



Melba Casey

July 2, 1921 - September 17, 2020

Melba Wilson Casey, 99, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri and formerly of Paducah, Kentucky passed away on September 17, 2020 at the Chateau Girardeau Health Center.

Melba was born July 2, 1921 near Holland, Missouri to Garvin and Flossie Pounds Wilson. She was an active member of the Broadway Church of Christ of Paducah.

Melba was a graduate of Holland High School and a 1942 graduate of Southeast Missouri State Teachers College. She taught business for one year at Poplar Bluff, Missouri High School before she and Paul E. Casey were married on October 30, 1943 at Corpus Christi, TX Naval Air Station.

Accompanying her husband's career as a claims adjuster, she made her home in Greenwood and Greenville, Mississippi, Sikeston and Kennett, Missouri, and finally Paducah, Kentucky. After raising five children, Melba returned to the field of education as a substitute teacher in the Paducah Public Schools. Her career progressed as an English teacher at Brazelton Junior High and supervisor in the Project Eight and Title III programs, earning a Master's Degree from Murray State University along the way. Melba continued her career as the inaugural director of the West Kentucky Education Cooperative from 1976-1992.

After retirement, Melba served as a volunteer tax advisor, AARP driving clinician, officer in the Kentucky Retired Teacher Association, board member for the New Pathways for Children, and proud fan of University of Kentucky basketball. She loved to travel, collect antiques, and listen to all kinds of great music. She was strong in her faith in God, strong in the love for her family, and rich in her sense of humor.

She is survived by her daughter, Rita Casey (Ken McFarlane) of Detroit, Michigan; sons, Shaun (Ann) Casey of Fairfax, Virginia, and Neil (Dina) Casey of Cape Girardeau, Missouri; daughter-in-law, Judy Casey of Abilene, Texas; grandchildren, Paul S. Casey (Andrea Rodriguez), Neil J. Casey, and Sarah Casey; and step grandchildren, Lee (Tyne) Strickert, Mark (Tiffany) Strickert, and Ann (Caleb) Askew .

She was preceded in death by her husband, Paul Casey; daughter, Karen Casey; son, Michael Casey; brother, William Wilson; and her parents.

The Casey family is grateful for the care she received from the women and men at Chateau Girardeau. Funeral and memorial services will be private. In lieu of flowers her family asks that any memorials take the form of donations to the Paul and Melba Wilson Casey Scholarship Fund at the Southeast Missouri University Foundation.

Tribute Wall

AM

“ I wrote to Melba once after she left Paducah. I worked at New Pathways when she was on the board and had lunch with her after I left there. I had great respect for the lady and just found out tonight about her passing. My sympathy to the family.

Alicia Morris

alicia morris - September 06, 2021 at 11:14 PM

RC

Thank you, Ms.Morris. My mother appreciated the work so much that New Pathways staff did to help children. Rita Casey

Rita Casey - December 05, 2022 at 06:47 AM

KC

So sorry for your loss! Prayers for the Family! 🙏👼 Kim Cochran I didn't know or I would of been there. Very sweet and caring lady Miss her since she moved from Paducah

Kim Cochran - April 19, 2023 at 11:31 PM

RC

Thank you, Ms. Cochran, for your wonderful compliments! My mom would have loved talking with you. She so missed being with people that she knew from church or schools, particularly from her years in Kentucky.

Rita Casey - May 28, 2023 at 03:32 PM

HF

“ So sorry for your loss, but I'm sure you have many good memories. I have fond memories of your family when you lived at 401 College in Kennett. As a good friend of Karen, I was in your home often. God Bless.

Heath Carter Farmer

Heath Farmer - September 22, 2020 at 02:46 PM

RC

The Carter family were wonderful neighbors when my parents lived in Kennett. Your friendship with my sister was a big part of that; thank you for your kind remembrance. Rita Casey

Rita Casey - December 05, 2022 at 06:53 AM

JR

“ We enjoyed our friendship with Melba for many years. We appreciated her many talents and her sense of humor. Her contribution to education will be a lasting legacy. Our sympathy to the family. Jack and Janice Rose, Murray, KY

Jack Rose - September 22, 2020 at 09:34 AM

RC

Dr.Rose, Thank you for your remembrance of my mother. She appreciated your fine work on behalf of the children and schools through Murray State University and the WKEC. Rita Casey

Rita Casey - December 05, 2022 at 06:58 AM