



Betty Jane Parsley

January 23, 1935 - October 25, 2025

Betty Jane Parsley, born January 23, 1935, went home to be with her Lord and Savior on October 25, 2025 at the age of 90. She was the daughter of late Johnny and Betsy Mayhone and was a long time resident of Lenore, WV. She would tell anybody she met that Mingo County was the best place to live. She was preceded in death by her husband Allen Jay Parsley Sr., her siblings, Cecil (Irene) Mayhone, Faye (Rudy) Hatfield, John Mayhone and Lossie Mayhone, her children Allen Jay Parsley "Sock" Jr., and Carole Ann Parsley Vagott.

Betty is survived by her daughter, Teresa and husband Mike Matney, daughter-in-law, Beth Parsley, her stepsons, Dexter (Dyann) Parsley and Ray (Asima) Newsome, grandchildren, Emily Cloer, Katie (James) Eminger, Zane (Tory) Parsley, Nathan (Charity) Matney, Justin Matney, Caitlin (Chris) Wallen, Katherine (Chris) Hollingsworth, Sarah Taylor, Sarah (Nick) Zappone, Chloe (Josh) Dewey and a host of great-grandchildren, nephews, nieces and long time friends.

Betty was born in Holden, WV and her family moved often due to her father's work. She graduated from Lenore High School and went on to Marshall University to get a bachelor's degree in education. Being an eager learner, she also received a master's degree in education. She taught a multitude of students whom she loved dearly. Teaching was not only an occupation for Betty, but it was her calling from God. In addition to teaching in the classroom, she taught Sunday school in her church for many years. If asked, Betty would

readily admit Jesus was her best friend, and He was always with her. An eternal educator, Betty was also a lifelong learner; at any given moment, she could be found with a book or three (and potentially an extra in her pocketbook, just in case). Not only did she teach from textbooks and curriculum, but, most importantly, she taught by example. Her kindness and persistent optimism were ever present, and she saw the best and most beautiful in everyone she knew.

Her quiet bravery in the face of hardships was a facet of her that inspired so many, and she called on strength from Jesus in times of turmoil. It was evident to all who knew her that she loved God and strived to show it in how she lived by showing kindness to everyone she encountered.

One of the most important parts of Betty's life was her family. She loved each family member dearly and did anything she could to help them. A person did not have to be blood related to her to be the recipient of her generosity. She consistently gave whatever she could to help those in need.

Her bright presence and warm smile were known to fill a room, and though she was small in stature, she was enormous in spirit. Some friends in her exercise class light heartedly gave her the nickname Sergeant Betty due to her instruction style. Laughter was a key component of who Betty was, and she loved making others laugh and smile. She was always trying to find new ways to bring bright spots of joy into the lives of anyone she encountered.

Betty left an indelible print on all who knew her, and her legacy will live on with those who were blessed enough to love her during her time on earth.

Funeral services for Betty will be held on Wednesday, October 29, 2025 at 1:00pm at the Parsley Bottom Freewill Baptist Church at Lenore, WV. Rev. Matthew Runyon will be officiating. Burial will follow in the Mayhone Cemetery at Lenore, WV. Friends and family will serve as pallbearers. Visitation will be at the church Wednesday morning from 12:00pm until the start of the funeral. Chafin Funeral Home is proudly serving the Parsley/Mayhone family.

Cemetery Details

Mayhone Cemetery

Lenore, WV

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **29**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Parsley Bottom Freewill Baptist
WV-65
Lenore, WV 25676
(304) 475-3139

Service

OCT **29**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Parsley Bottom Freewill Baptist
WV-65
Lenore, WV 25676
(304) 475-3139

Tribute Wall

MC

“ She was such a good teacher 7th grade PE at Lenore High so kind and always giving. She will be missed!

Marjorie Dillon Caffrey - October 30, 2025 at 09:30 AM

BR

“ Billy & Roger planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Betty Jane Parsley.

Billy & Roger - October 29, 2025 at 11:06 AM



“ Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Betty Jane Parsley.



October 28, 2025 at 09:40 PM

EF

“ Elizabeth/Randy Baisden and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Betty Jane Parsley.

Elizabeth/Randy Baisden and Family - October 28, 2025 at 09:40 PM

DP

“ Deidre, Luke, Sybil, Gary, and Patti purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Betty Jane Parsley.



Deidre, Luke, Sybil, Gary, and Patti - October 28, 2025 at 12:18 PM

DP

“ Deidre, Luke, Sybil, Gary, and Patti purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Betty Jane Parsley.



Deidre, Luke, Sybil, Gary, and Patti - October 28, 2025 at 12:12 PM

C(

“ Cathy kreun (Cat) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Betty Jane Parsley.

Cathy kreun (Cat) - October 28, 2025 at 12:06 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Betty Jane Parsley.



October 28, 2025 at 12:06 PM

JB

“ Miss Betty was such a kind and sweet lady. We all will miss her greatly. Our prayers are with her family as they mourn her passing, but such wonderful memories they will always possess of their time with her.

Jeff Ball - October 28, 2025 at 11:18 AM

VD

“ Betty was one of my many teachers at school. She was a wonderful teacher, kind and gentle.



Vivian Dillon - October 28, 2025 at 11:08 AM

JZ

So very sorry Teresa. You have lost your best friend. Prayers for all. 🙏

Jennifer Zachritz - October 28, 2025 at 12:27 PM

LC

my teacher, my friend, she once took her class to washington dc years ago, we had a ball, she was one in a million. love cindy canterbury

lucinda canterbury - October 28, 2025 at 01:48 PM

TM

“ Teresa M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Betty Jane Parsley.

Teresa M. - October 27, 2025 at 09:02 PM

TM

“ Teresa M. purchased the Garden of Sweet Memories Casket Spray for the family of Betty Jane Parsley.



Teresa M. - October 27, 2025 at 09:02 PM

CH

“ Chuck and Candi Hatfield purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Betty Jane Parsley.



Chuck and Candi Hatfield - October 27, 2025 at 06:36 PM

SB

“ Loved Betty, she was always uplifting and encouraging in school and also later on in church.

Scott Baisden - October 27, 2025 at 06:24 PM

PO

“ Mrs. Parsley was always good to me and always a smile. RiP.



PEGGY ooten - October 27, 2025 at 06:05 PM

LP

“ So many memories. Praying for the family.

Linda Marcum Padgett - October 27, 2025 at 05:06 PM