



Bettye Gwaltney Wills

September 24, 1931 - December 7, 2024

Mrs. Bettye Gwaltney Wills of the Hickman community passed away peacefully on Saturday, December 7, 2024. She had made her home at the Carthage Pavilion since November 23, 2016. Born Bettye Catherine Gwaltney on September 24, 1931, she was the daughter of the late Fred H. Gwaltney who died December 31, 1994, at the age of 95 and Willie McDonald Gwaltney who died November 18 1987, at the age of 85.

Mrs. Wills was a 1949 graduate of Gordonsville High School and a 1952 graduate of Tennessee Polytechnic Institute with a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Education. She was then employed by the Smith County Board of Education. Her teaching career spanned 39 years, teaching 36 of those years at Gordonsville Elementary and Gordonsville High School.

On January 12, 1953, Bettye was married to Roy Kenneth Wills by Bro. J. B. Morehead at the Gordonsville Methodist Church. Two sons, Ken and Kevin, were born to the union.

She was a member of the Union Hill Cumberland Presbyterian Church and Smith County Retired Teachers Association.

Outside of her love for her church and her family, she was an avid high school and college football fan. She relentlessly followed the Gordonsville Tigers and the Tennessee Vols.

In addition to her parents, Fred and Willie Gwaltney, she was preceded in death by her husband, Roy K. Wills on December 13, 2002 at the age of 72, brother, Jack D. Gwaltney, sisters-in-law Tony Baker, Ollie Jewel Nixon,

Ethelene Gwaltney and brother-in-law Glenn Wills.

Surviving are two sons, Kenneth L. (Ken) Wills and wife Shari of Brentwood, TN, and Kevin G. Wills and wife Lori of Santa Rosa Beach, Florida, grandson, Jackson (Caitlin) Wills of Nashville, TN, granddaughters, Kendra (Anthony) Mubarak of Brentwood, TN, Paige (Brandon) King of Birmingham, AL, Margo Wills of Nashville, TN, and great grandchildren, McCall Mubarak, Ramsey Mubarak, Abe Mubarak, Walker King and Shiloh King, nieces, Jan Helfer, Wendy Baker, and Cheryl Nixon, nephews Jeff Gwaltney, Rickey Baker, Johnnie Nixon, Brent Wills, and sister-in-law, Lynn Wills.

The family would like to thank the Carthage Pavilion staff for the outstanding care and service they provided.

Pallbearers: Jackson Wills, Anthony Mubarak, Brandon King, Johnnie Nixon, Rickey Baker, Rick Helfer, and Jeff Gwaltney.

Funeral services for Mrs. Wills will be conducted on Wednesday December 11, 2024 at 2pm from the Union Hill Cumberland Presbyterian Church in the Sykes Community. Interment will follow in the Union Hill Cemetery.

Mrs. Wills family will receive friends on Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at the Gordonsville, TN Chapel of Bass Funeral Homes from 4PM to 8PM, her family will receive friends on Wednesday, December 11, 2024 at the Union Hill Cumberland Presbyterian Church Sykes, TN from 12 Noon until service time at 2PM.

Mrs. Wills family request memorial donations in her memory be made to the Union Hill Cumberland Presbyterian Church or to the Union Hill Cemetery fund.

BASS FUNERAL HOME GORDONSVILLE, TN DIRECTORS

Cemetery Details

Union Hill Cemetery

Sykes Rd
Brush Creek, TN 38547

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 10. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Gordonsville Chapel of Bass Funeral Home
71 E Main Street
P. O. Box 248
Gordonsville, TN 38563
(615) 683-8212
kurtbass@bassfh.com
<https://www.bassfh.com/>

Visitation

DEC 11. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Union Hill Cumberland Presbyterian Church
235 Sykes Rd
Brush Creek, TN 38547

Service

DEC 11. 2:00 PM (CT)

Union Hill Cumberland Presbyterian Church
235 Sykes Rd
Brush Creek, TN 38547

INTERMENT

DEC 11 (CT)

Union Hill Cemetery
Sykes Rd
Brush Creek, TN 38547

Tribute Wall

TC

“*Mrs. Wills was my typing teacher at Gordonsville High. I have not saw her in years... but I think of her often. I have mentioned her name everytime someone ask me how do I type fast as I do... this lady had a lot of patience with us kids... I am sorry to hear of her passing. Tammy Darnell Coppinger*

Tammy Coppinger - December 12, 2024 at 10:31 AM

ML

“*I am so thankful that I had Ms Wills as my English teacher and typing in Jr High and High School. She was awesome she help me fall in love with the wrtings of William Shakespear! I will alway remember her!*



Marc Lewis - December 10, 2024 at 12:26 PM

NL

“*I am so sorry to read about Bettye's death. My first year of teaching was at GHS. Bettye became such a good friend and co-worker. I will always appreciate her.*

Natalie Lee - December 10, 2024 at 07:59 AM

LH

“ Ken and Kevin , I am so sorry to hear of the passing of Mrs. Bettye. While in celebrating the Life of such a wonderful woman, but also mourning her passing with you, my heart goes out to you and your families. There are no words to express what your Mom (and your Dad) meant to my family. Mrs. Bettye has made such a difference in so many lives, Mine included. She was such an amazing teacher and inspired so many of her students. She was always my favorite. May the good Lord Bless you and wrap his arms around you to give you comfort and strength on this most difficult day and in the days ahead.

Lexine (Slaton) Hale

Lexine (Slaton) Hale - December 10, 2024 at 07:44 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Bettye Gwaltney Wills.



December 09, 2024 at 11:26 AM

MF

“ Mubarak family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Bettye Gwaltney Wills.



Mubarak family - December 08, 2024 at 08:03 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Bettye Gwaltney Wills.*



December 08, 2024 at 07:09 PM



“ *So sad to see one of my best friends has passed on. I really got to know her while living at the Pavilion. We had so many good times & many nice conversations. She was such a sweet person whom I am going to miss dearly. Prayers for the families. 🙏❤️*

Madge Lankford - December 08, 2024 at 12:54 AM