



## Mae Girkey

July 6, 1937 - March 6, 2019

Frankfort – Services for Mae Roberts Girkey will be held at Harrod Brothers Funeral Home on Saturday, March 9, 2019, at 1:00 p.m. with Rev. Mike Napier officiating. Burial will follow at Frankfort Cemetery. The family will receive friends at Harrod Brothers Funeral Home from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Friday, March 8, 2019, and 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. on Saturday. She passed away at home on Wednesday, March 6, 2019.

Mae was the daughter of the late Elbert “Jack” Roberts and Maymie Lee Roberts. In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by her husband, J.C. Girkey, Jr., son, Bradley W. Girkey, and sisters, Marie and Carroll Roberts.

She is survived by her son, Mark Girkey, and grandson, Kevin, whom she adored.

Mae chose a career in state government because of her desire to help people in need. Twenty-one of her 39 years were spent as an assistant to Thelma L. Stovall during her terms as Secretary of State, State Treasurer, and Lieutenant Governor. She was appointed Director of the Division of Unemployment Insurance by former Governor John Y. Brown, Jr., where she was successful in guiding the development of legislation to restore solvency to a bankrupt UI Trust Fund. Following her retirement from state government, she served as Administrative Secretary to the Kentucky Hairdressers and Cosmetologists Association for 10 years. After 20 years, Mae returned to state government as Office Manager to Governor Steven L. Beshear.

In addition, she volunteered as Campaign Treasurer for A.B. Chandler III in his campaign for Attorney General and Campaign Compliance Director in his gubernatorial campaign. She served in the same capacity for the campaign of Governor Beshear.

Mae loved the Lord and volunteered as pianist and organist for several Franklin County Churches for 64 years. She was a member of the Choateville Christian Church. A woman of strength, Mae raised her two sons with pride, and supported them of their passions. In her spare time, she enjoyed fishing, and spending time with her family and friends.

Serving as pallbearers will be Greg Cary, John Sykes, Sean Rhorer, Billy Hammond, Greg Roberts, and Bryan Conway. Honorary pallbearers will be A.B. "Ben" Chandler, Linda Peak, Jerry Boyd, Kevin Girkey, and Ron Holland. In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made to Bluegrass Hospice Care.

Arrangements are under the direction of Harrod Brothers Funeral Home.

# Cemetery Details

## Frankfort Cemetery

215 East Main Street  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
(502) 227-2403

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAR 8.** 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Harrod Brothers Funeral Home  
312 Washington Street  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
(502) 227-4526  
hbfh@harrodbrothers.com  
<https://www.harrodbrothers.com>

## Visitation

**MAR 9.** 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Harrod Brothers Funeral Home  
312 Washington Street  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
(502) 227-4526  
hbfh@harrodbrothers.com  
<https://www.harrodbrothers.com>

## Service

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MAR 9. 1:00 PM (ET)

Harrod Brothers Funeral Home  
312 Washington Street  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
(502) 227-4526  
[hbfh@harrodbrothers.com](mailto:hbfh@harrodbrothers.com)  
<https://www.harrodbrothers.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ Mae Girkey

October 06, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ Mae will definitely be missed! She was one of my favorite bank customers! She was a fire cracker and always had me laughing.

Amber Coleman - March 08, 2019 at 12:52 PM



“ 60 files added to the album Life Tributes



Harrod Brothers Funeral Home - March 07, 2019 at 02:40 PM



“ Mae and I had a lot of good times together! She was a wonderful lady and loved her boys deeply!



Kenna King - March 07, 2019 at 02:19 PM

DH

“ Rest in peace, friend. I miss our long talks in the Governor's office (and by phone in the years since), and I miss hearing you laugh. Especially that laugh.

*Thank you for the words of encouragement during some anxious times, and for that sage advice, and for all those fascinating stories about Frankfort past that would make people squirm were they talked about more, and for sharing your stories about fishing. Man you caught some impressive fish. (And you sure loved spending time with family).*

*Oh, and I appreciated the lures you sent along for the wilderness trips in Canada. As you predicted, I DID catch fish with those.*

*Dan Hassert*

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**Dan Hassert** - March 07, 2019 at 09:42 AM

LK

“ Mae was smart, funny, kind, insightful and generous of her time and talents. I loved working with her in political campaigns and appreciated her wisdom and knowledge.

*The world is less with her gone, but she is singing and dancing and with her beloved sister and son...*

*Lindy Karns*

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**Lindy Karns** - March 06, 2019 at 07:47 PM

HW

“ She was my Aunt Mae from the first day of first grade Mark and I experienced. I'm both deeply saddened that she is gone, and equally joyed that she is free from her earthly bounds and suffering.

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**Hank Webb** - March 06, 2019 at 06:19 PM

LM

“ Mae and my mother Ramona Pulliam Moretti were good friends in high school at Bridgeport, and after high school as young housewives. They sang in a gospel quartet together, Mae played the piano and sang, my mother was a soprano, and I believe Mae's sisters formed the rest of the quartet. I have my mother's senior yearbook, and Mae and Ramona together are smiling and happy on every other page. We used to come to Mae and Junior's house for quartet practice because Mae had the piano. I remember little Brad banging his drum set and Mae telling him to go out in the yard with my brother, Mark and me. Their quartet won a blue ribbon at the State Fair in 1967 or '68.

*The years and my mother's illness pulled them apart, but I know my mother still keeps Mae in her heart. God bless and keep you and your family. All true friendships are blessings from God.*

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**Laura Moretti Malena** - March 06, 2019 at 06:06 PM

PG

“ Worked with Mae many years when Thelma was Secretary of State. Went fishing with her when she came to Florida in the winter. She was one classy lady whether working or fishing. A very special person got her wings. Love you Mae. Priscilla Goins

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**Priscilla Goins** - March 06, 2019 at 05:52 PM

J(

“ Ms Girkey helped get my first state government job. I remember the many years she played the piano at my church.

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**Jane Ann Bryan (Woolums)** - March 06, 2019 at 03:26 PM

BS

“ Thoughts and prayers to Mark and family. I can remember running into Mark and his Mom in Walmart on occasion. Cherish all of your memories of your Mom. I'm sure you have lots.

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**Beverly Salchli** - March 06, 2019 at 02:29 PM



“ Mae literally lit up any room she was in ... and her laughter was definitely heard! She loved her boys and lived her life to the fullest ~ RIP you will surely be missed

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**Anne Vasant** - March 06, 2019 at 02:10 PM

TJ

“ Kindness, laughter, tough as nails, to know Mae was to love her. I will so miss her

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**Trudi Johnson** - March 06, 2019 at 01:37 PM