



Mrs. Mary D. Herrod

August 10, 1926 - March 11, 2025

Mary D. Herrod, 98, Peoria, transitioned peacefully to her heavenly home on March 11, 2025, at 9:00 p.m., surrounded by family at Richard Owens Hospice Home.

Mother Mary D. Herrod, the Matriarch of the Banks family, affectionately known as “Mae Dee” by her siblings and childhood friends, was born to the late Oscar and Sarah Pleas Banks on August 10, 1926, in Tchula, Mississippi.

Mary D. met John Herrod, Jr. at a church service in Drew, Mississippi, and the two were united in holy matrimony on August 19, 1944, in Tchula. After their union, Mr. and Mrs. Herrod moved to Memphis, Tennessee, and in the late 1940s, they relocated to Peoria, Illinois. Together, they were blessed with nine children.

Mary D. dedicated her life to the Lord Jesus Christ at a young age under the leadership of Minister Tobie Corpprue in Drew, Mississippi. Later, she and her husband became founding and active members of the Pentecostal Church of Jesus Christ in Peoria, Illinois, where they served under the leadership of Evangelist Hattie Mae Jordan, Elder Ervin Turner, Suffragan Bishop Val Johnson, and District Elder Henry L. Bolden, II. In the early years of ministry, Mother Herrod served as a Children’s Sunday School teacher and sang in the church’s congregational choir. She exemplified the true spirit of a Missionary,

faithfully visiting the sick, shut-in, and hospitalized.

Mother Herrod's generous heart and selfless nature extended far beyond her church duties. She was a steadfast giver of her time and often put others' needs before her own. She was a constant presence at birthdays, weddings, and other celebratory events. Her last employment was with Lutheran Social Services as a caregiver. She was also a caring and loving foster grandparent. In her community, she volunteered, serving as a long-time volunteer at the voter polls educating and registering individuals to vote.

She was beloved by her family, friends, neighbors, and church community. Her well-known phrase, "I am not impressed," became a hallmark of her wit and straightforward nature. Above all, she was a devoted wife and mother, and her greatest joy came from being a mother, grandmother, and confidant. She was a constant source of love, wisdom, and support, always ready to offer comfort, joy, laughter, and encouragement. Her presence left an indelible mark on her children, extended family, and countless others.

Mother Herrod lived a long, blessed life, and her memory will forever be cherished by all who had the privilege of knowing and loving her. Mother Herrod leaves behind a legacy of love, service and devotion.

She is survived by four children: Vera (Delano) Aguster, Richard Herrod, Sr., Patricia Herrod, and Debra (Cardell) Watkins; Daughter in-love: Verna J. Herrod; 20 grandchildren; 57 great-grandchildren; 28 great-great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, John Herrod, Jr.; daughters, Jonni Mae Brown and Denise Yvonne Herrod; sons, (one stillborn), Kenneth Ivan Herrod and Walter Herrod, Sr., seven brothers: Charles, Selma, Mason, Buster, Lucious, Walter, and Tom Banks; and two sisters: Etta Matthews and Nannie Lou Jackson.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held on Saturday, March 22, 2025, at Pentecostal Church of Jesus Christ (401 Elm Street Peoria, IL 61505) at 10:00 a.m. with visitation commencing one hour prior 9:00 a.m. Elder Henry Bolden II will present the eulogy.

Mrs. Mary will be laid to rest a Parkview Cemetery.

Arrangements were made especially for the "Herrod" family and professionally directed by T.W. Parks Colonial Chapel. To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of "Mrs. Mary D. Herrod," please visit our Sympathy Store.

