



Mrs Rita Lowry Espel

August 18, 1925 - February 11, 2015

Mrs. Rita Catherine Lowry Espel, of Salisbury, NC passed into her new life on Wednesday, February 11, 2015 at her residence.

Born August 18, 1925 in Louisville, KY to the late William Lowry and Emma Shutts Lowry, she was a graduate of the Good Samaritan School of Nursing in Cincinnati, Ohio and the College of Mount St. Joseph in Cincinnati, Ohio. She taught Nursing at Wheeling Hospital in Wheeling West Virginia and at the University of Cincinnati.

For many years she and her husband were active members of the Foundation for International Cooperation and traveled Europe for that cause. Mrs. Espel served for 15 years on the Managing Board of SHARE – overseeing on a voluntary basis, two homes for independent seniors in Ridgewood, NJ.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert F. Espel; son, David Jonathan Espel; and brother and dear friend Donald Jones.

Surviving by sons, Steven Robert of Bethel Springs, TN and Martin J. Espel and wife Diane; sisters, Jean King and Mary Ann McCarthy; grandchildren, Kris, Raven, Jay, Shannon and Danny and great-grandchildren: Alexandria, Jayden and JayCee Rae.

A mass of Christian Burial will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made to Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 375 Lumen Christi Lane, Salisbury, NC 28147.

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

Tribute Wall

BM

“ Dear Jean, Mary Ann, Steve, Marty

I heard about your sister's, mother's death in February. I had had a nice letter from her Christmas 2013. She sounded very happy and involved in her new surroundings.

She was a great lady and a generous friend. When we first moved to Ridgewood almost 50 years ago, she contacted me out of the blue and invited us to join the Christian Family Movement. It was a great group. Many of the people who are still are cherished friends we met through CFM so I have always been very grateful that she called us.

We had a daughter Ann who died of Cystic Fibrosis when she was 12. She needed "clapping" twice a day to clear her lungs. Several times when my husband and I had to be away for a weekend, Rita and another friend would take turns doing Annie's exercises. We always knew she was in very good and loving hands.

We just wanted to let you know that we think of her with such fondness. All of you are in our prayers.

Barbara and Jack McCooe

Barbara McCooe - April 24, 2015 at 02:31 PM

JP

“ *Rita was a vibrant strand in the fabric of SHARE, INC. Her positive attitude, her tender care and passionate advocacy for the housing needs of seniors are paramount in my memory. Thank you Rita!*

Jan Philips Lehmann

SHARE, INC.

Outreach Advisory Board

www.shareridgewood.org



Jan Philips - February 25, 2015 at 11:39 AM

LM

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with the family! She was an awesome lady that we were privileged to know, thru my Dad, Don Jones.*

Chris & Lynn Jones Mahon

Lynn J. Mahon - February 17, 2015 at 03:15 PM