



Martha Owens Gettys

November 19, 1936 - May 23, 2026

Martha Owens Gettys, of Spencer, NC died Saturday, May 23, 2026 at Terra Bella Assisted Living.

Born November 19, 1936 in Chattanooga, TN she was the daughter of the late Hurley Marcus Owens and Mary Hall Owens.

Martha was a graduate of Boyden High School, class of 1955. She worked as a telephone operator with Southern Bell and later as a librarian with the Town of Spencer and North Rowan Primary School until her retirement. Martha was the First Lady of Spencer and supported her husband, Buddy, in every aspect of his life and especially as the Mayor of Spencer. She enjoyed oil painting, was an avid reader, and enjoyed watching old movies. She was an active member with the Spencer JayCees. Mrs. Gettys was a member of the Spencer Presbyterian Church and served as an ordained elder.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Edgar Walter "Buddy" Gettys; brother, Richard Owens; and sister, Marinelle Click.

Mrs. Gettys is survived by her sons, Randy Gettys (Sara) of Spencer, NC, Ryan Gettys (Paula) of Hickory, NC; grandchildren, Stefan Gettys, Maggie Hall (Jack), Lucy Gettys; and great grandchild, Grahm Gettys; along with childhood friends, Sandra Roakes and Shirley Edwards who, as a child, she would roller skate with to the Cheerwine distributor and hope for a Cheerwine, before making her way to the movie theatre for the day.

The family will receive friends from 11:30AM-12:30PM, Saturday, May 30, 2026 at Spencer Presbyterian Church . A Celebration of Life will be at

12:30PM on Saturday in Spencer Presbyterian Church.

Memorials may be made to Spencer Presbyterian Church, PO Box 4,
Spencer, NC 28159.

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Gettys family. Online condolences
may be made at www.summersettfuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 30. 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Spencer Presbyterian Church
113 1st St
Spencer, NC 28159-2403
(704) 636-6223

Celebration of Life

MAY 30. 12:30 PM (ET)

Spencer Presbyterian Church
Spencer, NC 28159

Tribute Wall

AD

“ I enjoyed talking with Martha and Buddy at Sidewalk Deli. They both were regulars at the Deli. Always a pleasure to see them both and enjoy their company.

Anganetta Dover - May 29 at 03:48 PM

MS

“ Martha’s infectious laugh and twinkling eyes always brought a smile to those around her. She never missed a chance to be joyful.

When my mother moved to Spencer, Martha (and Buddy) included my mother as part of their family. My sisters and I will always be grateful for that kindness.

Martha was certainly a civic-minded member of the community and served in many organizations. She didn’t wait for someone else to do good – she got in there and pulled others into helping.

One of my favorite memories of Martha is of her dancing the shag with Buddy at Ocean Isle Beach. You could see that they were both dancing with the person they were meant to be with.

Rest in peace, dear Martha. And dance again with your Buddy.

Margaret Spell - May 29 at 02:25 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Martha Owens Gettys.



May 29 at 12:52 PM

JN

“ To all of Martha’s family....Martha and I shared a wonderful friendship that began many years ago when we both were working at North Elementary. We became fast friends and shared some great times together. She had the best personality...fun and funny, smart, beautiful, encouraging and supportive, interesting and interested in so many things...just always a pleasure to know and be around. I have missed seeing her in recent years but used to visit Martha and Buddy at their home after we all retired. She was and will continue to be in memory one of my favorite people and I’m so grateful for our friendship. She adored Buddy and all of the family so much and I know she will be dearly missed by all who knew her. I know also that she missed Buddy so very much and I have to smile knowing they have reunited in heaven. Blessings for the family and friends who will miss her so.

Jane Nussman - May 29 at 10:52 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Martha Owens Gettys.



May 28 at 09:16 PM