



Giovanna Pia Martelli

July 23, 1941 - August 10, 2026

Jackson, Mississippi

Giovanna Pia Martelli died in Jackson on August 10, 2026. She was 85. Born in Jackson on July 23, 1941, raised among Italian-American manners that never needed a speech. She learned early that a day is something you finish, not something you wait for.

She sold bread and patience in equal measure. A flour-dusted apron waited on a hook; regulars came for rolls and left with advice. Colleagues still mention a flour-dusted apron on a hook.

She married Antonio in 1964. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised two sons through public schools and ordinary weather. After Antonio died in 2019, she kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember a porch light left on for anyone walking home late. She liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. She died in Jackson, among streets she never needed to explain. The porch still expects a returning step.

Services

A memorial gathering in Jackson with coffee afterward. In lieu of flowers, a gift to a local workers' fund, clinic, or neighborhood library is welcome.

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