



Pearl Person

July 8, 1934 - January 16, 2020

Pearl Lee was born on July 8, 1934, to Johnnie Lee and Inez Cox Williams. She was born in Abbeville, Alabama. At an early age, her parents move to Westfield, Alabama where Pearl grew up, went to school and got married. She attended all three Westfield schools, graduating from Westfield High in May, 1952. In the fall of 1952, she attended Miles College, located in Fairfield, Alabama.

In 1951, in Fairfield, she met the love of her life, Joseph Lee Person. He was going into the Army so they kept in touch by mail. When he was discharged in March, 1953, they courted until they got married on June 7, 1953, in Westfield, Alabama.

They lived with Joe's parents until they left for East Chicago, Indiana in September, 1953. They stayed in Indiana for eleven years. Their three children were born there: Debra in September, 1954, Joe Jr. in October, 1955, and Johnny Floyd in September, 1959.

In May, 1964, Joe Sr. left for California. In September, 1964, Pearl and the children boarded the California Zephyr train in Chicago, Illinois and arrived in Oroville at the Train Depot on September 11, 1964. They spent Wednesday and Thursday nights in Oroville and moved into 1812 Mulberry on Friday, September 13th and lived there ever since. In California, Pearl cleaned houses before she became an LVN at Enloe Hospital. She worked there for 7 years while attending Chico State to become a teacher.

In August, 1974, Pearl became employed with the Chico Unified School District. She taught at three schools over the next 26 years – Marigold for 5 years, McManus for 6 years and Rosedale for 15 years. After retirement, she was a substitute teacher for 12 years – finally quitting on February 26, 2013. After that time, she did private tutoring and enjoyed it very much.

Pearl was active in Second Baptist Church in Chico and attended since 1964. She helped to facilitate the honoring of school graduates' program, sang in the choir at various times and most recently provided encouragement to many members through cards and

telephone calls. Throughout her decades of attendance, she became an honorary mother and grandmother to dozens of members.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 61 years, Joseph Lee Person; and is survived by her daughter and son in law, Debra and Arthur Taylor of Rocklin, CA; son Joseph Person, Jr. of Chico and son and daughter in law Johnny and Dawn Person of Chico; grandchildren Arthur Taylor, Alexandra Taylor, Charlie Person, Johnny Person Jr., Devonia Marie Person, Yolanda Yvette Person, Uvonte' Trumaine Person, Tiffany Randall, and Cameron Davis; great-grandchildren Keith and Dakota Person and Shiloh Hickerson, Jonathon Person, Paris Person, Toa and Alii Person, Alonna and Alyson Person, Jayden, Johnny and Jenae Person, Ruby, Henry and Lyla Randall, Darrius and D'andre Davis, She is also survived by her siblings Freddie Dee Lathan of Brighton, Alabama and Ulysses (Boe) Williams of Bessemer, Alabama and a host of nieces and nephews.

There will be a viewing service at Brusie Funeral Home on January 24, 2020 from 5pm-8pm, a funeral service at the First Baptist Church in Chico on January 25, 2020 at 10am, with a graveside service to follow at Glen Oaks Memorial Park. To send the family condolences please visit www.brusiefh.com

Cemetery

Glen Oaks Memorial Park

11115 Midway

Chico, CA,

Events

JAN **Visitation** 05:00PM - 08:00PM

24

Brusie Funeral Home

626 Broadway, Chico, CA, US

JAN **Chapel Service** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

25

First Baptist Church

850 Palmetto Ave., Chico, CA, US

JAN **Graveside** 11:00AM

25

Glen Oaks Memorial Park

11115 Midway, Chico, CA, US

Comments



“ Joe,Johnny...I'm sorry about the passing of your mom. She was a great lady who always stood by you. Bob Noe

Robert Noe - January 25 at 05:48 PM



“ We were saddened to hear of Ms Pearson's passing. We were blessed to have her tutor our daughter at a young age and an encourager for many years. Our condolences to the Person family. Love Ajamu and Cara Lamumba.



Cara - January 25 at 09:47 AM



“ I'm very sorry to hear about the passing of your beloved mother. I worked as an aide in Pearl's first grade class at Rosedale for 5 years. I can't tell you how often I still, after 30 years, think of her and the things she taught all of us in her classroom. I have no doubt that she is a teacher her students remember as being especially important to their early development in learning and in life. She had a firm hand, followed by a tender touch.
My deepest sympathy goes out to you and your family.
Sincerely, Sue Bleakley

sue bleakley - January 23 at 03:20 PM



“ Hi,
I was so sad to see the life tribute in the Paradise Post. Oh, I do remember Pearl! She and I substitute taught together in the CUSD schools. I always enjoyed running into her and appreciating her good teaching style, gentleness with the students and big, big smile. She was a very confident teacher and just exuded general confidence and happiness with life! I was saddened but also so grateful to whoever wrote up that Life Tribute because I learned so much about Pearl that I'd never known before. So I thank you!
May dear Pearl Person rest in peace.
Jeanne Woodbury, Chico

Jeanne Woodbury - January 23 at 01:26 PM



“ Dear Person Family,
I'm so sorry for your loss. I have wonderful memories of Pearl. We taught at Rosedale for many years in the mid 80's, early 90's. She was always willing to share/borrow ideas and many days after school we ended up talking for a long time, starting out with something school related, but mostly about our families (she LOVED that subject, the proud mama and grandma that she was!). I learned MANY life lessons from her. She was a beautiful, kind, honest friend and she will be greatly missed. My heartfelt love and sympathy to all of you.
Love,
Melinda Loy

Melinda Loy - January 22 at 05:31 PM



“ Such sad news to read in the paper this morning. Pearl was an amazing woman. I first met her in the Fall of 1988 when my daughter Jessica started first grade at Rosedale. Pearl was a great teacher, and Jessica had a wonderful year in her class. Over the following years Pearl and I kept in touch, as I returned to school to get a special education credential. She often offered me much appreciated advice. Then once she retired from teaching, I would often request her as a sub. I will also remember her for her delicious sweet potato pie! My condolences to the Person family. Katy Hildenbrand

Katy Hildenbrand - January 22 at 09:13 AM



“ Pearl will be missed by so many people. She had such a huge impact on the children she taught and their parents as well. I'll never forget the way she interacted with my son and her expectations for all of her students that brought such amazing results. She was a lovely lady. Kathy Squyres

kathy Squyres - January 19 at 01:33 PM



“ Pearl always had a cheerful smile, and was a delight to visit with. Johnny, you and your family have my sincere sympathy at this difficult time, and you will be in my prayers.

Mimi

Mimi Atkins - January 18 at 05:12 PM



“ David Ferrier is following this tribute.

David Ferrier - January 18 at 11:46 AM



“ Pearl was one of the sweetest people I know. I remember meeting her many many years ago in the 70's as a young teacher. She will be missed...

Pam Willis - January 18 at 09:21 AM



“ Johnny, we are so sorry for your loss. Sending our deepest condolences and prayers.

Brenda/Freddy Stovall

brenda stovall - January 21 at 01:11 PM



“ Debra, please know that I am thinking of you & your family. Sending thought & prayers your way. I didn't know your mother, but what an honor it was to read about her.. Truly an amazing women & mother..I walked with a friend that morning, mention to her about your mom, she had tears, little did I know that they had taught together. I got to hear even more about how much she was loved... Peggy Staples-Chambers

Peggy Staples-Chambers - January 24 at 02:31 PM