



Wanda Louise Carroll

July 1, 1940 - January 24, 2026

Wanda Louise Whorley Carroll, lovingly known as Memaw to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, was born July 1, 1940, in Chattaroy, West Virginia, and passed away January 24, 2026, at Maury Regional Hospital, at the age of 85.

Wanda was the daughter of Robert Lee Whorley and Euva Mae Harrison Whorley Barnett. A true coal miner's daughter, she learned resilience early in life. After the loss of her father at the age of ten, she later moved to Michigan with her mother following her mother's remarriage—experiences that shaped her strength, independence, and unwavering devotion to family.

At just fifteen years old, Wanda married the love of her life, James Edward "J.E." Carroll, beginning a marriage rooted in commitment, perseverance, and deep love. They shared many years together until J.E.'s passing on October 25, 1993. Wanda devoted much of her life to being a homemaker, raising her children and creating a home where everyone felt welcome. After her husband's death, she returned to work at Johnson Controls and later Fisher & Company, where she remained until her retirement.

Wanda made her home in Hohenwald, Tennessee, where she became a constant and familiar presence—steady, hardworking, and always ready to welcome others in. She was rarely still, often found mowing her own grass,

running the weedeater, making candy, or tending to whatever needed to be done. One of the greatest joys of her life was her swimming pool, which she kept spotless and always ready, simply because she loved having people there. Her home was a gathering place filled with laughter, splashing water, birthday parties, and late-night swims. Her children and grandchildren brought their friends, and Memaw treated every one of them like her own. She truly was Memaw to all.

Just as sacred were Sunday afternoons at Memaw's house. Sundays were Memaw days. Her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren gathered to eat what she cooked, filling the house with warmth, conversation, and comfort. After the meal, the cards came out. Memaw loved her card games—Rook, Rummy, Solitaire, and Yahtzee—and many Sundays turned into full-fledged Rook tournaments, with generations gathered around the table. Those afternoons weren't just about games; they were about tradition, belonging, and togetherness. Sundays won't be the same without her.

Holidays were especially meaningful in Memaw's home, particularly Easter. Every year, she spent the entire day before Easter boiling eggs, carefully preparing for the family tradition she cherished. That night, everyone gathered to color eggs together, and on Easter morning, her yard came alive with multiple egg hunts, laughter, and excitement shared across generations. These moments became treasured memories—simple, joyful traditions made special because Memaw made them so.

No visit to Memaw's house was complete without coffee. She always had a pot on, and you could almost always find her sitting at her kitchen table, coffee cup in hand, ready to visit. Whether you stopped by unannounced or stayed awhile, that table was a place of conversation, comfort, and connection—a quiet reflection of the way she lived her life, always making room for others.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her beloved husband, James Edward "J.E." Carroll; her in-laws, Jesse Bryant and Aline (Dean) Runions Carroll; her granddaughter, Captain Jessica Naomi Carroll Wright; her brother, Ray Vaughn Whorley; her sister, Barbara Jean Skeens Nixon; and her brothers, Rickey Barnett and Ronnie Barnett.

She is survived by her children: James Edward Carroll, Jr., Jesse Lee (Cathey) Carroll, Robert Duane (Dana) Carroll, and Rhonda Denise (Scottie) Bass; her sister, Linda Lee Whorley; her sisters-in-law, Nora Elizabeth Whorley, Riverview, MI, and Jessie Louise Salyers.

She is also survived by her 9 grandchildren: Rachel Carroll Lopez of Memphis, Corbin (Jennifer) Carroll, Hannah Carroll Underhill of Memphis, Coby Carroll, Payton (Ryan) Staggs, Quenten Carroll, Bethaney (Josh) Keltner, Landree Carroll, and Hayden (Hope) Bass of Summertown.

Her legacy continues through her 10 great-grandchildren: Parker Carroll, James Wright, Lydia Lopez, Tanner Carroll, Connor Wright, Rhett Staggs, Knox Keltner, Ezra Lopez, Tate Staggs, and Klayr Keltner.

She also leaves behind many nieces and nephews who loved her dearly.

Visitation with the family will be held on Monday, February 2nd from 4:30 PM to 8 PM at McDonald Funeral Home in Hohenwald, TN.

