

# Madelyn Lee Payne

## Madelyn Dunham

<b>Born</b>	Madelyn Lee Payne October 26, 1922 <a href="#">Peru, Kansas</a> , U.S.
<b>Died</b>	November 2, 2008 (aged 86) <a href="#">Honolulu, Hawaii</a> , U.S.
<b>Resting place</b>	<a href="#">Pacific Ocean</a> off <a href="#">Koko Head</a> , <a href="#">Oahu</a> , Hawaii
<b>Other names</b>	"Toot"
<b>Citizenship</b>	American
<b>Occupation</b>	Vice President at the Bank of Hawaii
<b>Known for</b>	Maternal grandmother of <a href="#">Barack Obama</a>
<b>Spouse</b>	<a href="#">Stanley Armour Dunham</a> (1940–1992)
<b>Children</b>	<a href="#">Stanley Ann Dunham</a> Uterine Cancer (1942–1995)
<b>Parent(s)</b>	Rolla Charles Payne and Leona Belle McCurry <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>Relatives</b>	<a href="#">Barack Obama</a> (grandson) <a href="#">Charles T. Payne</a> (brother) <a href="#">Michelle Obama</a> (granddaughter-in-law)

**Madelyn Lee Payne Dunham** (/ˈdʌnəm/ *DUN-əm*; October 26, 1922<sup>[2]</sup> – November 2, 2008<sup>[3]</sup>) was the grandmother of [Barack Obama](#), the 44th [President of the United States](#). Her daughter was Obama mother's, [Ann Dunham](#). Madelyn and her husband [Stanley Armour](#) raised Obama from age ten in their apartment in [Honolulu, Hawaii](#). She died<sup>[4]</sup> two days before her grandson was elected President.

## Life

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

Madelyn Lee Payne was born in [Peru, Kansas](#). She was the eldest of four children. Her younger brother was [Charles T. Payne](#). Their parents were Rolla Charles "R.C." Payne (August 23, 1892 – October 15, 1968)<sup>[5]</sup> and Leona Belle (McCurry) Payne (May 7, 1897 – March 22, 1968).<sup>[6]</sup> In Barack Obama's memoir, *Dreams From My Father*, he describes them as "stern [Methodist](#) parents who did not believe in drinking, playing cards or dancing." She moved with her parents to [Augusta, Kansas](#) at the age of three. Madelyn was one of the best students at Augusta High School. She graduated from there in 1940.<sup>[7]</sup>

# Death

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

Wikinews has related news:

[Grandmother of Barack Obama dies at 86](#)

Madelyn died in Hawaii, on November 2, 2008. It was two days before the [presidential election](#). Obama's campaign team announced that she had died "peacefully" after suffering from [cancer](#).<sup>[4]</sup> At a rally in [Charlotte, North Carolina](#) on November 3, Obama said, "She was one of those quiet heroes that we have all across America. They're not famous. Their names are not in the newspapers, but each and every day they work hard. They aren't seeking [fame]. All they try to do is just do the right thing."<sup>[8]</sup> Dunham's absentee vote, received by the election office on October 27, was included in Hawaii's total vote count.<sup>[9]</sup>

A private [funeral](#) was held on December 23, 2008, at the First Unitarian Church of Honolulu. Obama and his sister Maya scattered their grandmother's ashes in the ocean at Lanai Lookout. It was the same spot where they had scattered their mother's ashes in 1995. Obama was staying at Plantation Estate at the time.<sup>[10]</sup>

## References

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

- ↑ Powell, Kimberly. "[Ancestry of Barack Obama – Fourth Generation](#)". *About.com*. Archived from [the original](#) on January 28, 2017. Retrieved January 10, 2014.
- ↑ Nakaso, Dan (March 30, 2008). "[Obama's tutu a female pioneer in Hawaii banking](#)". *Honolulu Advertiser*. Retrieved January 10, 2014.<sup>[*permanent dead link*]</sup>
- ↑ "[Obama's grandmother dies after battle with cancer](#)". *CNN*. November 3, 2008. Retrieved January 10, 2014.
- ↑ 4.0 4.1 Murray, Shailagh (November 3, 2008). "[Obama's Grandmother Dies](#)". *Washington Post*. Archived from [the original](#) on January 18, 2017. Retrieved January 10, 2014.
- ↑ "[Rolla Charles Payne](#)". January 5, 2009.
- ↑ "[Leona Belle McCurry Payne](#)". January 5, 2009.
- ↑ "[President Obama: From Kansas to the Capital, Part 1-4](#)". *Kake.com*. Archived from [the original](#) on July 1, 2009. Retrieved January 10, 2014.
- ↑ Zeleny, Jeff (November 3, 2008). "[On Eve of Election, Obama Pays Tribute to Grandmother Who Died in Hawaii](#)". *The New York Times*. Retrieved January 10, 2014.
- ↑ "[Vote cast by Barack Obama's grandmother in Hawaii will count, officials say](#)". *Los Angeles Times*. Associated Press. November 5, 2008. Retrieved January 10, 2014.

10. <sup>1</sup> Chris Bailey (December 24, 2008). "[Obama bids farewell to grandmother on Oahu coast](#)". *Hawaii Magazine*. Retrieved January 10, 2014.

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