



## Elaine Barkley Ervin

October 14, 1950 - June 22, 2009

On June 22, 2009, Elaine Ervin entered into the arms of her Heavenly Father. Awaiting her were her parents Fred and Thelma Barkley, and brother-in-law, Bill Peeler.

Left to cherish her memory are husband, Gerald Lynn Ervin, whom she married on June 17, 1973, and daughters, Jaime LaRae Smith and husband Lamont, and Ashleigh Holshouser and husband Joey; two sisters, Linda Owens, and Becky Peeler; two brothers, Johnny Barkley, and Fred Barkley, Jr.; and three nephews, Justin and Jordan Barkley and Scotty Owens.

Elaine attended Mooresville High School and transferred to East Rowan High School, where she graduated in 1968. She received a Bachelors' Degree in Mathematics Education from Appalachian State University in 1971. Her career spanned thirty-eight years, including six years after her retirement in 2002. She taught at South Iredell High School, South Rowan High School, Salisbury Academy, and West Rowan High School.

During her tenure, Elaine became a respected and adored teacher. She was honored as a "Teacher of the Year" by her peers and a Time Warner Cable "STAR Teacher" by her students numerous times. She served in many capacities in the Rowan-Salisbury School System and was actively involved on the steering committee during the merger of the county and city school systems.

Elaine's most special gift was her ability to see the best in all students. Of the thousands of children she taught, virtually all would say that she touched their

lives in a magical, positive way. All could point out a way that she made them feel special. She was a master teacher. She utilized all of the techniques and teaching strategies that came and went during her teaching career. But it was her gift of self that made all the difference. Sometimes, someone touches our hearts and stays there forever. For her students, that someone was Mrs. Ervin.

Elaine and Gerald were members of Trinity Wesleyan Church in Salisbury and had been long-time members of Enon Baptist Church. Elaine was active in WMU, sang in the adult choir, and directed Vacation Bible School and the Christmas plays for many years.

Services celebrating Elaine's life will be held at Enon Baptist Church at 11:00 AM on Thursday, June 25, with Reverend Kendal P. Mobley officiating. The body will lie in state 30 minutes prior to the service. Interment will follow in the church cemetery.

The family will receive friends on Wednesday evening from 6-8 PM at Summersett Funeral Home in Salisbury.

In lieu of flowers, and in order to assist with medical and funeral expenses, the family requests that memorials are made to The Ervin Family, Attn: Gerald Ervin c/o Eddie & Becky Livengood 535 Lillian Circle Salisbury, NC 28147. Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Ervin family. Online condolences may be made at [www.summersettfuneralhome.com](http://www.summersettfuneralhome.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ Mrs. Ervin was my teacher in Algebra I in 1994-1995, and my Pre-Calculus teacher in 1997-1998. Looking back now, I consider it an honor and a privilege to have been one of her students, not once, but twice. She always made learning fun, and genuinely cared about her students, each and every one of them. She will indeed be missed, but her memory will be treasured forever... Thank you, Mrs. Ervin, for everything...##imported-begin##Jonathan Upright##imported-end##

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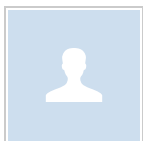
August 24, 2009 at 01:10 AM



“ Ms. Ervin was a very amazing teacher and friend she will be missed. She touched my life in a very amazing way by showing me that I can do anything that I put my mind to and she also taught me to believe in myself. She was there when I needed her and she helped me to get through a lot of hard times in my life. I send my condolences to your family because she will be missed and I will never forget how she has changed my life.##imported-begin##Brandon McCora##imported-end##

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June 30, 2009 at 10:24 PM



“ I am grateful for the chance to have grown up with Mrs Elaine when I was younger, have her as a teacher, and to finally be able to take care of her in her time of need. She will be missed by so many. My family's thoughts and prayers go out to your family. Lindsay and Rob Easter##imported-begin##Lindsay Fink Easter##imported-end##

