



## Merella Jane Melancon McFalls

November 21, 1933 - May 15, 2022

Merella Jane Melancon McFalls

Rayne, LA - Funeral services will be held on Thursday, May 19, 2022 at a 2:00 pm Mass of Christian Burial at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Rayne for Merella Jane Melancon McFalls, 88, who died Sunday, May 15, 2022 at her residence.

Interment will be in the St. Joseph Cemetery #2 in Rayne, LA.

Rev. Henry Anthony, Parochial Vicar of St. Joseph Catholic Church will be the Celebrant of the Funeral Mass and will conduct the funeral services. Deacon Denis LaCroix with St. Joseph Catholic Church will also be serving.

During a random conversation about obituaries, my mom said all she wanted was to say that she had a wonderful life - and she did. Merella Jane Melancon McFalls was born to Artilus and Leoncia Mouton Melancon on November 21, 1933 in Bosco, LA. She was the youngest of seven children. She worked at Mervine Kahn's for many years. She was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church. She attended Mire Elementary and graduated from Rayne High School in 1952. She was proud to be a drummer for the Wolfettes. She met her future husband on a blind date while he was stationed at Chenault Air Force Base in Lake Charles. They married on Valentine's Day in 1953. Billy

Ray McFalls was from Spring City, TN. They had the opportunity to travel for 24 years. When he retired, they returned to Rayne. She was the secretary at Rayne High for 36 years. After retirement she took care of her great grandkids. You could have seen her at any number of sporting events for her grandkids and wearing purple and gold for Rayne High. She loved all sports. She was also a huge Saints fan. You can see her frog painted like Drew Brees. She was a constant walker in our neighborhood clocking in 2-3 miles every day.

She is survived by her husband of 69 years, Billy Ray McFalls, one daughter, Norellie Jane McFalls Fontenot and spouse Jimmy, three grandchildren, Kyle James McFalls Fontenot and spouse Lauren Sapeenza, Tyler James (TJ) McFalls Fontenot and spouse Lauren Venable, Kayla Jane McFalls Fontenot Deaville and spouse Trevor Deaville, six grandchildren, London Fontenot, Graham Fontenot, Tate Fontenot, Sullivan Fontenot, Fisher Fontenot, and Jules Katherine Deaville. She was also blessed by numerous and loving nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Artilus and Leoncia Melancon, three brothers, Percy Melancon, Leo Melancon and spouse Rita, Joseph (Blackie) and spouse Gloria, three sisters, Norellie Melancon, Mary Leon and spouse Lee Leon, Buella Guidry and spouse Calvin Guidry.

Pallbearers will be Kyle Fontenot, TJ Fontenot, Trevor Deaville, Jimmy Fontenot, Cal Guidry and Skipper Melancon.

The family would like to acknowledge the wonderful care given by Dr. Tommy Curtis, Evangeline Home Health and Heart of Hospice. A special thank you to her caregivers, Autumn and Lisa.

A Rosary will be prayed Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at 6:00 pm in Gossen

Funeral Home in Rayne, LA.

The family requests that visitation be observed in Gossen Funeral Home in Rayne, LA on Wednesday, May 18, 2022 from 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm and on Thursday May 19, 2022 from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm.

Friends may view the obituary and guestbook online at [www.gossenfuneralhome.net](http://www.gossenfuneralhome.net).

Arrangements have been entrusted to Gossen Funeral Home, Inc. of Rayne, LA, (337) 334-3141.

