



Euphemia Melita Chen aka "Ms. Mackie" from Deeside, Trelawny, Jamaica and Coral Springs, Florida

June 14, 1926 - February 12, 2026

Obituary for Euphemia Melita "Ms. Mackie" Chen

Euphemia Melita Chen (née Hew), affectionately known as "Ms. Mackie," passed away peacefully on February 12, 2026, in Coral Springs, Florida, surrounded by her loved ones. She was ninety nine years old.

Born on June 14, 1926, in Sunderland, St. James, Jamaica, Euphemia was the eldest child of Alberta Peterkin and Charlie Hew. From humble beginnings, Euphemia became a woman of remarkable strength, faith, and determination. She attended Sunderland All Age School and went on to become an astute businesswoman for more than fifty years. Through dedication and perseverance, she built a legacy of hard work and devotion that inspired many.

Euphemia married Izett Chen on April 25, 1948, and together they raised three children: Clinton, Beverley, and Marlene. Although she had three children of her own, her heart and home extended far beyond her immediate family. Relatives, friends, and those in need of shelter were always welcomed into her home. She was an excellent cook and would delight in making special dishes whenever family and friends made the long trip to Hampden or Deeside to visit. She also enjoyed baking, knitting, and farming.

Euphemia's business endeavors included a bakery and grocery shops across several communities. Even though her business kept her indoors, she loved working outside. She grew bananas and always raised animals in her backyard. In addition to the animals she raised to supply her household and shop with meat, she also raised a variety of exotic animals, including ducks, guinea chicks, turkeys, rabbits, peacocks, geese, and even a donkey.

Euphemia lived a life of faith, as a member of Hastings Baptist Church, she served her Lord and her community with humility. She found joy in praying, singing hymns, and helping those in need. Her generosity touched everyone she met, and she embraced every opportunity to help, whether through giving a child her first ever pair of shoes to wear to school, supporting revival services on her shop front, or extending credit to customers in need. She never turned anyone away hungry. Her life was a testimony of faith in action and her familiar "God bless you," was not just a phrase but a sincere expression of her loving spirit.

After retiring from business in Jamaica, Euphemia migrated to the United States. Despite declining health in her later years, she remained grateful, spending her days praying, reciting Scripture, and thanking God and her caregivers with her familiar words: "Thank you ma'am", "Thank you Jesus." Thank you, Lord."

Euphemia is survived by her daughter, Marlene; her sister, Mabel (Ms. Girley); her adopted daughter, Petra; nine grandchildren; twelve great grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, and extended family members who will forever cherish her memory. She was preceded in death by her husband, Izett; her son, Clinton; and her daughter, Beverley.

A Celebration of Life will be held on March 22, 2026, at Grace Funeral Chapels, 5980 Oakland Park Blvd., Lauderhill, FL 33313, at 12:30 p.m.

Euphemia will be remembered as a Proverbs 31 woman: virtuous, hardworking, wise, compassionate, and strong. Her legacy lives on through the lives she nurtured and the many hearts she touched. Though she is deeply missed, we rejoice knowing she now rests in the house of the Lord she longed for.

“Well done, good and faithful servant.”

You have fought a good fight, you have finished your course, you have kept the faith. Rest in eternal peace.

Services will be Livestreamed, please use the link below:

<https://youtube.com/live/bfBVjhu5XPA?si=9CaK5CUgla0tx0TM>

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **21**. 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Grace Funeral Chapels
5980 West Oakland Park Blvd.
Lauderhill, FL 33313
(954) 484-1833
info@gracefuneralchapels.com
<https://www.gracefuneralchapels.com>

Funeral Service

MAR **22**. 12:30 PM (ET)

Grace Funeral Chapels
5980 West Oakland Park Blvd.
Lauderhill, FL 33313
(954) 484-1833
info@gracefuneralchapels.com
<https://www.gracefuneralchapels.com>

Repast

MAR **22** (ET)

Irie Jerk Restaurant
6472 NW 5th Way
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309

Tribute Wall

RC

“ *Rubie and Pearl Cousley*
Ms Mackie was a woman of substance. May her soul rest in peace. I remember Ms Mackie’s smiling face.. even in the face of hardships, she wore a smile. I can recall Friday nights in front of her shop in Deeside, where sellers like Ms Hortense , Ms Ann and others would sell candy drops and other great stuff. My mother, Pearl and I found pleasure in those evenings. Can you smell the hot bread? Can you hear the happiness in her shop? Laughter, fun, music and a whole lot of positive happenings. Ms Mackie demonstrated kindness to those she met on her path. Thanks for everything Ms Mackie and Ms Girley. We cherish the moments that you were with us. Rest in peace.

Rubie Cousley - March 22 at 01:24 PM

FF

“ *From the Billings and Gallant family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Euphemia Melita Chen aka "Ms. Mackie" from Deeside, Trelawny, Jamaica and Coral Springs, Florida.*



From the Billings and Gallant family - March 21 at 01:30 AM

FF

“ *From the Billings and Gallant family planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Euphemia Melita Chen aka "Ms. Mackie" from Deeside, Trelawny, Jamaica and Coral Springs, Florida.*

From the Billings and Gallant family - March 21 at 01:30 AM

GC

“ Gillian, Tara, Christine purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Euphemia Melita Chen aka "Ms. Mackie" from Deeside, Trelawny, Jamaica and Coral Springs, Florida.



Gillian, Tara, Christine - March 20 at 07:42 PM

GC

“ Gillian, Tara, Christine planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Euphemia Melita Chen aka "Ms. Mackie" from Deeside, Trelawny, Jamaica and Coral Springs, Florida.

Gillian, Tara, Christine - March 20 at 07:42 PM

EL

“ Elaine Lloyd purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Euphemia Melita Chen aka "Ms. Mackie" from Deeside, Trelawny, Jamaica and Coral Springs, Florida.



Elaine Lloyd - March 18 at 11:58 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Euphemia Melita Chen aka "Ms. Mackie" from Deeside, Trelawny, Jamaica and Coral Springs, Florida.



March 18 at 09:03 AM

MP

“ Marie Polynice purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Euphemia Melita Chen aka "Ms. Mackie" from Deeside, Trelawny, Jamaica and Coral Springs, Florida.



Marie Polynice - March 15 at 03:48 PM

MA

“ Dearest Aunt Mackie - you are home now with your Heavenly Father whom you loved and you lived your life giving honor to Him through your kindness and humble spirit which have left an endearing impression on those who were blessed to have known you and called you 'Aunt'. Our memories of you will be forever cherished in our hearts and you will be always loved.



Marie - March 13 at 04:00 PM

JU

“ Judy lit a candle in memory of Euphemia Melita Chen aka "Ms. Mackie" from Deeside, Trelawny, Jamaica and Coral Springs, Florida



Judy - March 13 at 09:41 AM

LL

Rest in peace

Leonie Lisme - March 13 at 09:50 PM