



Frances Elrod

January 1, 1936 - October 5, 2025

Mary Frances McArthur Elrod, 89, passed away peacefully, surrounded by her loved ones, on October 5, 2025, in Lakeland, Florida.

Born a New Year's baby on January 1, 1936, in Sonoraville, Georgia, she lived a long and meaningful life marked by devotion to her family, faith, and community. 'Frances' was preceded in death by her husband, George Elrod; her parents, Lester James McArthur, Sr. and Lola McArthur; and her brother, Lester James McArthur, Jr.

Her memory lives on through those who loved her dearly: her son, Michael Elrod, Sr., and his wife, Susan Elrod; her grandson, Michael Elrod, Jr., and his wife, Alyson Elrod; and her cherished great-grandchildren, Jackson and Lillian Elrod. She also leaves behind her best friend of over 80 years, Dorothy Powers Maddox-a testament to the enduring bonds she nurtured throughout her life.

For more than four decades, Frances was a devoted member of Highlands United Methodist Church-now Shepherd's Community United Methodist Church-where she faithfully served as the volunteer bookkeeper. Her commitment to the church reflected the deep spiritual foundation that guided her life.

Known affectionately as "Mema," she was a loving and sweet presence whose warmth touched generations of her family. An avid cook and baker, she found joy in the kitchen, where she created countless meals and memories for those she loved. Her family will treasure her beloved recipes and will attempt to recreate them for generations to come.

A graveside service to celebrate Frances's life will be held at Oak Hill Burial Park in Lakeland, Florida, on Sunday, October 12th, at 2:00 pm. Arrangements are being handled by Gentry-Morrison Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Oak Hill Burial Park

4620 US Highway 98 S
Lakeland, FL 33812

Previous Events

Graveside Service

OCT **12**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Oak Hill Burial Park
4620 US Highway 98 S
Lakeland, FL 33812-4212
(863) 834-3287

Tribute Wall

TK

“ The Coomes Bill Vicky Misty Billy Kenny planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Frances Elrod.

The Coomes Bill Vicky Misty Billy Kenny - October 11, 2025 at 03:24 PM

TK

“ The Coomes Bill Vicky Misty Billy Kenny purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Frances Elrod.



The Coomes Bill Vicky Misty Billy Kenny - October 11, 2025 at 03:24 PM

RF

“ Rose Rex & Family purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Frances Elrod.



Rose Rex & Family - October 09, 2025 at 11:11 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Frances Elrod.



October 09, 2025 at 08:37 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Frances Elrod.

October 08, 2025 at 07:40 PM



“ Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Frances Elrod.



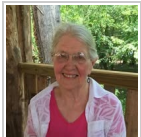
October 08, 2025 at 07:40 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Frances Elrod.



October 07, 2025 at 04:33 PM



“ Frances and I were walking around outside one day during a visit looking at flowers and naming them. We came to one I didn't know and I asked her it's name. She said, "kiss me and I'll tell you". I finally gave up guessing and kissed her. The name of the flower was "kiss me and I'll tell you"! She got such a big laugh out of that. We were around 11 or 12 years old.

Dot Maddox - October 07, 2025 at 03:48 PM