



## Helen Marie Tallman Thomas

March 28, 1928 - February 2, 2021

Helen Tallman Thomas, the family historian, got her wings to heaven on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at the age 92. Now she can tend to the flower beds in heaven. Born March 28, 1928 to Jack and Beatrice (Saul) Tallman of Cross Community in Bristol, TN. She was preceded in death by her husband, Walter M. Thomas (2003), who swept her off her feet and they were married on November 11, 1950. In September 1951, they had Sandra Kay Thomas Littlefield who passed in 2013. She was also preceded in death by her parents, her in-laws, Paul and Dorlusca (Minnick) Thomas; sister and brother-in-law, Jean and Corbett Moore; brother-in-law, Arthur Thomas.

She was a graduate of Blountville High School and attended King College. Afterwards, she taught in Sullivan Co. After their marriage, She helped on the farm with her husband. Then in 1965 she started back in education with Washington Co., VA School System, first at Cleveland Elementary. After it closed, she was at numerous elementary schools and then Abingdon High School (1965-1998) and retired after 33 years.

She was a member of Cross Methodist Church and attended Cold Springs Presbyterian Church.

She loved working her numerous flower beds up until age 90. Always giving starts of flowers and bushes to friends for their yards to enjoy.

After Walter died, there were numerous special people who helped her continue the family farm and so many she thought of as family; Bob and Brenda Reynolds, Ben and Bob Berry, Larry and Peggy Haworth, Bobby Eller, Thomas Pickel, Sean Hairston, Tommy Harmon, Bud Haworth, Ken Barger, Lee and Josh Reynolds, Jr Houser, Robert and Brad Byars, Eugen and Danny Gentry, Scott and Sean Thomas, Jr and Giz Gilmer, Ken Smeltzer and Mike Repass. (I am sorry if I left someone out)

Left to cherish her memories are her youngest daughter, Donna Thomas Ostermeyer and Sonia Kiser North, who always called her momma Thomas; special friends, Sylvia Smeltzer, the girls from Dr. Greens' office, nieces, nephews and cousins; her fur babies, Lula, Booboo and her grandpup, Gizmo; Drs. John Green, Lisle Whitman, Greg Griffith, Kelly Harris, Jean Mancini and Fred Gutherie.

Due to her wishes, weather and COVID-19 there will be no formal visitation. Both Helen and her daughter, Kay will be celebrated at a later date.

Memorials may be made to your charity of choice.

Condolences and memories may be left for the family at [akardfuneralhome.com](http://akardfuneralhome.com)

Akard Funeral Home, (423) 989-4800 is serving the Thomas family.

# Comments

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“ Donna, I never did meet your Mom, but feel like I knew her. So sorry to learn of her passing. I've tried to call you at your "764" number but never an answer (Cross home). I'll try to run out to your Holston Valley home sometime. Miss seeing my "adopted daughter". Take care XOXO. Jimmy.

**Jimmy Broce** - March 04 at 04:45 PM

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“ My Dear Donna,  
I remember when my family & grandparents moved next door (a field & a creek apart). I was 8 yrs old & you were 3 yrs old in July 1961. We knew back then if your Momma & Daddy or my Momma or Daddy told us to do something then we better get it done. But Kay or Gary told us then that was different.  
I loved your Momma & Daddy so much. Miss Helen was a Sweetheart & Mr Walter was so funny & he enjoyed kidding with you & me.  
I'm so sorry for the time & distance that took us apart. Texas to Virginia is a little bit of a drive. But so glad we have reconnected.  
John & I enjoyed the seafood lunch Miss Helen insisted on taking care of 9-23-2018. However, I think she enjoyed the big purple mum we surprised her with the next day when we came to the farm. She loved growing stuff & her flowers.  
I'm so glad that John enjoyed meeting you & your Mom, Miss Helen.  
Our hearts have always been connected.  
John & I send our love & prayers to you.  
We love you,  
Donna (Bausell) & John Adair



**Donna Adair** - February 18 at 03:25 AM



“ Thank you, we did get into alot when we were younger. Love you guys.

