barber*



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**Randall & Sandra Barber** - May 18, 2019 at 02:04 PM