



Cloteal "Maw Maw" Melder

June 16, 1931 - August 15, 2025

Cloteal "Maw Maw" Melder

Mrs. Cloteal Hawthorne Melder "Maw Maw", 94, passed away on August 15, 2025. A Memorial Service will be held on Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 2 pm in the Williams Funeral Home Chapel in Milledgeville. Burial will be at Heritage Memorial Park. The family will receive friends on Thursday from 1 pm until the Service time.

Mrs. Melder was a native of Louisiana and made her home in Milledgeville. She was the daughter of the late Charles Aubrey Hawthorne and the late Ethel Watkins Hawthorne and was preceded in death by her husband, Eddie Eugene Melder "Paw Paw"; and brothers, James Hawthorne and H.L. Hawthorne. She has been a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and a member at Eatonton Presbyterian Church.

As a matriarch, Maw Maw was the rock that held the family together. No matter what event, she was her Family's biggest cheerleader. She found joy in every moment spent with those she loved and was there to offer support, encouragement, and comfort whenever it was needed. Her presence was a gift, and her absence will be felt deeply by all who were touched by her kindness and love.

Maw Maw loved her babies and was truly a baby whisperer. Her legacy will live on in the hearts of her family, who carry forward the lessons she taught them: the importance of family, the value of unconditional love, how to dance, the art of cooking shrimp fettuccine, and the strength of a woman who never wavered in her devotion to those she held dear.

She is survived by her children, Michael Melder, Sr. (Lynne) of Lamona, Washington; Sheila Rudowske (John) of Gray, Georgia; Mitchell Melder (Vickie) of Milledgeville, Georgia; and Van Melder (Tammie) of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Grandchildren Penny, Heather, Michael, Jr., Ingrid, Michelle, Trent, Bridget, Lindsey, Adrian, Mechelen, Jr., Mendi, and Shelby. Great Grandchildren Mauri, Thomas, Jace, Paislee, Sage, Grant, Jameson, Arden, Knox, Aubrey, Mason, Brody, Priscilla, Evie, Lydia and Trace.

In lieu of gifts, Maw Maw would like you to spend time with your family and your babies.

Cemetery Details

Heritage Memorial Park

371 Log Cabin Road
Milledgeville, GA 31061
(478) 452-2148
staff@williamsfuneralhome.net
<https://www.williamsfuneralhome.net>

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 21. 1:00 PM (ET)

Williams Funeral Home & Crematory - Milledgeville
1670 N. Jefferson St.
Milledgeville, GA 31061
(478) 452-2148
staff@williamsfuneralhome.net
<https://www.williamsfuneralhome.net>

Memorial Service

AUG 21. 2:00 PM.

Williams Funeral Home Chapel

Tribute Wall



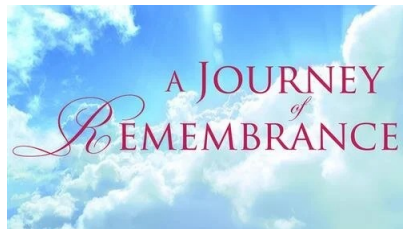
“ Williams Funeral Homes and Crematory created a Webcast will start approximately 10 minutes before the service in memory of Cloteal "Maw Maw" Melder



Williams Funeral Homes and Crematory - August 21, 2025 at 11:31 AM



“ Williams Funeral Homes and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Cloteal "Maw Maw" Melder



Williams Funeral Homes and Crematory - August 20, 2025 at 02:23 PM

SP

Beautiful tribute.

Sandra Jones Prosser - August 20, 2025 at 04:36 PM

CM

“ *Connie Mullinnix Mccoy sent a virtual gift in memory of Cloteal Melder*



Connie Mullinnix Mccoy - August 22, 2025 at 07:46 PM

KA

“ *Van, Tammie, and family so very sorry for the loss of your mom. Always kind, always smiling Cloteal so very hospitable to everyone. She will certainly be missed. Hold tight to sweet memories. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

Kathy Helton Aaron - August 20, 2025 at 08:50 PM

ER

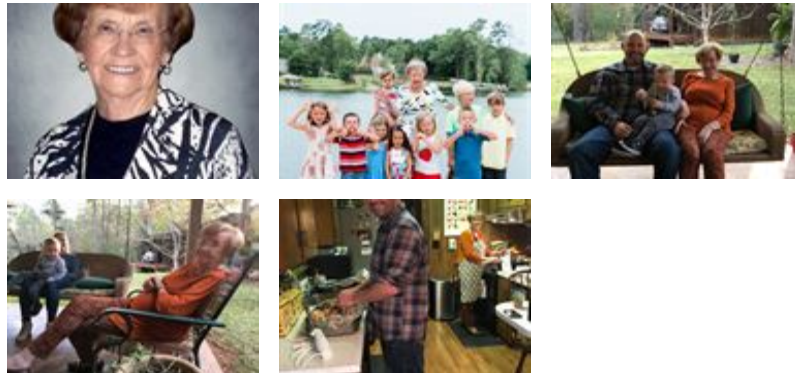
“ *Our prayers are with you all she was a beautiful and special Lady. She never forgot anyone and was always graceful, know you will miss her. Eddie and Denise Renfroe*



Eddie and Denise Renfroe - August 20, 2025 at 04:49 PM



“ 178 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Williams Funeral Homes and Crematory - August 20, 2025 at 02:18 PM



“ *Vanessa McDade lit a candle in memory of Cloteal Melder*



Vanessa McDade - August 20, 2025 at 12:20 PM



“ *The Lord has called another angel home to watch over us. Please accept my deepest condolences—my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

Timothy M Bedore - August 19, 2025 at 08:10 AM

LM

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you.
Luther and Berta and friends at Johnnie
McDade Grocery.