**Donna Thomas Ostermeyer** - February 22 at 08:04 AM

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“ Mama Thomas and sweet Donna,  
I have so many memories of our wonderful times together. I will always cherish those times. Your sweet smile for me and welcoming me into your home with a glass of the best sweet tea! All the home cooked meals. Mama Thomas always made me feel loved. Enjoyed our private talks. She raised the best girls in the world. Kay left us too soon but she and Walter were always with us. Donna was the best daughter anyone would be proud to have as a daughter. Taking such wonderful care of her mother. Rubbing her feet with lotion, keeping her skin care up, fixing her mom three delicious meals a day. Taking care of every need with love and loyalty. Mama Thomas will be missed but forever in our hearts. Such a beautiful kind loving woman, I'm proud to have been a part of Mama Thomas's life. RIP MAMA THOMAS. Go rest High on that mountain

**Sonia Kiser North** - February 17 at 10:35 PM



“ To Mama you were another daughter and she loved for you to visit. You were a ray of sunshine to us both all those years we shared 😊

**Donna Thomas Ostermeyer** - February 22 at 08:10 AM

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“ Donna, I never met your mother, but I know she had to be a very special woman. Because she raised such a wonderful daughter. I will be praying for you that the good Lord will bring you the comfort you need. I love you and remember all the times we use to talk, those were good times.



**Cynthia Davidson** - February 17 at 06:31 PM

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“ Our thought and prayers are with you. I remember when my 1st cousin Helen Tallman was the teacher at Cross Elementary School in the Cross Community. And according to my younger brother, he had Helen as his teacher, and he said he was a mean kid, but Helen was so good to him, and he loved her so much. We were in the two room school and I am 5 years older than my brother, so I was in the other room. We also went to Cross Church with Helen and she did a lot for all of us at Bible School. We had lots of good times together but after we moved from Cross Community, we didn't see her as much. But will always miss her,



**Ida Mae (Coffey) Elam and husband Phil** - February 17 at 02:45 PM

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“ I will always Remember Helen as my Great Aunt even though she was actually my Cousin. Growing up having Helen and her sister Jean in my life taught me to work hard and Love your Family and Friends. I will miss our visits! They were not often but they were Treasured! Dale & Lisa Elliott

**Dale Elliott** - February 08 at 06:22 PM

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“ Bobby and Brenda Reynolds  
My wonderful dear friend will be missed. Until we meet again.



**Bobby & Brenda Reynolds** - February 07 at 02:44 PM

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“ So sorry for the loss if your momma, she was a God send for daddy. She will truly be missed. Praying for you. Love you.

**Vicki Ramsey** - February 07 at 02:40 PM

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“ Donna, praying for you to feel GOD's loving arms, grace and blessings with you every minute of these sad and lonely days ahead.  
We love you and are keeping you in our prayers. Don and Betty Stewart



**Betty Stewart** - February 07 at 01:12 PM

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“ Donna, your care and love for your dear momma made her life so much easier over the years and she was very grateful. Its so hard losing her I know but knowing she is with Jesus pain free and a new body will help your pain. Know we love you and praying for you!

**Cindy R & Anthony Edwards** - February 05 at 10:22 PM

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“ Cindy R & Anthony Edwards lit a candle in memory of Helen Marie Tallman Thomas



**Cindy R & Anthony Edwards** - February 05 at 10:12 PM

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“ Donna,

We always enjoyed our visits with your precious mother. Our thoughts and prayers are with you always.

Lee, Melessia and Josh

lee - February 05 at 02:43 PM



“ She loved those visits too

**Donna Ostermeyer** - February 06 at 10:48 PM



“ She was an amazing lady. Every visit was enjoyable, she loved history so much. Raised two beautiful daughters who were very successful in their vocation. She will be sorely missed. Our visits were always ended with a prayer. Until we met again.....

**Paul Ketron** - February 18 at 09:50 AM



“ See loved your visits and garden goodies too. You always made her feel better

**Donna Thomas Ostermeyer** - February 22 at 08:06 AM