Cemetery Details

Parkview Cemetery

2001 N. University
Peoria, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 22. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Pentecostal Church of Jesus Christ
401 Elm Street
Peoria, IL 61605

Celebration of Life

MAR 22. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Pentecostal Church of Jesus Christ
401 Elm Street
Peoria, IL 61605

Tribute Wall

VK

“ *God bless and comfort your family.*



Vickie Kingcade King - July 03, 2025 at 06:30 PM

VK

“ *Another soldier has been called home from this earthly battlefield. Mother Herrod was an excellent example of Christian love. You have my sympathy.*



Vickie Kingcade-King - March 24, 2025 at 11:14 PM

AM

“ *Apostle Abercrombie & Zoe Life Ministrie purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mrs. Mary D. Herrod.*



Apostle Abercrombie & Zoe Life Ministrie - March 21, 2025 at 04:13 PM

YF

“ Your Pepsi Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mrs. Mary D. Herrod.



Your Pepsi Family - March 21, 2025 at 03:55 PM

YF

“ Your Pepsi Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Mary D. Herrod.

Your Pepsi Family - March 21, 2025 at 03:55 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Mary D. Herrod.



March 21, 2025 at 09:20 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mrs. Mary D. Herrod.

March 21, 2025 at 09:20 AM

KC

“ From the family of my mother, the late Doretha Jamison, we send our sincere love and condolences to the family of Mother Herrod.



Kimberly Cary - March 20, 2025 at 10:19 PM

KC

“ Kimberly Cary lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary D. Herrod



Kimberly Cary - March 20, 2025 at 10:15 PM

SR

“ Shari R Rutherford lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary D. Herrod



Shari R Rutherford - March 20, 2025 at 04:53 PM

LT

“ What a beautiful Saint and an extended Mother, will miss you and praises be to God you made it over.



Linda Taylor-Faulkner - March 20, 2025 at 01:16 PM

MY

“ My deepest sympathies are extended to The Herrod Family in the homegoing of our dear loved one Aunt Mary D. Although she was not my biological aunt that's how she was introduced to me, and I have called her Aunt Mary D. for well over 50 years. I have always considered it an honor to have been acquainted with such a beautiful, God-fearing woman.

Rest well my dear friend, you have fought a good fight finished the course, and you have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for you a crown of righteousness.

Please know Herrod Family, you are in the thoughts and prayers of many. Remember, The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those crushed in spirit, Psalm 34:18.

Sympathetically Submitted,

Michael Young, Washington, D.C.

Michael Young - March 20, 2025 at 03:22 AM

AC

“ My Baby Great Grandma , Rest Peacefully You Lived A Wonderful Life Blessings ❤️❤️👍

ambresha campbell - March 20, 2025 at 02:57 AM

BR

“ I love you so much Grandma Herrod! You mean so much to me. I don't think you know how much i miss you ❤️🕊️. Thank you for being the most Beautiful Soul I've ever met. I've always valued your Presence & now I'll value your Spirit 🕊️. Thank you for being “My Best Friend”. I appreciate you for all you've done for our Family. Hug my Mommy for me. (Denise Yvonne Herrod) & the rest of you Beautiful Children in Heaven

Psalm 34:1

“I will bless the Lord at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.”

Forever My Matriarch



Brittnee - March 20, 2025 at 02:14 AM

JM

“ Our condolences to the family. I know of Sis Herrod through my mom, Lula Williams(deceased in 2021 at 94 yrs). She and Sis. Herrod were good friends. I would ask at times how she was doing when I would call my mom. She was a very special and beautiful person to know. May she rest in the comfort of the Lord. May God comfort and give you all peace of mind.



JUWANNA Massey - March 19, 2025 at 09:12 PM

RP

“ Thinking about my Aunt i will always remember her smiling and sharing her joy. I loved the way she loved my father, her baby brother. It was funny to me as a child, the way she and her sister would be so happy to come visit him in Memphis. As an adult I understand, now how I love my brothers and sisters when I haven't seen them. She was LOVE, JOY & HAPPINESS! We didn't speak often, but I will miss her being here in this place. I enjoyed spending time in her home as a child on our vacations.



