



## Caldonia Campbell Searle

December 22, 1930 - January 31, 2026

Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, February 7, 2026, at 11:00 am in the Gueydan Methodist Church for Ms. Caldonia Campbell Searle.

A Visitation will take place at the Gueydan Methodist Church from 9:00 AM until her service time of 11:00 AM. Reverend Chyrelena Peyton will officiate her service and burial will immediately follow at the Gueydan Cemetery.

Caldonia Vinson Campbell Searle of Gueydan, Louisiana passed away on Saturday, January 31, 2026. She was 95 years old.

Most of her life was lived in Gueydan, Louisiana. Donia was married to Bill Searle for 61 years.

She graduated from Gueydan High School and attended Southwestern Louisiana Institute now known as the University of Louisiana-Lafayette. At SLI she was a member of the Red Jackets Pep Squad and the Drum & Bell Corps.

Donia was a landscape and wildlife artist. Works of hers are in collections in South Louisiana and Texas. She loved the history of her family and delving into the genealogy of her ancestors. A proud patriotic memory of hers was her family's participation in WWII. The family manned an aircraft observation post

on their farm.

Caldonia served many years in Les Dames de Gueydan, Vermilion Arts Council, Gueydan Art Lovers Association (GALA), Women's Auxiliary of Louisiana Association of Conservation Districts, Gueydan Art Museum (founder), and the Gueydan PTA. One year she and Bill were the King and Queen of Mardi Gras Ball.

She was a life-long member of the Gueydan Methodist Church and served on a number of committees over the years.

She is survived by her children, Debra (Bill) Maxey and Dwayne (Janice) Searle; 6 grandchildren, Kristen (Charlie) Wemyss, Scott (Karson) Maxey, Julie (Alexandria) Maxey, Blake (Kristian) Searle, Connor Searle and Tyler Searle; 9 great-grandchildren, Austin Wemyss, Tanner Wemyss, Reid Wemyss, Mallory Maxey, Will Maxey, Ben Maxey, Esme Maxey, Juliana Searle and Vivian Searle.

Donia was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Ira (Bill)William Searle; her parents, Melchior and Rose Aline Campbell; her brothers, Melchior "Sonny" Campbell, Jacques Campbell and Charles Campbell.

Pallbearers are Blake, Connor and Tyler Searle, Scott Maxey, Charlie and Tanner Wemyss.

The family requests in lieu of flowers that contributions be made to Gueydan Methodist Church, American Cancer Society, and the American Heart Association.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Matthews Funeral Home GUEYDAN, 514 Second Street Gueydan, LA 70542



# Cemetery Details

## Gueydan Cemetery

Hwy 91  
Gueydan, LA 70542

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 7. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Gueydan Methodist Church  
501 Main St.  
Gueydan, LA 70542

## Funeral Service

FEB 7. 11:00 AM (CT)

Gueydan Methodist Church  
501 Main St.  
Gueydan, LA 70542

## Burial

FEB 7 (CT)

Gueydan Cemetery  
Hwy 91  
Gueydan, LA 70542



# Tribute Wall

BB

“ My husband, Gord and I spent many winters in Gueydan. I met Donia and her friend Mildred at church, being introduced by Miss Jane, and was invited to join their exercise class. They were wonderful and welcoming friends. RIP dear friend, love from your Canadian friend. Barbara Barron

Barbara Barron - February 06 at 01:58 PM



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Matthews Funeral Home - February 04 at 03:58 PM