



## Mrs. Martha Dell Purvis Hudson

April 25, 1926 - April 21, 2015

Mrs. Martha Dell Purvis Hudson, 88 of Salisbury, NC passed away on Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at Novant Health Rowan Medical Center, Salisbury. Mrs. Hudson was born April 25, 1926 in Salisbury, the daughter of the late Dr. S.P. Purvis and Belle Hicks Purvis.

Mrs. Hudson was educated in the Salisbury City Schools, UNC at Greensboro the Class of 1947 and received her Master's Degree in Education in 1985 from UNC at Charlotte. She taught and directed the Kindergarten program at the First United Methodist Church, Salisbury, the first accredited program in North Carolina. She continued her teaching career with the Rowan County School System, retiring from Granite Quarry Elementary School.

She was a member of the First United Methodist Church, Salisbury, where she served on the Administrative Board, was a member of the Daisy Hedrick Sunday School Class, and volunteered with the youth, teaching Sunday school, leading the MYF program, and working with the Senior Girl Scouts. She was a former member of the Salisbury Junior Women's Club and member of the Story Telling League, the Tea and Topic Book Club and was President of the Trinity Oaks Library.

She enjoyed socializing with her friends at Trinity Oaks, playing bridge at every opportunity, knitting, and her daily crossword puzzle. She enjoyed her

friends of many years as well as cultivating new friends at every opportunity.

Preceding her in death along with her parents are husband, Thomas F. Hudson, who passed away on Feb. 13, 2002, and sisters, Mary Elizabeth Finlator and Belle Hicks Gaskill, and son in-law, Timothy R. Piper, Sr.

Those left to cherish her memory are her son, Mr. John T. Hudson of Salisbury, daughters, Mrs. Belle H. (Bee) Piper of Greensboro, Ms. Laura H. Kesler (Jacky Brown) of West Jefferson and Mrs. Dell H. Strayhorn (Blake) of Raleigh; grandchildren, Alex Hudson of Charleston, SC, Elizabeth Hudson of Salisbury, T. Rowe Piper (Alysha) of Greensboro, Emily P. Brame (Justin) of Greensboro, Christopher Kesler of Boone, Alexis Kesler of West Jefferson, Will Strayhorn of Raleigh, Thomas H. Strayhorn of Raleigh and seven great grandchildren.

A Memorial Service will be conducted at 2:00 PM Saturday (Apr 25) at First United Methodist Church, Salisbury by Dr. Mark Conforti, Sr. Pastor. The family will receive friends in the fellowship hall following the service.

Memorials: First United Methodist Church, 217 South Church Street, Salisbury, NC 28144 and Rowan Public Library 201 West Fisher Street, Salisbury, NC 28144.

Summersett Funeral Home of Salisbury is assisting the Hudson family. Online condolences may be made at [www.summersettfuneralhome.com](http://www.summersettfuneralhome.com)

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

APR **25**. 2:00 PM (ET)

First United Methodist Church  
217 S. Church St.  
Salisbury, NC 28144

# Tribute Wall

PJ

“ So sorry to learn of Martha Dell's passing. I always enjoyed her friendship at Granite Quarry School over the years. My condolences to the family and may God keep you in His arms.  
*Pat Julian*

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**Pat Julian** - April 29, 2015 at 08:58 AM

SW

“ Mrs. Hudson was my first grade teacher. She was always so patient and showed me the passion to learn to read. My fondest memories are her allowing us to make our own book about ourselves and then we had the card in the back for other students to check out. My card was full of my peers' names. I also remember her encouraging words to continue reading and bragging about how many "book it" pins/buttons she had given me that year due to me filling up my reading logs. Mrs. Hudson was so sweet to all of her students. I am now a teacher and display her characteristics that she bestowed upon me and I have carried with me into my own classroom. I didn't know that she stayed at Granite and wished I would have went back to see her. To know that she taught there and stayed only there is amazing. I am so sorry for the loss of your loved one, but know that heaven just gained another special angel.  
*Sarah Wise (then it was Sarah Humphries)*

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**Sarah Wise** - April 26, 2015 at 08:26 PM

BM

“ Attorney Hudson,

*Even though I did not know your mother personally; She had to have been a beautiful person with a kind loving heart because those are just a few words that describes you!*

*Please know that you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Brenda Rice-McNeely, Paulette Rice-Mangham & Family*



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**Brenda McNeely** - April 25, 2015 at 08:07 AM

FG

“ My "poor little liberal heart," as she called it once, is saddened to learn of Aunt Dell's passing. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of you. I wish we could be with you at this time. Much love and caring to the Hudson family. Frank Gaskill

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**Frank Gaskill** - April 23, 2015 at 02:53 PM

ME

“ John:

*So sorry for your loss. Keeping you and your family in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Mary Enloe*

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**Mary Enloe** - April 23, 2015 at 09:19 AM



“ *Splendid Orchids was purchased for the family of Mrs. Martha Dell Purvis Hudson.*



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April 23, 2015 at 08:38 AM



“ *John and family,  
Please accept my sincere sympathy for you in your sorrow. Your mother was my first grade teacher. I will always have love in my heart for her. She was such a joy then, and also when she was a customer at the Salisbury Pharmacy where I worked. May she rest in peace.*

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**Brenda Morris** - April 22, 2015 at 04:05 PM



*John:  
Keeping you and your family in my thoughts and prayers. So sorry for your loss.*

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**Mary Enloe** - April 23, 2015 at 09:08 AM



*John you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. Your mother, Martha Dell was a wonderful lady and a joy to be with. She will be missed  
Bobbie Melton*

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**Bobbie Melton** - April 27, 2015 at 10:33 PM



*John and family, Tim and I and our girls loved your mother. She taught 2 of our girls first grade. She was often a mother to me. Your mother and I kept in touch the last few years. Will miss her notes and cards.  
Amanda Russell*

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**Amanda russell** - April 29, 2015 at 01:19 PM