



Donna Jean Mears

NOV 9, 1928 - MAR 17, 2026



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Donna Jean Mears

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Donna Jean Mears, age 97, of Grand Island, Florida, passed away peacefully, leaving behind a legacy of devotion to family, quiet strength, and simple joys. Donna was born on November 9, 1928, in Emerald, Nebraska, to Archie and Clasena Merrill. She spent many of her early years in Nebraska and later made her home in Omaha, where she and her husband raised their family. In 1971, Donna moved to Florida, where she resided for more than five decades. She was a faithful member of the First United Methodist Church of Tavares, where her gentle spirit and kindness reflected her deep faith. Donna found joy in life's quieter moments and especially loved needlework and spending time doing puzzles on her iPad, keeping her mind active well into her later years. Alongside her husband, Richard, Donna worked as a paper carrier for the Orlando Sentinel, a job they shared together that reflected their partnership and dedication. Donna is survived by her loving children, Steve Mears and his wife, Barbara, of Lincoln, Nebraska, and Barbara Dolliver and her husband, Steve, of Grand Island, Florida; as well as several grandchildren and great-grandchildren, all of whom brought her great pride and joy. She was preceded in death by her parents, Archie and Clasena Merrill; her beloved husband, Richard Mears; and her brothers, Lyle Merrill and Wayne Merrill. Inurnment will take place at Tavares Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to LovExtension at <https://www lovextension.com>. Donna Jean Mears will be remembered for her warmth, quiet perseverance, and the love she shared with those around her. Her memory will remain a blessing to all who knew her.



Events

Donna Jean Mears

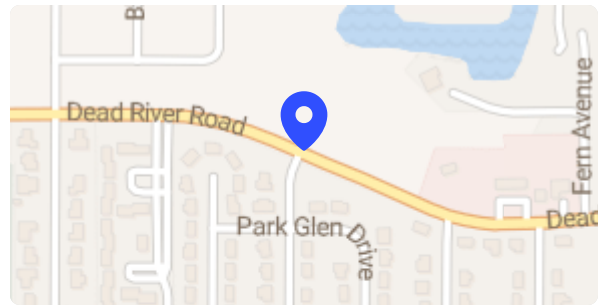
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Cemetery Details



Tavares, Cemetery

1699 Dead River Road, Tavares FL 32778





Memories only last if you share them

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



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