Funeral services will be conducted on Tuesday, February 3rd beginning at 11 AM with burial to follow in the Piney Cemetery.

Wanda Louise Carroll will be remembered for her strength, her tireless work ethic, her open heart, and the way she brought people together. Her table was always full, the coffee was always on, the pool was always ready, the cards

were always waiting—and her role as Memaw will live on in the traditions, memories, and love she leaves behind.

McDonald Funeral Home is honored to be serving the Carroll family.

Cemetery Details

Piney Cemetery

Marvin Whitehead Rd
Hohenwald, TN 38462

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 2. 4:30 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

McDonald Funeral Home, Inc. - Lewis County
20 West 2nd Avenue
Hohenwald, TN 38462
(931) 796-2207

Funeral Service

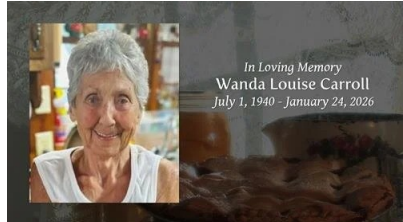
FEB 3. 11:00 AM (CT)

McDonald Funeral Home, Inc. - Lewis County
20 West 2nd Avenue
Hohenwald, TN 38462
(931) 796-2207

Tribute Wall



“ McDonald Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Wanda Louise Carroll



McDonald Funeral Home, Inc - February 19 at 09:08 PM



“ I was so sorry to hear about Wanda's passing, i will always remember the pool party at her house for the girls from Johnson Control we had a blast with her, she was a beautiful person and i know she will be missed.

Stephanie Marcrom - February 06 at 03:44 PM



“ peggy Cagle lit a candle in memory of Wanda Carroll



peggy Cagle - February 03 at 09:22 PM

DA

“ To Slick, Lee, Robbie, and Rhonda: So sorry about the loss of your mother. She was a very sweet person; always so welcoming; and she will be missed beyond measure. My prayers go out to you all. Love you guys Darla



Darla - February 03 at 10:07 AM

DE

“ Deborah Evans lit a candle in memory of Wanda Carroll



Deborah Evans - January 31 at 09:53 PM

BD

“ Wanda Louise Carroll was my Aunt, but she was so much more than that to me though. She was my friend. A counselor. A shoulder to lean on, or cry on depending on the situation. She completely understood me. She always told you like it was, and never sugar coated it. Aunt Wanda was truly one of the most kindest, loving women you could ever hope to meet. She was an amazing mother. She loved her children and family so much. She could make you laugh even when you didn't think you could, and dry your tears as fast as they fell. She is in heaven now with all of the people that went before her. I will draw my strength knowing we will see her again one sweet day. She will be sorely missed by her children and family, Rest in Heavenly Peace Aunt Wanda



Brenda Duke - January 31 at 01:25 PM

MB

“ *Michael Bates sent a virtual gift in memory of Wanda Carroll*



Michael Bates - January 31 at 01:55 AM

MT

“ *Margaret Templeton lit a candle in memory of Wanda Carroll*



Margaret Templeton - January 30 at 09:03 PM

MJ

“ *So sorry, may God comfort you all*

Marlene Johns - January 30 at 07:58 PM

AC

“ Aunt Wanda was an amazing person. She was always there for everything. She loved my mom and me so much and that love was returned a thousand fold. My memories of her will always be of her opening her door and welcoming us in. The dinner table was where she would visit, tell stories, what was her favorite show at the time, always ready to hear our problems, intensely listening to every one and offering guidance. She made the best coffee in the world. She was more like a Mom to me than an Aunt. I loved hearing her voice when I called and her laughter. My visits to my mom and staying with Wanda was the best times of my life. I don't know where Mom and I would be without the years of Wanda taking care of us. When I think of her I see a huge smile and deep laughter. I will always love you and miss you. Until we meet again. Keep the coffee on.

Anita Clay - January 30 at 07:35 PM

NM

“ Aunt Wanda when I was little we all lived together at Grinders Creek with Grandma and Pawpaw. I had school pictures and she was fixing my hair, when she got through I had 2 pin curls on each side on head, she tried, she told me I don't know how to do little girls hair. My poor pictures proved it. But I love and remember is she tired and done it with love, she always been a great Aunt and she will be dearly missed and loved. ❤️

Nancy McDonald - January 30 at 06:54 PM