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June 30, 2009 at 02:08 AM



“ Our condolences goes out to Gerald and family at this time of such a great lose. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Phil and Vickie McDaniel##imported-end##

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June 28, 2009 at 01:43 PM



“ I am sorry I could not be there the other night. I woke up sick that morning and it got worse as the day went on. Ashleigh know I am thinking about you and praying for your family.##imported-begin##Donna Wagoner##imported-end##

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June 27, 2009 at 09:03 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers go out to Mrs. Ervin's family. Mrs. Ervin was beyond my favorite teacher. I will never forget how she helped me through the rough times I had. I hated math until i had Mrs. Ervin. She showed me a way to do it where it wasn't complicated or difficult, and from then on it came to me naturally. I never forget how much she touched my heart when she was my teacher. I will always love her for that. Rest In Peace Mrs. Ervin.##imported-begin##Sarah Robinette##imported-end##

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June 27, 2009 at 12:11 PM



“ To the family of Elaine Ervin:

*I was a student of Mrs. Ervin in 1987 and 1988. She was much more than a teacher to me. She was a friend. I have always considered her to be one of the most influential people in my life.*

*God Bless you,*

*Jeff Mauldin##imported-begin##Jeff Mauldin##imported-end##*

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June 26, 2009 at 08:09 PM



“ *My sincere condolences to the family of Mrs. Ervin. I'm glad that I had Mrs. Ervin my freshman year. Mrs Ervin was a great teacher. You will always be missed Mrs. Ervin##imported-begin##Ryan Gullett##imported-end##*

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June 26, 2009 at 04:21 PM



“ *Mrs. Ervin was an amazing person. She was my algebra I teacher my freshman year. Everyday she would tell me how happy she was to be a teacher of h.s kids. I really enjoyed how she made every student feel like they were a part of her life and how us passing algebra was her job & we could not lose her job for her. She was funny and enjoyable to have as a teacher. She was a very loving person and i will miss her greatly. My condolences to her family.##imported-begin##rachel orphanoudakis##imported-end##*

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June 25, 2009 at 11:50 PM



“ *##imported-begin##James Robinette##imported-end##*

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June 25, 2009 at 02:48 PM



“ Gerald, Ashleigh, and Jaime: the comments on these pages by former students and their thankful parents are a testimony to Elaine's legacy. She had such a positive impact on so many kids. She had the same impact on South Rowan Academy, and especially Diann Safrit during the years that you girls were at SRA. She was such a great mother, as you girls well know, and I considered her to be a great friend. Please accept our most sincere condolences from Diann and Mike and the SRA staff. God bless you all.##imported-begin##Diann and Mike Safrit##imported-end##

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June 25, 2009 at 02:33 PM



“ My sincere condolences to the family... Mrs. Ervin, Thank You - Your teachings live thru me even to this day...##imported-begin##Henry Tremayne Diggs##imported-end##

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June 25, 2009 at 01:26 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this difficult time. May God watch over you and bring you peace.##imported-begin##Marisa Bost##imported-end##

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June 25, 2009 at 11:33 AM



“ Mrs. Ervin was one of the best teachers I had in my entire time in school. She was a great person, and sorely missed.##imported-begin##Jay Dooley##imported-end##

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June 25, 2009 at 09:46 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you. My daughter, Sarah was lucky enough to have Ms. Ervin for a teacher at South Rowan and she went out of her way to help her and Sarah loved her for that. She was one of Sarah's favorite teacher. She will truly be missed not only as a teacher but as a person that all the kids looked up to.##imported-begin##Kay & Robert Heath & Sarah##imported-end##

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June 25, 2009 at 08:29 AM



“ Peace be with the Ervin family. Elaine Ervin was certainly one of the best teachers I had in high school. She truly cared about her students and knew how to motivate each one of them. I was blessed to have her touch my life. As she is now with Christ, may Christ be with each of you and bring you peace.##imported-begin##Susan Johnston Bostian##imported-end##

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June 25, 2009 at 08:14 AM



“ My sincere condolences to the family. I had Mrs. Ervin for calculus my senior year at South Rowan High School. She was one of my favorite teachers. She spent time with me outside of the classroom helping me make decisions about college and life after high school and she wrote many letters of recommendation for me. I'm now an educator and know how much time and energy it takes to prepare for class and to fulfill obligations outside the classroom. Mrs. Ervin did so with much adeptness and compassion.##imported-begin##Stefanie Hunter Baker##imported-end##

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June 25, 2009 at 08:08 AM



“ It is so hard to see the real blessed and loving people leave us, but I know the home you are going to is the greatest sun set. I will miss you. Thank you for being the wonderful person you were.

