



Ellen Ratliff

December 30, 2009

Winston-Salem, NC- Ellen White French Ratliff, 91, of Bluefield, West Virginia, passed away Wednesday, December 30, 2009 at Bowman Gray/Wake Forest Baptist Healthcare Center in Winston-Salem, North Carolina in the presence of loving family. Born June 18, 1918 in Bluefield, West Virginia, she was the daughter of the late Charles William French (Buck) and Marie Oliver French (Ree). Ellen White graduated from Bluefield High School, Bluefield College, and West Virginia University with double degrees in English and Engineering Mathematics. She worked at Kingston Pocahontas Coal Company where she met and married her husband of sixty-four years, Ray Edmond Ratliff, Sr. Ellen White was the perfect mother, a constant source of love, devotion, and support for her family. In addition, Ellen White was President of Peter White Coal Company and Vice President of Home Creek Coal Company. She was a Trustee and member of the Advisory Board of Bluefield College. Her church was a main priority for Ellen White and she was passionately devoted to First Baptist Church of Bluefield, teaching bible and mission study for fifty-five years. Ellen White was known for her love of gardening and was an avid reader. Ellen White blessed every one she knew and met, exuding her genuine love and warmth for all. She lived a wonderfully full life meeting every challenge with a smile and faith that sustained and supported her. Ellen White was deeply loved by her family members. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ray Ratliff Sr. and is survived by her four children: one daughter and three sons, nine grandchildren, and three great-grand children. Children

and their families include: Ray Jr. and Mary Ratliff of Charleston, WV and Ray Devin Ratliff and Tara Parmiter of Brooklyn, NY; Jennie and Bob Hood of Carson City, NV, Kimberly Hood and Scott Burnham and their children Harper, Eli and Nola of Sacramento, CA, and Robert Hood of Atlanta, GA; Charles French and Dawn Ratliff of Bakersfield, CA, Travis Ratliff of Des Moines, IA, and Ashley Ratliff of Los Angeles, CA, and Jason Carrell of Dallas, TX; and John David and Debra Ratliff and their children Kevin and Emily of Raleigh, NC and Jennifer Ratliff of Winston-Salem, NC. Ellen White deeply loved her surviving sister, Jennie (Jen) Clark French Kiely. She so cherished all the special times and activities through the many, many years spent with the extended Kiely and Ratliff families. Funeral services will be conducted on Tuesday, January 5th at First Baptist Church on College Avenue. The family will receive friends at a reception there from 12 to 2pm, and the funeral services will follow from 2-3pm, with interment at Roselawn Memorial Gardens. The family requests that memorials be made to the French Scholarship Fund at the First Baptist Church, 1325 Augusta Street, Bluefield, WV 24701. The family wishes to extend their deepest appreciation to the McConnell family and Richardson family for their kind care of both Ellen White and Ray Ratliff. Those wishing to share memories or condolence messages with the family may do so by visiting www.MercerFuneralHome.com Mercer Funeral Home & Crematory in Bluefield is serving the family of Mrs. Ellen White French Ratliff.

Tribute Wall



“ *Ellen Ratliff*

October 05, 2023 at 06:08 PM



“ *Weather prohibits our attending the funeral, so our thoughts are with the Ratliffs marking the end of a life well lived.*

Tim & Delores Barber - March 07, 2014 at 04:21 PM



“ *I taught John David in third grade at Memorial Elementary School. Years later, every time I would run into his parents at Mercer Mall, they would thank me again. The gracious way in which they treated others, was a testament of their faith. How blessed your family was to have had such wonderful loving parents. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.*

Judy Raines - March 07, 2014 at 04:21 PM