



Opal M. Young

March 13, 1929 - July 1, 2019

Opal M. Young (Reid)- Went home to be with our Lord and Savior on July 1, 2019 at the age of 90.

Opal was born in Hollypond, Alabama to Leslie and Ella Reid on Wednesday, March 13, 1929.

She has shared numerous stories over the years. A complex tapestry woven of hard times encompassed her childhood as a share cropper's daughter during the Depression of 1930's when food and clothing were scarce. She endured grueling labor picking cotton and watched an older brother, Hobert, leave for the last time when she was 13, as he joined the Merchant Marines with the intention of sending money back to the family to help them survive. She shared sweet memories of close friends, her mother playing the guitar or the piano while singing Hymns, and of her brother playing the guitar and harmonica.

As a young lady, Opal was a hairdresser and caregiver to many nieces and nephews. Like so many people her age in dirt-poor regions of the South, Opal longed for a better life.

In 1952, Opal was 23 and left Hollypond to travel with a family friend, Nellie Deese (Gerstman), to LaBelle, Florida. They arrived at the Greyhound Bus Stop, at Flora and Ella's Restaurant, now known as Forrey Grill on North Bridge St. Soon thereafter, Opal and Nellie moved to Ft. Myers for work and met Jack Young, the man that would become Opal's husband and the father of their four children. Married on Christmas Eve, 1955, Jack and Opal raised

their children and after years of financial struggles, the family owned successful building supply businesses in Ft. Myers, FL. While Opal lived and raised her children in Florida, she still called Alabama her home and loved to return to visit her many childhood friends and family.

The last surviving member of a large family, Opal was preceded in death by 5 brothers (Boyd, Hobert, Clint, Hermann, Gene, and Alton) and 2 sisters (Gussie May Patterson, and Inez Treace).

Opal was preceded in death by her husband of 46 years, Madison A. Young (Jack) and leaves her children Les, Jim (Tanya), John (Kelly), and Ella Dyess (Glenn). Opal loved her children with all of her heart and their spouses as if they were her own, along with her grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

Although the past year has been a difficult time, the last few weeks of Opal's life have been sprinkled with miracles that will forever be etched on the hearts of those she loved.

Rest in peace, Momma. Your work here is done.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 5. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Gendron Funeral & Cremation Services Inc. - Lehigh Acres, FL
1120 Villiage Lakes Blvd
Lehigh Acres, FL 33972
(239) 368-7080
mike.gendronfuneralhome@msn.com
<https://www.gendronfuneralhome.com/contact-us/lehigh-acres-fl-funeral-home>

Funeral Service

JUL 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

Gendron Funeral & Cremation Services Inc. - Lehigh Acres, FL
1120 Villiage Lakes Blvd
Lehigh Acres, FL 33972
(239) 368-7080
mike.gendronfuneralhome@msn.com
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Tribute Wall



“ Gendron Funeral & Cremation Services Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Opal M. Young



Gendron Funeral & Cremation Services Inc. - July 03, 2019 at 10:38 AM



“ Opal M. Young

October 09, 2023 at 02:01 AM



“ Opal M. Young

January 28, 2023 at 12:09 PM



“ 3 files added to the album Life Tributes



Gendron Funeral & Cremation Services Inc. - July 05, 2019 at 07:10 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Opal M. Young.



July 03, 2019 at 03:40 PM



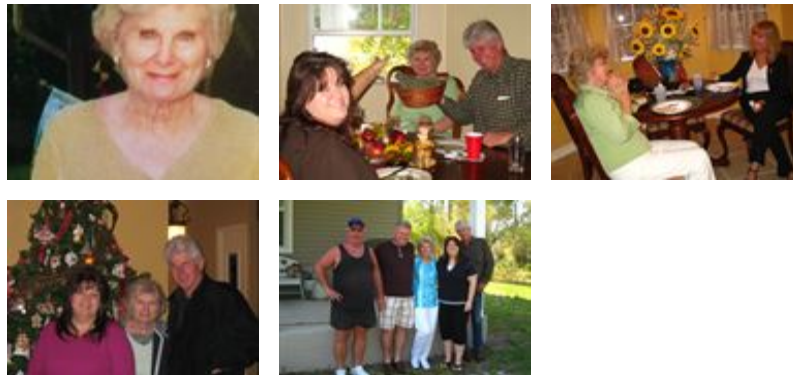
“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Opal M. Young.



July 03, 2019 at 01:59 PM



“ 69 files added to the album Life Tributes



Gendron Funeral & Cremation Services Inc. - July 03, 2019 at 08:52 AM