



## Marie Coley Atkinson Middleton

January 23, 1924 - April 9, 2014

Marie Coley Atkinson Middleton Marie Coley was born January 23, 1924, to Charlie Hubbard Coley and Elizabeth Spann Coley in Mount Pleasant, Texas. Her family moved to Huntsville, Texas, in 1937. Marie graduated from Huntsville High School in 1942 and attended Sam Houston State Teachers College, majoring in music and English. While in college, she sang in a women's quartet that performed at one of Billy Graham's first crusades in San Antonio, Texas. In 1946, she married Lester Herbert Atkinson at the First Baptist Church in Huntsville, Texas. They were the parents of two children, Linda and Herbert. Lester died in 1987. In 1990 Marie married Maj. Gen. James Benjamin (J.B.) Middleton (Ret.). J.B. died in 2002. In 2007 Marie moved from her home in Huntsville to The Hallmark in Houston, Texas. Marie's true love throughout her life was her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, whom she came to know personally at age eleven. She was a gifted coloratura soprano, and served her Lord in the choir of the First Baptist Church of Huntsville for more than fifty years. She sang innumerable solos for weddings, funerals, and Sunday services. Among her favorites were "The Holy City," "I'd Rather Have Jesus," and "I Walked Today where Jesus Walked." Marie passed out of this life on April 4, 2014. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husbands, and brothers Harold Coley and Kenneth Coley. She is survived by her brother Bill Coley and wife Rose Sowell Coley of Huntsville, Texas; her daughter Linda Atkinson West and husband Cliff M. West, Jr., of Houston, Texas; and her son Herb Atkinson and wife Marla Farris

Atkinson of Roswell, New Mexico. Marie is also survived by her granddaughter Elizabeth Marie Atkinson Ryan and husband Zack Ryan; granddaughter Mindy Elaine Atkinson Jensen-Tanner and husband Adam Jensen-Tanner; and great-grandchildren Isabelle Marie Ryan, Kathryn Elizabeth Ryan, Elijah Herbert Jensen-Tanner, and Faith Elaine Jensen-Tanner, all of Roswell, New Mexico. Marie is further survived by step-grandchildren Lee West Adams and husband Robert Adams of Montgomery, Texas; Mary West Horlock of Houston, Texas; and Clifton Merrell West, III, of Willis, Texas; and step-great-grandchildren Taren Lee Adams of Houston, Texas, Hunter West Adams of San Angelo, Texas, and Katherine Elizabeth Horlock of Houston, Texas. A visitation will be held at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home in Huntsville from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8. Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, April 9, at 2:00 p.m. at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home, followed by a graveside service at the Adickes Addition of Oakwood Cemetery. The family requests that memorials be made to the First Baptist Church of Huntsville, The Alzheimer's Association, or the charity of your choice. Those wishing to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at [www.shmfh.com](http://www.shmfh.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ Marie Coley Atkinson Middleton

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ Linda, we know you feel a great loss, but pray that knowing where she is now and the happiness she knows in the present of our Lord and Savior will commfort you and give you peace. Herbie, you probably don't remember us, but we remember you and wish the same peace in your heart. Your mother was a beautiful lady with a gorgeous voice. James led the choir in 1950-1952. She was his soprano soloist whom he loved. When I came in 1951, she was my best friend. We always tried to see her when we were in Huntsville, and were so disappointed when it did not work out. May God bless all the family.  
Beryl

Featherston, James & Beryl - April 11, 2014 at 08:41 AM



“ we are saddened by the death of marie. she has been a part of our lives for so many years. mom, Juanita b lynch, loved her like a sister and they even referred to themselves as sisters. marie was special in so many ways. of course, we all know about her voice and love of music. but as ray and pop would say, 'marie made the best darn fig preserves in the state of texas!' she always had a smile on her face and a kind and gentle word for everyone. herb, linda and your families, we are truly sorry for the loss of your beloved mom. our thoughts are with you in prayer.  
love, ray & ruby, William & becky lynch

ray & ruby lynch - April 07, 2014 at 01:47 PM

MC

“ *Such a lady! Such a voice! Such great kids!*

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**Mark Chalker** - April 06, 2014 at 08:51 AM

ME

“ *With that I heard a loud voice from the throne say: “Look! The tent of God is with mankind, and he will reside with them, and they will be his peoples. And God himself will be with them. And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away.” And the One seated on the throne said: “Look! I am making all things new.” Also, he says: “Write, because these words are faithful and true.” - Rev. 21:3-5 I'm very sorry for your lose. May God's words seek to comfort you and your family.  
Sincerely, Meryl*

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**Meryl** - April 05, 2014 at 10:22 PM