Luther Minor - August 18, 2025 at 02:04 PM

CW

“ Heaven gained a beautiful soul. I loved her dearly, she was a very
special lady to Jerry and I. I will miss our many walks and porch
swing conversations. My deepest and heartfelt condolences to the
loving family.

Cynthia Ward - August 18, 2025 at 12:12 PM

TB

“ Mitch, Van, and family. Sorry for your loss. Please know you and
your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Tina Moore Bufford - August 18, 2025 at 10:33 AM

LG

“ My condolences many thoughts and prayers
for your families .



Lynn Garland - August 18, 2025 at 02:41 AM

SM

“ Mitch and family, just learned of your mom’s passing. She was a fine woman and always such a joy to be around. Sending heartfelt condolences and may you reflect back on all of the cherished memories of her. Sincerely, Suzanne

Suzanne Miller Morgan - August 17, 2025 at 07:08 PM

SS

“ What a privilege and honor to have known and walked beside such a lady for a period of time . She makes us better for having known her .

Sara Simcox - August 17, 2025 at 05:00 PM



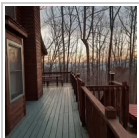
“ My husband and I traveled with Cliteal on a few occasions. She was such fun! I am so sorry to hear this. Kenny and Cindi Dease

Cindi Dease - August 17, 2025 at 04:31 PM

JF

“ My deepest condolences to the family. I have enjoyed every visit we shared at Herb's over the years. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Jason Foskey - August 17, 2025 at 04:21 PM



“ Mitch and Van and your family's Sorry for the loss of your Mother Prayers for all

Johnny Chambers - August 17, 2025 at 01:42 PM

SH

“ So sorry for your loss.

Sammy Hall - August 17, 2025 at 10:56 AM

JY

“ Mr. & Mrs. Melder were one of my customers when I worked at Cingular Wireless/AT&T. I will always remember them. Very sweet couple for sure. Please accept our deepest sympathy during this time.
Judy Youngblood/Casey



Judy Youngblood - August 17, 2025 at 10:42 AM

KM

“ Kenneth Miller lit a candle in memory of Cloteal Melder



Kenneth Miller - August 17, 2025 at 09:31 AM

KM

“ Kenneth Miller lit a candle in memory of Cloteal Melder



Kenneth Miller - August 17, 2025 at 08:59 AM

DF

“ I am so sorry to learn of Cloteal's passing. Cloteal was such a vibrant person and found joy in every moment. It was always a treat to hear of her latest adventure. May you all find comfort in the life Cloteal lived so well.

Donna Walton Findley - August 17, 2025 at 08:00 AM

SI

“ Mike, so sorry for your loss. Losing one's mother is always very difficult. From her obituary, she seemed like a wonderful person.
Steve and Judy Ivey

Steve Ivey - August 17, 2025 at 07:37 AM

EC

“ Mitch, Vickie and Family: I'm so glad I got to meet Ms. Cloteal. She was such a classy lady. Steve and I send prayers of comfort and peace during this difficult time in your lives.
Elaine Campbell Carnes



Elaine Carnes - August 17, 2025 at 06:29 AM

JD

“ Julie Owens Deason lit a candle in memory of Cloteal Melder



Julie Owens Deason - August 17, 2025 at 05:47 AM

JS

“ Prayers for all family and Cloteal!

Joseph Sansotta - August 16, 2025 at 08:28 PM

TB

“ Terry and I are so sad to see this...Clotel was such a sweet lady and always fun to be around and never missed a get together. She will certainly be missed ...May you rest in peace 🙏

Terry and Susan Bray - August 16, 2025 at 08:21 PM

SP

“ Beautiful obituary for a beautiful woman. To all of you, I am so very sorry ❤️

sandra jones prosser - August 16, 2025 at 07:57 PM

KF

“ Oh how I would have loved to visit Aunt Teal one more time but I am glad God took her home to restore her without suffering. She was one of the greatest generation. I am sad to see those pioneers leave this world with all of their wisdom. I know she will be missed but I know she has left her mark on many. Thank you for touching my life. All my love kk

Karen Funderburk - August 16, 2025 at 06:58 PM

AS

“ Love me some Cloteal!!'. Our neighborhood was blessed by having all the Melders there. My Uncle Pierce use to joke around with her and call her “Coat tail “. I just saw her at Belk a few weeks back and got me a hug and kiss on the cheek. Boy, I'm sure glad I did. Love to you all. 🙏❤️🙏❤️

Audrey Tanner Smith - August 16, 2025 at 05:36 PM

AW

“ Always sweet to me 😍 one of those special people I hold dear.

Anna Warnock - August 16, 2025 at 04:45 PM

EM

“ *To the family: I am so sorry for your loss. Cloteal had been a friend for a long time. May the fond memories and her love help you in the coming days Ellen*



Ellen Mayers - August 16, 2025 at 04:28 PM