



Ruth Gail Holman

November 11, 1936 - September 10, 2025

Ruth Gail McClanahan Holman, age 88, of Springfield, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, September 10, 2025, at the Arbors of Springfield. Graveside services will be conducted at 2pm Saturday, September 13th at Springfield Memorial Gardens with Rev. Jason Jones officiating.

The family will receive friends from 4-8pm Friday, and again from 12-1:30pm Saturday at the Austin & Bell Funeral Home in Springfield.

Born on November 11, 1936, in Robertson County, Gail was the beloved daughter of the late Joe Harvey McClanahan and Ruth Susan Glover McClanahan. She graduated from Springfield High School and went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Mississippi in 1959, where she was a proud member of Kappa Delta Sorority.

Gail began her career as an educator at Coopertown Elementary School, where she inspired generations of young students with her love of learning. In 1961, she married Robert "Buddy" D. Holman, Sr. Together, they owned and operated the Branding Iron Dairy Freeze Drive-In, a cherished local establishment, until its closing in 1977.

A devoted historian and genealogist, Gail committed herself to preserving and celebrating her own family's heritage as well as that of many others. She was

a 50-year member of the Daughters of the American Revolution (Charlotte Reeves Robertson County Chapter) and also served with the Colonial Dames of America and a 50-year member of the Clay Lick Chapter of the Daughters of the American Colonists. She was an active member of the Glenn Memorial Women's Club and the Springfield Federation of Women's Clubs. A lifelong member of First United Methodist Church, Gail was deeply devoted to her faith.

She is survived by her sons, Robert D. Holman Jr. (Debra) of Murfreesboro and Harvey Holman Sr.; and by her grandchildren, Matthew David Holman (son of Robert and Debra), Harvey F. Holman Jr., and Jacob Holman (sons of Harvey).

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert "Buddy" D. Holman Sr.; her son, David William Holman; her grandson, Robert "Rob" D. Holman III; her parents, Joe Harvey and Ruth Susan Glover McClanahan; her brother, Joe Harvey McClanahan Jr.; and her sister, Ella White McClanahan Bellflower.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to: The Coach Boyce Smith Scholarship Fund, The First United Methodist Church Building Fund or to The American Cancer Society.

Austin & Bell Funeral Home in Springfield is in charge of these arrangements.

AUSTIN & BELL FUNERAL HOME-
509 WALNUT STREET, SPRINGFIELD, TN (615) 384-1000

Cemetery Details

Springfield Memorial Gardens

Springfield, TN 37172

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 12. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Austin & Bell Funeral Home Springfield
509 Walnut St.
Springfield, TN 37172
(615) 384-1000
<https://austinandbell.com>

Visitation

SEP 13. 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM (CT)

Austin & Bell Funeral Home Springfield
509 Walnut St.
Springfield, TN 37172
(615) 384-1000
<https://austinandbell.com>

Graveside Service

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

Springfield Memorial Gardens
4005 Memorial Blvd
Springfield, TN 37172
(615) 384-5437

Tribute Wall

CH

“ Praying for you Robert and Harvey. Curtis Holland

Curtis W Holland - October 13, 2025 at 02:13 PM

RB

“ I have so many memories I would never be able to pick one . This lady mentored and loved me as I did her for many years. I seen her every week of my life for the most of 38 years. I have been missing her for the Gail I knew for a year now . The last time I seen her there was a picture sitting on her bed side I ask her do you know who that is ? She said yes it's Buddy . The day I heard she had passed I didn't cry I smiled because I know she is with him again. She carried a lot of my secrets with her and I will hold a lot of hers in my heart forever. Because this what your hairdresser does when you really are family. I love you Gail Bell and will miss you forever
❤️

Robin Brown - September 13, 2025 at 12:39 PM



“ 210 files added to the album Life Tributes



Austin & Bell Funeral Home - September 12, 2025 at 04:55 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Ruth Gail Holman.

September 12, 2025 at 02:36 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Ruth Gail Holman.



September 12, 2025 at 02:36 PM



“ I had the pleasure of knowing Ms. Gail from seeing her at “The Arbors” as I visited my Mother. Ms. Gail was always a delight and her caregivers were so sweet and kind. I wanted to send my thoughts and prayers to the entire family from my mother, Bessie Bryant. I was Emily Holman’s second grade teacher at JoByrns Elementary.
God Bless,
Joanna Bryant Riley

Joanna - September 12, 2025 at 01:07 PM

GM

“ 20 files added to the album Gail



GMH - September 12, 2025 at 04:04 AM