



# Mary Jane Bryson

AUG 16, 1933 - MAR 30, 2020



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# Mary Jane Bryson

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**M**ary Jane Bryson, age 86, passed away peacefully at her home in Bartlett, Tennessee on March 30, 2020. She was born on August 16, 1933 in Burdette, Arkansas to Waddell and Laverne Bramlett. Mary Jane was a homemaker and member of Ellendale Church of Christ. She was an active supporter of numerous ministries, including those in Haiti and Ukraine.

Mary was preceded in death by her brothers, Terry Bramlett and Boswell Bramlett and her husband of 55 years, Thomas Earl Bryson and daughter-in-law Margaret Bryson. She is survived by sons Charles (Kathy) and Dale, grandsons Luke, Sam, and Ben, many cousins and countless beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

Given the current national conditions and the family's concern for the health and well-being of others, Mrs. Bryson will be interred privately at Memorial Park Cemetery. Plans for a Celebration of Life service will be announced at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, Mary would ask that donations be made to Children's Homes, Inc. (<https://www.childrenshomes.org>) or the charity of your choice.



## Tribute Wall

**Mary Jane Bryson**

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LT

**Lonnie & Linda Thweatt** posted:

A true "Rock" in our family. Had so much history of our family stored in that sweet mind of hers. Will truly miss our long conversations. She loved the Lord and loved sharing the Word with others which included the many mission trips she went on. RIP my dear cousin.

April 2 at 4:13 AM

RW

**Robert Williams** posted:

Charles, Dale, & DeeYou know how much I love "Little Momma". She has been an amazing inspirational to so many. I'm so blessed to have been able to spend more time with her during the last year. She will be greatly missed, but the thought of her heavenly dwelling eases the pain. I pray that Your morning will be quickly filled with wonderful memories. Robert Williams

April 1 at 8:12 PM

JK

**Judy Kilmer** posted:

WE send our sincere condolences to Charlie and Kathy!! We are so very sorry for your loss!!Michael and Judy Kilmer

April 1 at 2:32 PM

DD

**Denny Drake** posted:

Dale, I'm very sorry for your loss. We will keep you in our prayers.Denny Drake

April 1 at 2:11 PM

TW

**Tonya Wright** posted:

Charles and Dale I am so sorry to hear about your Mom's passing. She will be greatly missed. I always looked forward to seeing her at family functions. She always had kind things to say and made everyone feel welcomed. I will truly miss her. Tonya Guthrie (Sandy's daughter)

April 1 at 1:06 PM



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HF

**Harold Forrester** posted:

I was so sorry to hear of Mary's death. She always showed a special compassion for me and my family. She will be missed by many. To Charlie and Dale I send my sincerest sympathy'

April 1 at 6:30 AM

HS

**Herb Stewart** June 3 at 5:04 AM

The Bryson & Stewart families formed a close relationship over 60 years ago when we all lived in Ellendale, Shelby County, TN. I believe that friendship to be much stronger today, even though at times during those years we lived many miles apart. Mary Jane and ladies from the Ellendale congregation came to my Tanya's visitation in 2014. About a year and a half later, almost by accident, Mary Jane and I reestablished connection and the last 4 ½ years we have seen each other at least every week . . . many times more often. During that time, I got to know her very well and to appreciate the way she lived her Christian life, mostly by serving others virtually every day. One example of this is the group of senior citizens she looked after daily, . . . and most of them were 15 to 20 years younger than her. A couple of incidents which occurred during our time together should illustrate much about Miss Mary Jane. One: We were shopping in Walmart and could not find what we wanted. A Walmart employee, a rather large young black man, happened by and stopped to help. After he did so he started to walk away. Mary Jane grabbed him and gave him a big crushing bear hug, all the while thanking him profusely. Initially he was shocked (Why is this tiny little white woman attacking me!?). Then a wide grin spread over his face as he walked away, almost floating. Second incident: We were sitting in a restaurant, waiting to be served. Mary Jane looked around, got up and said 'scuse me a minute. She walked to a table several steps from us and said "Mam, that is such a beautiful sweater, I just had to ask you about it! Where did you get it?" She then sat down, they chatted a few minutes like old friends, then Mary Jane gave the lady one of those crushing bear hugs and came back to our table. Sometimes it was a scarf, or shoes, a handbag, or a beautiful baby (Mary Jane's favorite). These were not isolated incidents as she did this in airports, waiting on a subway car, at church, or anywhere she met people, even in foreign countries where the best she could do with the language may have been to say hello. Additionally, her eyes were defective, as in being color blind . . . red, yellow, black, white, men, ladies, old, young . . . anyone in her sight was in imminent danger of falling victim to one of her signature hugs; from Tennessee, to Texas, to Louisiana, to Italy to Ukraine; these, and more, were where we traveled in the short time we had together. We both have relatives scattered all over Texas (and some other states). And, we made most of those stateside trips multiple times visiting those relatives and some friends. Her tiny five-foot one-inch frame and the 105 pounds it carried did not reveal the size of her heart . . . nor the tremendous volume of love and compassion contained therein. Mary Jane, I love you dearly and I thank you for being my friend and allowing me to share your life for a very short time. You will be greatly missed, by a great many people, for a great number of years . . . for me, until I breathe no more . . .



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**Larry Cochran** posted:

Dale, so very sorry to hear of the the passing of your mom. I don't think I ever had an opportunity to meet her but I am sure she will be missed by all. Please pass on to the rest of the family my thoughts and prayers. Larry Cochran

March 31 at 6:35 PM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Mary by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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