



Mrs. Elizabeth "Betty" Purdham

April 6, 1931 - May 24, 2014

Mrs. Elizabeth "Betty" Mae Yowell Purdham, age 83, of Salisbury passed away Saturday, May 24, 2014 at the Glenn A. Kiser Hospice House.

Betty was born April 6, 1931, in Madison, VA, the daughter of the late Ruth Carpenter Yowell and Yancey Michael Yowell, Sr.

As a young girl and teenager, Betty valued and appreciated the challenge of music, drama, speech, athletics, after school chores and church activities. She valued the interaction with her parents, grandparents, teachers, church leaders, siblings, cousins and friends. And she was extremely grateful for the blessings of Christ her Savior; teachings of her mother and father; and the love of her husband, children, grandchildren, extended family and friends.

While a student and after graduating from Marion Junior College, she attended Lenoir-Rhyne University where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Math Education. She then received a Master in Education from University of Virginia. She appreciated the opportunity to serve in several areas - Director of Christian Education, public school teacher, as well as leadership roles in Christian camps and various churches. She considered it an honor to have been asked to write a camp program guide for junior church camps and a Vacation Bible School curriculum. However, most importantly, she valued her role and challenge in being a daughter, sister, wife, mother, mother-in-law,

grandmother and friend.

Preceding her in death in addition to her parents is her brother, Y. Michael Yowell, Jr.

Those left to cherish her memories are her husband, The Rev. Aldon Elwood Purdham, Sr., whom she married June 17, 1962; son, Aldon Elwood Purdham, Jr. (Lauralyn) of Colorado Springs, CO; daughter, Marilyn Bollinger (Rev. Craig) of Charlotte, NC; sisters, Emily Ruth Brittain (Fritz) and Mary Ann Berrey (Harold); sister-in-law, Betty Yowell; grandchildren, Sonia, Steven and Sarah Bollinger and Jordan, Delaney, Lindsey and Sydney Purdham; and many loving nieces and nephews.

Visitation: 11:00 AM Tuesday, June 3 at St. John's Lutheran Church.

Service: 12 Noon Tuesday, June 3 at St. John's Lutheran Church conducted by Rev. Rhodes Wooly.

Burial will be June 4 at 4:00 PM at Mt. Nebo Lutheran Church, Rochelle, VA. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to a church, charity or school of donor's choice.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Nebo Lutheran Church

Rochelle, VA

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 3. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. John's Lutheran Church
200 W. Innes St.
Salisbury, NC 28144

Memorial Service

JUN 3. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. John's Lutheran Church
200 W. Innes St.
Salisbury, NC 28144

Tribute Wall

RD

“ *Dear Al and family,
I am sad to learn of Betty's death. I enjoyed knowing her very much.
I met both of you at the Parkinson's Support Group meetings. May
you be comforted by the memories and love that will continue with
you forever. Racine Douglas*

Racine Douglas - June 06, 2014 at 01:16 PM

 Linda
Evans

“ Dear Al, Marilyn, and Aldon,
I am very sorry for all of us. But knowing that Betty Mae is no longer in pain brings me comfort. Her love will shine through all three of you, your families, her family and her many friends. Heaven is a brighter place with Betty Mae's love present. God blessed me with her friendship many years ago. I will always remember our first meeting when she with Yancy, Ruth and sisters had traveled to California but unable to find our home in Temple City (but they had gotten within 3 miles). My Dad, Mom, Doris, and I (about 1958ish), drove over to meet them visiting in their car (station wagon) and I was given the beginning of her gift of friendship.
I am so happy for those two recent visits, Nov 2013, at your home and the time shared. Thank you Al for sharing time too while the home nurse visited Betty Mae. Her infectious smile, the bright windowed family room and you in your chair smiling while we all visited will continue giving me pleasant thoughts and prayers of comfort. I will always remember her kindness when she asked my sister, Doris to be in your wedding and how important this made Doris feel. Your visiting my Grandmother, her Aunt Edith in Pasadena and how happy my Grannie was after your visits (also photos to help my memories). Lastly I will always picture Betty Mae and her smile when she asked me if I "wanted" the dresser from the family home that had been moved for some 18 years from coast to coast and it had just moved again from Alaska.
I know God and Betty Mae are watching over you and me. May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace, Amen. Love always,
Linda



Linda Evans - June 03, 2014 at 08:44 PM

Haras
Snave

“ For all the memories and music shared over the decades. You've made the world lighter and brighter Betty Mae. Thank you for your warmth and friendship. ~Sarah Evans



Haras Snave - June 03, 2014 at 06:38 PM

DC

“ Betty was an "Angel on Earth" and her mark here on earth can be seen in all of those she touched. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you as you celebrate her life and all of her wonderful accomplishments.

Lots of Love!
Dina Castro

Dina Castro - June 03, 2014 at 09:47 AM

BW

“ Dear Pastor Al, I am so sorry on the passing of our dear Betty. I loved her so much. What a wonderful inspiration she was in my life at St. Luke and continued to be as my long distance friend and mentor. You once ask the ladies at St. Luke who is the most religious person you know? You answered for yourself "Betty". She certainly was for many of us. Her faith and love for our Lord carried her through her journey here and now her heavenly designation. God bless her heart and soul. Her memory, I will forever cherish. May you and your family find peace and comfort from having been blessed with an angel here on earth and now an angel with our Lord. Your friend, Brenda Weakley

Brenda Weakley - May 29, 2014 at 05:26 PM