



## Mrs. Martha Ann Black Neal

December 24, 1951 - June 19, 2024

Martha Ann Neal, 72, passed away peacefully surrounded by family on June 19, 2024 at Chambers Health and Rehabilitation in Carlisle, Arkansas. She was born on December 24, 1951 in Dewitt, Arkansas to John and Sue Black and grew up in the farming community of Pt. Deluce. After graduating from DeWitt High School in 1969, she furthered her education at Henderson State University with an emphasis on music education, composition, and performance. She married her beloved husband, David Neal, in June 1973, and together they began their life on the family farm. They were blessed with one son, Charles McKenzie Neal, and two grandsons, Caleb and Colton, who adored their “M”. Martha loved her family and treasured the memories they made together.

As a young child, Martha began taking piano lessons and it soon became apparent that she had a remarkable, God-given talent in music. She began her music career as the director of music at the First United Methodist Church in DeWitt where she continued the family’s legacy of music. Her career spanned over forty years as she led congregations in praise and worship music, directed choirs of all ages, developed music and drama programs, and taught voice, piano, and guitar lessons in the home. Many people were touched by her passion for music and her dedication to the Lord. Throughout her lifetime, she spread the gospel of Christ through beautiful music as she served numerous churches in the state. Martha’s life was a reflection of the

spiritual fruit of joy and her memory will live on the lives that she touched.

Martha is preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by her husband, David Neal of DeWitt; son, Charles Neal of Dewitt; two grandsons, Caleb and Colton Neal; three sisters, Linda Whittamore of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, Barbara Erstine (Bill) of Stuttgart, and Merrill Catt of Jonesboro. Martha is survived by a host of cousins, nieces, and nephews who loved her dearly.

Visitation will be held on Saturday, June 22, at 1:00 p.m. with the service following at 2:00 p.m. at DeWitt Methodist Church. Burial will follow at Childers Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the music ministry at DeWitt Methodist Church, 608 S. Grandview, DeWitt, Arkansas 72042 or the Alzheimer's Association, 10411 West Markham Suite 130, Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

# Cemetery Details

## Childers Cemetery

DeWitt, AR

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 22. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

DeWitt Methodist Church  
608 S. Grandview Dr.  
DeWitt, AR 72042

## Service

JUN 22. 2:00 PM (CT)

DeWitt Methodist Church  
608 S. Grandview Dr.  
DeWitt, AR 72042

# Tribute Wall

MM

“ I lead a Volunteers in Mission trip to Georgia back in the early '90s. Martha was one of my team members. She was a hard worker as we tore out houses and painted houses after the Great Georgia Flood of 1994. She was a delight with added music and homemade lemonade. She encouraged us to eat Arkansas grown rice. We had lots of fun making memories together. She even made the trip to Chidester to my wedding in June of 1998. I haven't kept in contact with her, but decided to look her up just yesterday and found she had passed away just a month ago. I regret not looking her up sooner. I send my sympathy to the family. Martha was a delightful person.

Marsha Rowe McCarver  
Chidester, AR

---

**Marsha McCarver** - July 18, 2024 at 03:52 PM

PD

“ Prentice And Sue Davis lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Martha Ann Black Neal



---

**Prentice and Sue Davis** - June 24, 2024 at 08:41 AM

PD

*she is the sweetest lady*

---

**Prentice and Sue Davis** - June 24, 2024 at 08:42 AM

KC

“ Kathy Jo Canamore lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Martha Ann Black Neal



Kathy Jo Canamore - June 22, 2024 at 02:11 PM

SC

“ Martha was my friend from way back to the “Old “ HS. She played piano at our wedding and has been a great friend and so talented! She’ll be on the front row of Heavens singers! I love you Martha and sending love and prayers for the family!

scnannaw1953@yahoo.com - June 22, 2024 at 09:11 AM



“ I am so sad to hear this news. Mrs, Martha was a great inspiration to me growing up. She encouraged & helped me with my singing. All those solos in church and the contest....I loved her belief in me. The world is dimmer without her.

Cindy Bowen - June 22, 2024 at 07:44 AM

JH

“ Jamie H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Martha Ann Black Neal.

Jamie H. - June 21, 2024 at 11:37 AM