Roslyn Diane Parks - March 19, 2025 at 07:40 PM

RF

“ Rena Webster & Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary D. Herrod



Rena Webster & Family - March 19, 2025 at 06:53 PM

KE

“ *To the Generations Who Love Mrs. Mary D. Herrod,*

Some people have a presence so strong and a love so deep that their impact never fades. Mrs. Herrod was one of those rare and extraordinary souls. From the moment I met her, she made me feel like part of the family, not just with words, but through the way she cared. She ensured that my nieces and nephews always felt her love, and in doing so, she extended that love to my sister and our family as well. Her strength and unwavering support were gifts I deeply cherished, especially in the moments that mattered most. I will never forget when I thanked her for attending my father's service, and she simply said, "Of course, I had to be here for my great-grandbabies." That was who she was steadfast, loving, and always present when it counted.

To my nieces and nephews, her beautiful family, and all who carry her love in their hearts, her absence may feel immeasurable, but she has not left you without direction. She lived as a pillar of strength, faith, and resilience, and that same spirit lives within you. You are a reflection of her unwavering love, her wisdom, and her faithfulness.

While grief may feel heavy, take comfort in knowing that her legacy is not just something to remember, it is something to live. She built a foundation of love that will continue to guide you, even in her physical absence. In sorrow, may you find peace. In loss, may you find strength. And in every moment ahead, may you feel her gentle grace surrounding you.

*With love and deepest condolences,
Kendra Estes*

Kendra - March 19, 2025 at 02:47 PM

BR

Thank you so much Kendra!! This is such a beautiful tribute to my grandmother 🙏 -Brittnee

We love you

Brittnee - March 19, 2025 at 11:39 PM

MH

Kendra, this was exactly who she was to everyone. Thank you sister

We love you

Michelle Haslett - March 20, 2025 at 10:19 PM

CP

“ *Carolyn Parham lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary D. Herrod*



Carolyn Parham - March 19, 2025 at 12:59 PM



“ *The Ware Family wants to send our sincere condolences to the Herrod family. Mother Herrod was an amazing lady who always took time to send cards and call my mom Brenda Ware and I know mom appreciated it and so did I. Rest on Mother Herrod.*

Andre Ware - March 19, 2025 at 11:57 AM

SE

“ *Sending prayers & love - Kendra Estes purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mrs. Mary D. Herrod.*



Sending prayers & love - Kendra Estes - March 19, 2025 at 10:26 AM

GJ

“ *To the Herrod Family: Mother Herrod was always a soft spoken person. She always had a kind word to share, no matter what she was going through. She always had a smile on her face no matter where you saw her. She had encouraging words to share. Her persona was always one of caring, sharing and delightfulness.*
Gail Johnson



Gail Johnson - March 19, 2025 at 10:19 AM

AH

To the Herrod Family: Mrs. Herrod was a true representation of one who lived and loved like Jesus. She was a prayer warrior and had such a sweet spirit. Now resting with her Lord and Savior, hearing Him say "well done thy good and faithful servant".
Annette Housley

Annette Housley - March 19, 2025 at 11:30 AM

DT

“ *Dallas Terry lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary D. Herrod*



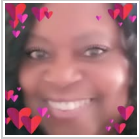
Dallas Terry - March 19, 2025 at 10:02 AM

DS

“ My most sincere condolences to Ricky and the Herrod family. I absolutely adored your Mom. She was so nice and kind to me. I would always get so excited whenever I saw her out and about. The last time I saw her was when she was out shopping for a sewing supplies at Joann's Fabric store some years ago. I will always remember your kind and loving spirit. Rest in Heaven Mother Herrod.



Debra Standley - March 19, 2025 at 07:23 AM



“ Darlene Horton lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Mary D. Herrod



Darlene Horton - March 19, 2025 at 02:07 AM

PJ

“ MY CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY GOING TO MISS HER PHONE CALLS TWICE A WEEK TO SAY PRAISE THE LORD PAM HOW ARE YOU AND HOW IS YOUR MOM DOING LOVE YOU .YOU ARE LOVED MOTHER 💕

Pamela L Jackson - March 18, 2025 at 10:57 PM

MP

“ Nancy Pittman sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Mary D. Herrod



Nancy Pittman - March 18, 2025 at 05:59 PM