



Ruth Burton Collins

December 17, 1932 - March 23, 2019

Ruth Burton Collins, 86, died at her home on Saturday, March 23rd, 2019. A funeral service will be held at 2:00pm on Tuesday, March 26th, 2019, at Madison United Methodist Church; burial will follow at Woodland Cemetery. The family will greet friends for one hour prior to the service at the church.

Born in Madison, N.C. to Thomas A. and Ruth Ragsdale Burton, Ruth was a graduate of Madison High School and Guilford College. After marrying her high school sweetheart, they lived a somewhat nomadic life, being transferred periodically around the Southeast. When the time came to raise a family, they returned to North Carolina, with Ruth assuming the role of general manager of the Collins household. She was proud of her family, teaching her children well and supporting their efforts for many years.

Ruth loved sports of all kinds, as a participant and spectator; she played several, including golf and tennis (both of which she claimed to have "mastered and moved on from years ago"). She was an avid bridge player, typically holding membership with multiple groups simultaneously; if anyone yelled "deal," she was ready to claim a seat at a table. She was a diehard UNC fan and was especially happy to watch her beloved Tar Heels defeat Duke twice in recent weeks. A lifelong member of Madison United Methodist Church, she spent 30 years on the altar guild and baked countless pound cakes for the annual Methodist Women's bazaar.

In addition to her parents, Ruth was preceded in death by her husband, William E. "Bill" Collins; her son, Thomas W. "Tom" Collins; a sister, Gaye Burton; and a niece, Catherine Merritt. She is survived by her daughter, Flavel Collins, of Madison, NC; a sister, Kaye Burton Merritt, of Madison, NC; nephews, William Merritt (Lisa) of Waxhaw, NC and Rev Butler (Catharine) of Sugar Hill, GA; great-nephews, Jackson Merritt and Trevor Butler; great-niece, Caroline Butler; and her ever-faithful feline companion, Bubba.

The family is grateful to the staff of Hospice of Rockingham County for their invaluable care and support and to caregivers CC Carroll, Peggy McCollum, Tonia Estes, and Peggy Rogers.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to Hospice of Rockingham County, PO Box 281, Wentworth, NC, 27375.

Ray Funeral Home is serving the Collins family and all are invited to share memories and

offer condolences at www.rayfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery

Woodland Cemetery

101-139 Wilbert Drive
Madison, NC, 27025

Events

MAR **Visitation** 01:00PM - 02:00PM

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Madison United Methodist Church
110 W. Academy Street, Madison, NC, US, 27025

MAR **Funeral Service** 02:00PM

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Madison United Methodist Church
110 W. Academy Street, Madison, NC, US, 27025

Comments



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruth Burton Collins.



March 24, 2019 at 06:09 PM



“ I would like to express my deepest sympathy to the Collins family. May all your good memories be greater than your sadness during this difficult time. (Isaiah 25:8)

Kenneth - March 24, 2019 at 02:08 PM



“ Flavell, Kaye, and family, You are in our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. Ruth was a fine woman and will be missed in church and the community. May the Lord bless you and your family. Gloria and Blaine Piper

Gloria Piper - March 23, 2019 at 07:09 PM