God speed my dear friend:

Ronald M Morris##imported-begin##Ronald Morris##imported-end##

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June 25, 2009 at 01:38 AM



“ The Ervin Family are in my thoughts and prayers. I was honored to have been taught by Mrs. Ervin 1992-1994 at West Rowan High School. May your hearts find peace in knowing that one day you will meet again.##imported-begin##Stacy (Bowman) Corriher##imported-end##

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June 24, 2009 at 11:04 PM



“ Jamie, I'm so sorry for your lost, your mother was the sweetest lady. I remember us coming home for the weekends from Wingate, and how she treated me like a 2nd daughter. Know you and your family are in my thoughts and prayer. love u##imported-begin##Valerie Upright -Proper##imported-end##

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June 24, 2009 at 08:57 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with the Ervin family. Mrs. Ervin was my favorite math teacher at South. She was a greatest teacher and her beautiful smile had brighten people around her. She will be missed.##imported-begin##Amy Yu##imported-end##

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June 24, 2009 at 08:30 PM



“ My heart and prayers go the family. Much of my succes in life goes to Ms. Ervin and her belief in me. She made me believe in myself and taught me to question how I learn. She helped get me into college and gave me the key to chasing my dreams....to learn how I learn. God bless her...she helped change my life. She will be missed.##imported-begin##Murray Clayton##imported-end##

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June 24, 2009 at 04:28 PM



“ I was so sorry to hear about Mrs Ervin. My daughter was lucky enough to have Mrs. Ervin as her teacher. Cassidy adored her and she will always be one of Cassidy's favorite teachers and one that made a great impact on her education. Not to mention her life! We feel blessed to have known her and we will miss her greatly! Our deepest sympathy goes to her family!##imported-begin##Cassidy and Susan Haley##imported-end##

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June 24, 2009 at 03:32 PM



“ Gerald and family: Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. Elaine was such a special person and we considered her a friend. Susan especially appreciated all her kindness and help when she first started at West Rowan High School.##imported-begin##Pastor Ernest and Susan Mullins##imported-end##

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June 24, 2009 at 03:09 PM



“ Asheligh, Joey & Ervin family, We are so very sorry about your loss. I know how hard it is to lose a parent and I know you are heart broken now, but please know that your mother is in a beautiful place now that is pain free and that she will be eternally happy and well, that makes it all bearable. Please call me if I can be of any comfort to you, please remember that you will be in my prayers and my love to all of you.

God Bless you all##imported-begin##James & Diane Sloop##imported-end##

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June 24, 2009 at 03:03 PM



“ I am so sorry to hear about Mrs. Ervin passing. She was one of the most influential and nice people that I have ever known. She was my favorite teacher in high school because she was always just, fair and understanding. This world has lost one of the greats before her time. May God be with your family and I will never forget her smile and what she meant to me.##imported-begin##Andrew Belk##imported-end##

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June 24, 2009 at 02:39 PM



“ Becky and Johnny and family members, you are all in my thoughts and prayers. I was so saddened to see Elaine's picture in the paper today, but also I looked at her beautiful face and that dear smile and thought of all the gifts she had given to so many over the years. It seems her love for her students and her love for her family were her priorities. Please know that each and every one of you are in my heart and in my prayers. God bless you all - He will sustain you always.

