



Clara "Faye" Elder Reach

November 5, 1920 - October 8, 2021

Reach, Clara Faye Elder, was born on November 5, 1920 in Valley Mills, Texas, and lived on this earth for 100 years 11 months and 3 days. She died at her daughter's home in Alabaster, AL on Friday, October 8, 2021.

The visitation will be from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at First Baptist Church of Columbiana. The funeral service will be at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at the church with Dr. Mike Miller and Dr. Rusty Sowell officiating. Burial will be at Elliottsville Cemetery. Bolton Funeral Home is directing.

Mrs. Reach had lived with Linda and Robert Moore, who were her primary caregivers, for more than six years. She is preceded in death by her parents: Joseph Edmond Elder, Sr., and Emma Cecil Dagley, of Texas; her husband of 36 years: Samuel Archie (S.A.) Reach, of Siluria, AL; second husband: Roy John Owens, of Helena, AL; nine brothers; five sisters; two daughters: Lois Cooper (Bruce), and Joyce Smith (Bill), both of Columbiana, AL; and two grandsons: David Prestridge, of Opelika, AL, and Sammy Reach, of Birmingham, AL. Faye is survived by one brother: Dr. Lloyd Elder (Sue), of Nashville, TN; one son: Charles Reach (Hazel) of Montevallo, AL; two daughters: Ann Prestridge (Walter) of Opelika, and Linda Moore (Robert) of Alabaster, AL; twelve grandchildren: Carolyn Stokes (Steve), Russell Reach (Becky), Donna Wyatt (Jimmy), Pam King (Kevin), Johnny Butler (Lanette), Tracy Adair (Mike), Cathy Long (Derrick), Stephen Prestridge, Chaplain R.A. "Tony" Moore (Mary), April Bruce (Brett), Kristi Hyche (Steve), and Kelly Pitts

(Eric); twenty-one great grandchildren; twenty-one great-great grandchildren; plus a host of special nieces and nephews whom she adored.

Clara Faye's mother and baby sister died at childbirth when she was just five years old. She spent a few months in Buckner Orphans Home in Dallas, before returning home, and soon thereafter a new mother and two stepbrothers were added to the already large family of eight. The blended family grew to fifteen children who, with their parents, were migrant workers during the Great Depression. By the time Faye was twelve years old she could pick as much cotton as any adult. Their formal education suffered with their constant travels. Consequently, Faye only finished third grade. She then became a farmhand and cook for her aunt and uncle in Patton, TX until age fifteen when she moved to Dallas to share an apartment with her two older sisters. While there she was hired as a nanny where she worked for two families. During that time, she met and married S.A. Reach. They had a son and moved to S.A.'s hometown of Alabaster, AL in 1941. In her lifetime Faye worked hard serving her new family so many miles from home. From gardening, milking cows, churning butter, chopping wood, or helping to deliver babies, she was right where she was needed. Over the years the family of three added four girls. Faye was the glue that kept their home together. Her early life's experiences had prepared her for the hardships she and her family would encounter, and she could do almost anything required of a couple living on a small farm.

Faye accepted Christ as her Savior at age thirteen at Patton Church on the Old Chisholm Trail and was baptized in Patton Creek. Her faith became the foundation for the family's survival in difficult times as well as in joyful times. She learned to play the harmonica after her mother died by watching her daddy play. Her music became an integral part of who she was. It provided solace for a lonely young mother separated from her family by both miles and circumstances, and was her way to worship and praise her Lord. Faye was multi-talented with diverse interests who always put her family first. She was a selfless and dotting wife, mother, and grandmother to three generations. She

was a loving and dedicated daughter-in-law, creative, frugal, artistic, a collector of found objects of nature, a seamstress, a caregiver, teacher, and disciplinarian. She began writing poetry in 1952 as a way to express her love of God and His creation, and in 2002 she also had hymns she had written produced for her own pleasure and that of her family. Through it all, Faye stayed focused on the NOW, depending on God to take care of the rest. One of her many "favorite" scriptures is Jeremiah 29:11(NIV), "I know the plans I have for you, declares The Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Clara Faye Elder Reach's sparkling eyes, bright smile, warm hugs and encouraging words will be sorely missed until we meet again in Heaven.

Please sign online condolences at www.boltonfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Elliottsville Cemetery

8828 Hwy 119
Alabaster, AL 35007

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **12**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Columbiana
208 N Main St.
Columbiana, AL 35051

Funeral Service

OCT **13**. 2:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Columbiana
208 N Main St.
Columbiana, AL 35051

Tribute Wall



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Clara "Faye" Elder Reach.*



October 13, 2021 at 09:29 AM



“ *My Aunt Faye was a loving and welcoming person. I recall staying at her home in Alabama in what I think was 1963. I remember the sense of family she commanded and how she made the imposition of 5 people to feed and house seem like nothing. After being separated by decades, I was blessed to get a visit from her a few years ago. I hope Faye and my mom (and the other 12 siblings) are busy in Heaven catching up on the years they were apart. (BTW cousin Linda, thanks for teaching me to drive stick shift back there in 1963.) My thoughts are with the family. They were blessed to have such a loving mom and grandma in their lives for so many years.*

Bob Pride - October 12, 2021 at 09:03 PM



Thank you, Bob. Mother's great love, besides her love for Jesus, was her family. She loved unconditionally. Hope to see you All sometime in the near future, Lord willing.
-Linda

Linda Reach Moore - October 23, 2021 at 02:30 AM

"J

“ *"Virginia Boys" Robert, Rock and John purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Clara "Faye" Elder Reach.*



"Virginia Boys" Robert, Rock and John - October 12, 2021 at 06:11 PM

KH

“ *Kevin, Michelle, and Faith Howze purchased the Rose Garden Heart for the family of Clara "Faye" Elder Reach.*



Kevin, Michelle, and Faith Howze - October 12, 2021 at 11:40 AM

RJ

“ *Regina and JD purchased the Simply Elegant Sp athiphyllum for the family of Clara "Faye" Elder Reach.*



Regina and JD - October 12, 2021 at 07:09 AM

 Kayren Owens

“ *I have no words of my own that adequately honor Faye, but Proverbs 31:10-31 comes to mind. Faye exemplified the model that God set forth in his scripture describing a virtuous woman. I know she is with her Savior celebrating her just reward, and I hope she, Kenneth, and Brooke, along with all of her other loved ones are doing some serious hugging.*

Kayren Owens - October 11, 2021 at 09:24 PM

WW

“ Wayne and Kay Watts purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Clara "Faye" Elder Reach.



Wayne and Kay Watts - October 11, 2021 at 08:23 PM

DS

“ What a life story and legacy of love, faith, family, overcoming hardship and heartbreak and pointing people toward Jesus Christ. Her life will be remembered and celebrated for years to come. May the God of all comfort bless her family and friends with His love and consolation in knowing that to be “ absent from the body is to be present with the Lord”.

Dr. Mike Shaw - October 11, 2021 at 05:57 PM

DS

“ We are so sorry to hear of the passing of Mrs. Reach ... she was loved and respected by many. May God bless and be with her children and grandchildren as they mourn her passing. What a "wonderful" and fulfilling life she lived!



As disciples of Jesus Christ, we covenant to "mourn with those that mourn" ... We love you all!

Diane and Bobby Joe Seales

Diane Seales - October 11, 2021 at 05:37 PM