



**Sessumes, Merle Maxine (Yoakum)**

1932-2024

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Merle Maxine Yoakum Sessumes, 91, went to be with Jesus on May 24, 2024. Merle was born on August 4, 1932, in Wichita Falls to Arthur Melvin Yoakum and Letha Myrle Yoakum. Merle loved Jesus and enjoyed working in the nursery at Sycamore Baptist Church in Decatur for many years. She also loved to paint, do crafts, cook, bake and sew. She sewed beautiful dresses for her granddaughter, Alaina, when she was little, and also sewed bedspreads, tote bags and many other items for friends and family to enjoy throughout the years. She was a member of Pleasantview Baptist Church in Arlington when she passed away.

She is survived by her daughter-in-law, Kia Sessumes of Arlington; grandchildren, Raine Sessumes of Plano, Dalton Sessumes of Austin, and Alaina Lee and husband, Wesley Lee, of Florida; niece, Nelda Fernandez of California; sister-in-law, Martha Fortune of Oklahoma; brother-in-law, Mike Smith and wife, Tanji Smith, of Alvarado; sister-in-law, Kathleen

Kinnibrough of Vernon; as well as many other nieces, nephews, cousins and relatives. Also in special recognition are the aides and nurses who helped take care of her the last years of her life, which includes the nurses and aides from AlevCare Hospice. She is preceded in death by her husband, Marion Lewis Sessumes Sr.; son, Marion Lewis Sessumes, Jr. and son Mark Alan Sessumes.

We know there was definitely a celebration in heaven when she joined her family on that day.