



## Mrs. Mary Louise Gales Penley

April 1, 1927 - February 11, 2016

Mary Louise Gales Penley passed away Thursday, February 11, 2016 in Morrisville, NC, at the age of 88.

Born April 1, 1927 to William and Laura Bell Gales, Mary grew up in Davie County, NC and moved to Salisbury after marriage where she raised her family and was very involved in her community schools, and church. She was active in the PTA, Civitan Club, Meals on Wheels, and many other organizations where she served as a volunteer. Mary worked both in the school system and with associations that benefited children and adults with special needs. She and her husband were house parents for a group home for mentally handicapped adults. They were also foster parents to several children who cherish the love and attention they gave them. They remember Aunt Weesie who loved them as her own. Mary was a very active member of Coburn United Methodist Church, and later in life, a member of Millford Hills Methodist Church.

In 2014, Mary moved to Morrisville to be near her daughter but she always longed to go home. We rejoice that she is finally there!

She was preceded in death by her loving husband Bernard, her son Dick, and sisters Frances Miller and Dorcas Vogler Mesimer.

Mary is survived by her daughter Rosemary Smith and husband Tim of Morrisville, NC; daughter-in-law Nancy Penley of Salisbury, NC; grandchildren Ashley McMillan and husband Jimmy of Cary, NC, Brad Penley of Salisbury, NC, Stuart Smith and wife Catherine of St. John's USVI, Elizabeth Penley of Wilmington, NC, and Lauren Wetter and husband Michael of Salisbury, NC. Mary adored her five beautiful great granddaughters Cameron, Sutton, and Brynn Wetter and Emerson and Avery McMillan. She also leaves behind a very special and devoted "daughter" Susie Browne of Cary, NC.

The family will receive friends from 11 to 12 noon Thursday at Summersett Funeral Home. The service will be conducted at 12 Noon in the Summersett Memorial Chapel. Burial will follow in the US National Cemetery, Statesville Blvd., Salisbury, NC.

The family wants to say a heartfelt thank you to the staff at Preston Pointe where she lived, especially the Comfort Keepers staff and her private duty caregivers Britney, Patricia, and Barbara. Thanks also to Dr. Surah Grumet and staff from Doctors Making House Calls, the 3rd floor nurses, doctors, and staff at Rex Hospital, Dr. Ben Walker, as well as Transitions Life Care of Wake County.

Memorials may be made to the ARC of Rowan County, which is dedicated to supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, 108 Dorsett Drive, Salisbury, NC 28144; the Ronald McDonald House, 419 South Hawthorne Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27013 or to the charity of your choice.

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Penley family. Online condolences may be made at [www.summersettfuneralhome.com](http://www.summersettfuneralhome.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 18. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

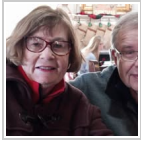
Summersett Funeral Home  
1315 W. Innes St.  
Salisbury, NC 28144  
(704) 633-2111  
<https://www.summersettfuneralhome.com>

## Service

FEB 18. 12:00 PM (ET)

Summersett Memorial Chapel  
1315 W. Innes St.  
Salisbury, NC 28144

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Louise was a vital member of Coburn Methodist when we were there. She was so sweet to bring her grandchildren to Sunday School when I taught. She was a giving, kind lady and I am so glad I got to see part of that family at the visitation.*



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**Denise Foutz** - February 18, 2016 at 10:35 AM

FH

“ *special sweet lady, Got to know her through friends from the fire department, She always had a smile and a kind word. was blessed to know her. Freida Cross Heitman.*

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**Freida Cross Heitman** - February 15, 2016 at 11:12 PM

BT

“ *Another of my very close earthly friends gone, but surely not ever to be forgotten. What a blessed hope to look forward to...being received by our Saviour and Lord, experiencing the unspeakable glories of eternal life and seeing our loved ones gone before. Now, along with her loving family, and especially her faithful daughter - to the very end...Rosemary; love, joy & peace...  
I'm so blessed with precious memories of some of the greatest of good times...with my Buddy, Mary and Bernard on beach trips, mountain trips, and in our homes in the Franklin community.  
As I think of how all her family showered her with love, I can only imagine the heaviness of your hearts just now, but I know that our God's love is greater still and will comfort and give you peace according to His Word...John 14:1-4 & 27,  
Love to you all from Barbara Thomason*

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**Barbara O Thomason** - February 15, 2016 at 05:07 PM

PR

“ *Mary Louise, as I always called her, was very much a part of my childhood. She was my Aunt Mary Yost's best friend and thus a family member to us. I remember many happy times at her house even preschool age. We think of her as our Aunt too! May she enjoy eternity with God our father!* ”

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**Peg Pinkston Robertson** - February 14, 2016 at 02:14 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mrs. Mary Louise Gales Penley.* ”



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February 14, 2016 at 09:59 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mrs. Mary Louise Gales Penley.* ”



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February 13, 2016 at 11:15 AM