



## Mrs Rita Jean Jelen

November 8, 1934 - March 19, 2024

Rita Jean Jelen

Madden, MS

It is with great sadness that the family of Rita Jean Jelen announces her passing on March 19, 2024. She was born November 8, 1934, to Cecil Hardage Sanford and Raymond "Bob" Sanford, in Madden, MS. She attended the University of Southern Mississippi where she met her beloved, Glenn Jelen, Sr. They married and soon after moved to Rockledge, Florida where she received her BS degree in education. She was a curriculum coordinator in the Florida Public School System for many years and later received her Master's Degree in Counseling. Once she retired from the school system and Glenn, Sr. retired from NASA, they moved back to Mississippi. She was a member of Madden Methodist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Glenn Jelen, Sr. in 2015. She leaves behind 2 children, Idona Jean Eberhardt (Tom); and Glenn Jelen, Jr. (Julia); 2 grandchildren, Amanda Eberhardt and Wes Jelen (Amber). She has two great-grandchildren, John Wesley Jelen and Madeline Parker Jelen. She also has a host of step-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Jelen will have visitation at Madden Methodist Church on Friday, March 22, 2024, at 10:00 am and funeral service at 11:00 am with Rev. Rusty White officiating. She will be interred in the Madden Cemetery.

Pallbearers are Wes Jelen, Jason Kuntz, Brian Kuntz, Brian Henry, Scott Sanford, and Ted Cooper. Wilcox Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Special thanks to all who gave her such loving care at The Lighthouse in  
Madden.

# Cemetery Details

## Madden Cemetery

Madden, MS

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 22. 10:00 AM (CT)

Madden United Methodist Church  
Highway 488  
Madden, MS 39109

# Tribute Wall

DS

“ I'm so sorry to hear of Mrs. Jelen's passing. I am praying for all of y'all! 🙏🙏🙏

Deborah Swain - March 27, 2024 at 12:04 AM

PA

“ Pam (Thomas) Adams lit a candle in memory of Mrs Rita Jean Jelen



Pam (Thomas) Adams - March 22, 2024 at 05:02 AM

SE

“ Scott, Betsy, Ted & Elisa purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Mrs Rita Jean Jelen.



Scott, Betsy, Ted & Elisa - March 21, 2024 at 12:28 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Mrs Rita Jean Jelen.



March 21, 2024 at 10:52 AM

TF

“ *The Williamson Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs Rita Jean Jelen.*

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**The Williamson Family** - March 21, 2024 at 10:52 AM

BP

“ *My prayers are for her family and friends. Rita was always a gracious hostess when the Madden Friendship club was meeting. The community will miss her.*

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**Beverly Parkison** - March 21, 2024 at 10:42 AM