Karen & Savannah##imported-begin##Karen Larimore Wilkinson##imported-end##

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June 24, 2009 at 12:55 PM



“ My prayers are with you all. She was an outstanding teacher and has inspired me in many ways. She was someone I could talk to about anything and whom I had grown very close to I would like to Thank you as her family for sharing her with us students. She will be missed next year and South Rowan Math Hall want be the same without her smiling face. Just remember she is smiling down on us all. Love Jennifer Carter former student.##imported-begin##Jennifer Carter##imported-end##

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June 24, 2009 at 10:41 AM



“ Ashleigh, Gerald and Jamie, I have been thinking of you guys for a long time and I am so sorry for your loss. Ashleigh, your mom was very special and I know the bond that you both shared as do I with my mom. I am thinking of you all.##imported-begin##Stephanie Walden Gault##imported-end##

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June 24, 2009 at 10:02 AM



“ My most heartfelt condolences go out to Gerald, Jaime, and Ashleigh. Mrs. Ervin was the most remarkable teacher and friend. There will never be another like her. As I am now a parent, I can only hope that my daughter's lives will be touched by a teacher of her magnitude and character. While she may have lost the battle here on Earth, she is now at the gates of her Father. She will continue to bless each of us whose lives she touched.

*In loving thoughts and prayers,*

*Christal Barger Newsome##imported-begin##Chrsital Barger Newsome##imported-end##*

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June 24, 2009 at 09:35 AM



“ Mrs. Ervin was a great teacher and a very good friend. She will be missed. My condolences to you and your family. The South Iredell Class of "78" has lost an inspiration today.##imported-begin##Marty Plyler##imported-end##

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June 24, 2009 at 07:48 AM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. She was a great teacher at south rowan and will be missed, but heaven is alot brighter today with her there.##imported-begin##robin winchester##imported-end##

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June 24, 2009 at 07:40 AM



“ Gerald and Family, You all are in our thoughts and prayers. Elaine was a beautiful person. I know she will be missed.

Sincerely,

Robin Williams##imported-begin##Robin B. Williams##imported-end##

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June 24, 2009 at 04:00 AM



“ *The obituary for Elaine is probably the most beautiful one that I have ever read. What a tremendous tribute to a wonderful person and teacher. The words chosen to describe her are so true because she did have a way of making every student and friend feel special. I know this as a fellow teacher and more importantly as the mother of one of her former students, my son Marty Campbell.*

*Love and Blessings,*

*Lyndall Campbell*

*Gal. 6:9##imported-begin##Lyndall Campbell##imported-end##*

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June 23, 2009 at 11:39 PM



“ *you are all in my thoughts and prayers at this time.##imported-begin##Joyce Richards##imported-end##*

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June 23, 2009 at 11:26 PM



“ *Mrs. Ervin was one of only two teachers throughout my entire school career that I have ever named as my best teachers. She was an excellent teacher of mathematics and I hope that my teaching is even half as good. But even better, she was such a kind person and so very willing to reach out to the unlovely in her classes.*

*She will be missed.##imported-begin##Karen Linton##imported-end##*

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June 23, 2009 at 11:19 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with Mrs. Ervin's family. She was a great teacher and was such a positive influence on so many young people's lives. I graduated in 1984 and have had little contact with her since. Still, I feel like I lost a close friend. Due to the long distance, I will be unable to attend the funeral, but please know I'll be thinking of all of you. I thank God I was fortunate enough to have known Mrs. Ervin. God Bless the family.

Rick Wright###imported-begin##Rick Wright###imported-end##

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June 23, 2009 at 10:08 PM



“ This world is never going to be the same without you! I know you know how much you mean to me and I am certain you knew how hard this would be for me to go through. But I look in the sky and know you are with me still! I will never ever forget what you have done for me. I will never forget what we made it through, together! My heart is breaking, I just wanted to have that one last talk.... we promised! I dont understand this mrs Ervin...I need you here to explain! I know GOD must have needed another angel....I just wish it wasnt now! I love you so much! Rip my sweet angel!###imported-begin##mandi naves boehm###imported-end##

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June 23, 2009 at 09:48 PM