Gossen Funeral Home, Inc.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 18. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Gossen Funeral Home Inc.  
504 N. Polk Street  
Rayne, LA 70578  
(337) 334-3141  
info@gossenfuneralhome.net  
<http://gossenfh.funeralplan2.com/>

## Rosary

MAY 18. 6:00 PM (CT)

Gossen Funeral Home Inc.  
504 N. Polk Street  
Rayne, LA 70578  
(337) 334-3141  
info@gossenfuneralhome.net  
<http://gossenfh.funeralplan2.com/>

## Visitation

MAY 19. 10:00 AM - 1:30 PM (CT)

Gossen Funeral Home Inc.  
504 N. Polk Street  
Rayne, LA 70578  
(337) 334-3141  
info@gossenfuneralhome.net  
<http://gossenfh.funeralplan2.com/>

## Mass

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MAY 19. 2:00 PM (CT)

St. Joseph Catholic Church  
401 S. Adams Ave.  
Rayne, LA 70578

## Cemetery

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MAY 19 (CT)

St. Joseph Cemetery #2  
400 East Betty Street  
Rayne, LA

# Tribute Wall

RI

“ I can not describe, how big the impact of Merella and her family was on my life. I was very lucky to be able to stay with this wonderful family for a few months in 1996 and I still think about this time very often. Merella, I will always be thankful for what you did for me. My condolences to Billy and all the wonderful family members in Rayne. God bless you!

Rick - May 24, 2022 at 04:55 AM



“ Whether I met her in the office at school or in the neighborhood she was the epitome of positivity. Mrs. Marella will be missed. Prayers going up for the family.



Colette Ruddock - May 19, 2022 at 11:48 PM

TS

“ Mrs. Marella was a living testament to how positivity, a great perspective, and an abundance of gratitude can take a rather ordinary life and make it wonderful! This is how she lived and what a blessing to all she came into contact with....and there were many, thousands, just in the main office at Rayne High School alone. Nearly all of us have had the occasion to visit this bustling school office and not always to pick up our child's Student of the Year Award. But, no matter what you were there for, she greeted you with a smile and somehow you walked out better than you went in, thanks to her. It's not easy to stay calm and polite when you're pulled in so many directions by so many people at once, but she did and her demeanor was contagious. Her dedication to her family was unparalleled as well. I visited the McFalls-Fontenot home on so many occasions where, had I not known her so well, she could have passed for hired help. She was truly a humble servant, a handmaid of the Lord. She was like that in all that she did. It was clear to see that her service was not some dreaded obligation, but a gift that she gave lovingly and consistently. Her presence will certainly be missed, but the kindness and love that she instilled in those closest to her will live on as she takes her well-deserved eternal rest with her Lord and Savior. Rest in Peace fine lady. Thank you for loving me and my family.



Much Love,  
Tricia Savoy

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Tricia Savoy - May 19, 2022 at 09:20 AM

AA

“ Our sincerest condolences from the Alba family. I had the privilege to work with Mrs. McFalls at Rayne High. She was such a joy and delight everyday, and certainly made my time there better everyday.



Adrian Alba - May 19, 2022 at 08:03 AM

BF

“ Brenda B. Francis lit a candle in memory of Merella Jane Melancon McFalls



Brenda B. Francis - May 18, 2022 at 09:25 PM

AG

“ Mrs. McFalls was the sweetest and most generous spirit. She and my Mom were dear friends and co workers at Rayne High. She did not see color.....she only saw and gave love. May God wrap his loving arms around us all and give peace to the Fontenot and McFalls families.

Andrea Trahan - Guidry - May 18, 2022 at 08:54 PM

CM

“ Carla Morales lit a candle in memory of Merella Jane Melancon McFalls



Carla Morales - May 18, 2022 at 03:14 PM

CM

“ My gracious Aunt Merella. So many admirable qualities I can't speak of just one. I remember picnicking at Riverside Park, pot roast & rice, making fresh mayonnaise in your kitchen (“Who knew it didn't come from a jar?”) & a talk we once had about Lent. Your recipe for praline's will forever be part of our Easter celebration. So much love shared with all who shared your orbit.

Carla Morales - May 18, 2022 at 03:08 PM

MG

“ Mrs McFalls was one of the sweetest & most kindest Lady you could ever meet. Always smiling and uplifting. Our community will never forget you and what you did for our Children who passed through Rayne High. May God give her Family strength and comfort during this difficult time.

Mary Gautreaux - May 18, 2022 at 12:44 PM

JC

“ Mrs. McFalls was one of a kind. She always greeted you with a smile. May she rest in peace. To Mr. McFalls and the family may God continue to bless and strengthen you always, but especially during this time of loss. God's peace to you all.

