



## Ruth Lee

October 23, 1925 - February 19, 2017

Melba Ruth Ratliff Gardner Lee, 91, went to be with the Lord on Feb. 19, 2017. Funeral service will be held at 10:30am, Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2017 at Max Slayton Funeral Chapel with Rev. Buddy Sadler officiating. Interment will follow at Highland Memorial Gardens. Her family will receive friends 5:30pm to 7:30pm, Tuesday, Feb. 21, at Max Slayton Funerals and Cremations.

Ruth was born in Lauratown, Arkansas on October 23, 1925, a daughter of the late Carnie and Myrtle Ratliff, Sr. She was married to J.W. Gardner on January 17, 1947. To this union one daughter, Linda Gardner Griffin, was born. J.W. died tragically in a farming accident on July 28, 1950 in Strawberry, Arkansas. Ruth married Roy R. Lee on September 13, 1952 in Terrell. Roy had one son, Robert L. Lee, and, together, Ruth and Roy raised their children with love and devotion. Roy passed away January 3, 1995 after 43 years of marriage. Ruth worked at Unique Cleaners for many years and later worked part time at the TISD Print Shop. She enjoyed league bowling and fishing with Roy. She liked working in her yard and just being outside enjoying all of God's creations. She was always a hard worker and her work ethic is a legacy she passed on to each generation of her family. Ruth's faith was very important to her and she was a faithful member of East End Missionary Baptist Church, now known as First Missionary Baptist Church, since 1957. She was such an inspiration to her family: so kind, loving, thoughtful and always putting everyone else first. She loved everyone and chose to see the best in each person that she met and knew. She was a positive person and she loved her

family dearly. Ruth and Linda had a special mother/daughter relationship and both considered each day a new opportunity to talk, visit, remember, plan and just share the day's events with each other. Ruth will be truly missed but leaves precious memories to be cherished by all who knew and loved her. Ruth was preceded in death by her husband, J.W. Gardner; parents, Carnie and Myrtle Ratliff, Sr.; husband, Roy L. Lee; brother, Roland Ratliff; sister, Vera Ratliff; great grandson, Ryder William Griffin; great granddaughter, Coco Alexis Griffin; stepson, Robert L. Lee as well as other relatives that welcomed her into Heaven.

She leaves to cherish her legacy her daughter, Linda Griffin and husband, Bill, of Terrell; daughter-in-law, Rosemary Lee of Terrell; grandson, Chris Lee and wife, Jamie and their children: Landen, Kamie, Colten and Blane, all of Quinlan; grandson, John Griffin and his children, Sophie and Gray, all of Dallas; brothers: John Ratliff and wife, Sue, of Conway, AR, Wes Ratliff and wife, Clara of Abilene; sisters: Freedia Coke of Greenville and Jean McGinness of Terrell as well as several special nieces, nephews, other relatives, and a host of friends.

# Cemetery Details

## Highland Memorial Gardens

Hwy 34 North  
Terrell, TX 75160

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 21. 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

Max Slayton Funerals and Cremations  
642 N Rockwall Avenue  
Terrell, TX 75160  
(972) 524-0881  
<https://www.maxslaytonfunerals.com>

## Funeral Service

FEB 22. 10:30 AM (CT)

Max Slayton Funerals and Cremations  
642 N Rockwall Avenue  
Terrell, TX 75160  
(972) 524-0881  
<https://www.maxslaytonfunerals.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ruth Lee*

October 08, 2023 at 07:43 PM



“ *Ruth known to me as MaMaw, John's grandmother. She was one of the most loving and gentle souls I've ever met. I will miss her but know she's with her other family members who've gone before her. God bless Linda and family.*

**Sandra Howell** - February 22, 2017 at 03:13 PM



“ *Linda, Bill, Rose, Chris, John & Family, We were so sorry to hear of your sweet Mom, Grandmother's passing. She was a precious lady with a beautiful smile! Keeping all of you in our prayers during this difficult time! With deepest sympathy, Karo, Wilson, Duane & Josh Stewart*

**Carolyn Stewart (Karo)** - February 22, 2017 at 06:35 AM



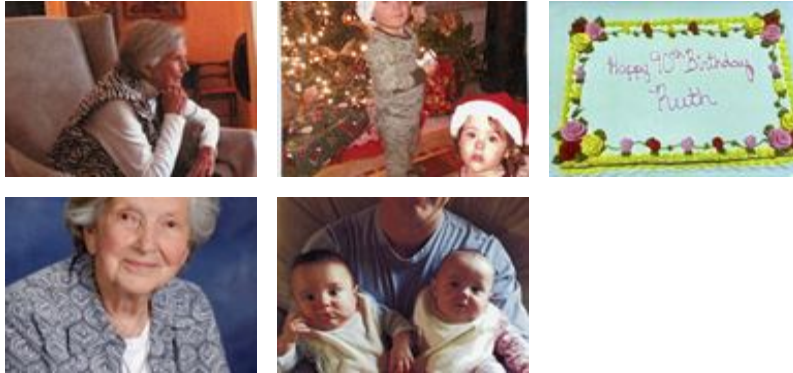
“ *Linda, with deepest sympathy in the passing of your sweet Mother! She was a dear and always had a smile and open arms to greet you. Thinking of you.*

*Brenda Belcher van Bloemendaal*

**Brenda Belcher van Bloemendaal** - February 21, 2017 at 10:08 PM



“ 67 files added to the album Life Tributes



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**Max Slayton Funerals & Cremations** - February 21, 2017 at 04:37 PM

SW

“ *Linda I'm so sorry for your loss. It isn't easy to lose your mom, but God will help you through this as He is helping me. We know that one day we will be together again up in Heaven. Ruth was a precious Christian lady. She will be missed by all. Our prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time. I pray God will comfort the family as only He can.*

*In His Love*

*The Walker family*

*Danny, Sherri, Chad and Danielle*

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**Sherri Walker** - February 21, 2017 at 02:44 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ruth Lee.*



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February 21, 2017 at 11:25 AM



“ *Tim and Debbie Strobel purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Ruth Lee.*



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**Tim and Debbie Strobel** - February 21, 2017 at 11:04 AM



“ *My thoughts are with this family Lord. Amen*

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**Elaine Wooldridge** - February 21, 2017 at 10:46 AM



“ *Linda I am so so sorry to hear about the loss of your mother. She was a wonderful Christian lady. I have many great memories of our times at the old East End Baptist Church. Will keep your family in my prayers.*

*Margaret Kilmer Flanagan.*

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**Margaret Flanagan** - February 21, 2017 at 10:25 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Ruth Lee.*



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February 20, 2017 at 09:04 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruth Lee.*



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February 20, 2017 at 05:25 PM



“ *I will miss MaMaw so much. Truly a wonderful family member! So blessed to have known her the past 5.5 years! She will be missed at all the family events going forward. Rest In Peace sweet one!*

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**Sandra Howell** - February 20, 2017 at 04:30 PM



*Linda im so sorry to hear about your wonderful and sweet mom. I know you were so close to your mom like i was. I will always remember her sweet smile and all the wonderful memories of your moms great dinners after church. She will be deeply missed. My prayers are with you and Bill and family at this trying time*

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**Sharon Boyd** - February 21, 2017 at 04:21 PM