



Helen Parks

August 11, 1928 - December 22, 2025

Vance Helen Gossett Parks, 97, of Ripley, Mississippi, passed away peacefully in her home on December 22, 2025.

Born on August 11, 1928, to Charles Vance Gossett and Mary Elizabeth Moffitt Gossett, Helen grew up with a strong sense of curiosity, faith, and family values that shaped her entire life.

She devoted 32 years to teaching, approaching her work with dedication and care.

A faithful member of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Helen lived her faith through kindness, service, and a gentle spirit that made others feel seen and cared for. She also loved to travel, finding joy in exploring new places and sharing those experiences with the people she loved.

Helen's life was defined by warmth, resilience, and a generous heart. Her legacy lives on in her family and in the many lives she touched along the way.

Helen was preceded in death by her beloved husband, James H. (Jim) Parks, with whom she shared 50 years of marriage—a partnership marked by devotion and deep companionship. By one daughter, Virginia Ann Parks, and one grandson, James Lee Parks; three sisters, Eva Sarthou, Forney Hutchinson, and Jimmie Cherry.

Helen is survived by her children, John Parks (Barbara), Linda Stubbs (Mark), and Robert Parks; and by her grandchildren, Jeanne Parks, Anna Jordan, and Clint Stubbs (Alexis), all of Ripley, MS.

Each of whom brought her immense pride and happiness. She was also blessed with six great-grandchildren who added joy and light to her later years.

Officiated by Rev. Dr. Jody Hill

Pallbearers: Austin Parks, Kirk Shelton, Johnny McKinney, Mike Mauney, Jack Jones, Gary Don Lewellen, Michael Dees

Honorary Pallbearers: Friends from the Ripley Young at Heart Club, Elders of Westminster Presbyterian Church, and Trish Harrell.

Memorials: Rucker Cemetery Maintenance Fund % Joe Larry Shackleford, 137 Shackleford Road, Ripley, MS 38663 or Westminster Community Church Cemetery % Roger Childs, .P.O. Box 419, Ripley, MS 38663

Cemetery Details

Tippah Memorial Gardens

Hwy 370
Ripley, MS

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 27. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Ripley Presbyterian Church
302 West Cooper St.
Ripley, MS 38663

Service

DEC 27. 1:00 PM (CT)

Ripley Presbyterian Church
302 West Cooper St.
Ripley, MS 38663

Tribute Wall

DB

“ Linda, I remember your mother as a beautiful, kind woman when I met her during the time that you worked with us at B & B Concrete. I am holding you and your family in my heart and in my prayers as you grieve and celebrate your mother’s well lived life. May God’s peace which passes all understanding be with you and your dear family! I give thanks for our friendship, and I regret that our paths have not crossed recently. Sincerely, David Brevard

David Brevard - December 27, 2025 at 10:17 AM

CF

“ Church family purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Helen Parks.



Church family - December 26, 2025 at 03:40 PM

DC

“ My third grade teacher at Falkner and her husband was our mail carrier. Both wonderful people.

Dave Childers - December 26, 2025 at 12:20 PM