Jude Cole - May 17, 2022 at 11:37 PM

DD

“ Ddeaville@ymail.com lit a candle in memory of Merella Jane Melancon McFalls



ddeaville@ymail.com - May 17, 2022 at 08:37 PM

KC

“ *Deepest sympathy to the Mc Falls and Fontenot Families. She was a sweet heart everyone loved her who passed through Rayne High*

Kathleen Cook - May 17, 2022 at 06:04 PM

MS

“ *My condolences to McFalls and Fontenot families 🙏 Mrs. McFalls is and was a beautiful person, inside and out. May she Rest in Paradise 🙏🙏*



Martha Jolivette Smith - May 17, 2022 at 05:04 PM



“ *What a beautiful woman. Always loved meeting with her and catching up on my kids and grands and Norellie and tge grands and great grands. She was one of a kind and always was smiling. Big prayers going up for Mr Billy, Norellie, Jimmy and all the family. Will always love you all*

Tracey Schexnayder - May 17, 2022 at 04:04 PM

DD

*So sorry for your loss Pawpaw , Norellie , and Jimmy. Prayers and hugs to all your family. She was a very loving and caring person to her family and friends. She was a very happy lady who loved her grandkids and great grandkids. You could see it when you were around her . ❤️*

ddeaville@ymail.com - May 17, 2022 at 04:55 PM

DC

“ Our sincere condolences and prayers to the family. We have fond memories, she was such a beautiful lady. May she Rest In Peace. God bless you all.  
Daphne, Kevin & Chad Pryor



Daphne Pryor Comeaux - May 17, 2022 at 01:12 PM

DY

“ I love my precious aunt Merella and will miss ,so much , knowing she was in Louisiana loving on her family!!!  
What a precious woman 💔  
What a privilege and pleasure to hear her say “ well Niocy “ in that Louisiana accent 😞😞😞 love you Uncle Billy so much !!!



Denise Mcfalls York - May 17, 2022 at 12:35 PM

BJ

“ Our prayers and thoughts are with the family. She was a beautiful person inside and out. The neighbors are going to miss her smile and seeing her walk the streets of our neighborhood.  
The Jennings Family

Bernadette Jennings - May 17, 2022 at 12:29 PM

TG

“ My condolences to the McFalls family! Such a sweet person that loved her family! I'm sure she will be missed! Praying for your family during this difficult time!

Tammy Guudry - May 17, 2022 at 12:22 PM

JM

“ *What a wonderful woman. The kindest of individuals. She was friends with my mother and was a bridesmaid in mom's wedding. What a legacy she leaves behind.*

Judy Morgan - May 17, 2022 at 12:02 PM

RM

“ *Ronnie Myers lit a candle in memory of Merella Jane Melancon McFalls*



Ronnie Myers - May 17, 2022 at 11:59 AM

DL

“ *Such a lady!!!! She always graced everyones presence with her beaming smile! I will always remember her kindness and her graciousness! Our family would like to extend our deepest condolences to your family! Love always, Larry and Delores Lagneaux*

Delores Lagneaux - May 17, 2022 at 11:52 AM

WV

“ *Oh how we will miss this wonderful amazing woman. She will be forever in our hearts.. praying for you all.*

Wanda Venable - May 17, 2022 at 11:42 AM

MA

“ *Sending our prayers and condolences to the family 🙏🙏🙏*

Marianne - May 17, 2022 at 10:54 AM

CN

“ So very sorry for your family loss. She was a wonderful person who was loving and kind to everyone ☐



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**Connie (Morgan) Newbound** - May 17, 2022 at 09:46 AM

RG

“ Rhonda Guidry lit a candle in memory of Merella Jane Melancon McFalls



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**Rhonda Guidry** - May 17, 2022 at 08:52 AM

J(

We will miss you Aunt Merella. Our prayers are with the family and Uncle Bill. It's very hard to lose a wife, mother and grandmother

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**Judy Schmidt (niece)** - May 17, 2022 at 10:18 AM