



Helen Hurst Bailey

September 21, 1922 - November 2, 2015

Bluefield, WV- Helen Hurst Bailey, a lifelong resident of Mercer County, passed away on Monday, November 2, 2015.

One of five children born to Lillie and Rex Hurst, she grew up in a tight-knit family in the caring community of McComas where everyone looked out for everyone else.

Mrs. Bailey graduated from McComas High School and attended Concord College, majoring in elementary education. She had a soft spot in her heart for young children and it was a natural fit. While at Concord, she joined Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority.

On March 7, 1947, she married the true love of her life, Roy Bailey. They enjoyed playing golf at the old Bluefield Country Club, traveling around the United States, and completing home projects together. Both were active members and enthusiastic volunteers at Trinity United Methodist Church for sixty years.

Mrs. Bailey worked as both a full-time and substitute teacher for Mercer County Schools and, by all accounts, she was a favorite of both students and teachers. Her kindness and desire to help others was a gift, and she touched many lives through her teaching.

Mrs. Bailey could and would talk to a perfect stranger and make a friend in a matter of minutes. She even took extra snacks on her flights to visit family in Denver so she could share with her seat mates. Her warm heart, loyalty, and pleasant personality won her enduring friendships from people of all ages and

backgrounds.

In addition to her parents and her husband, she was preceded in death by her brothers Peyton, Ken, and Bill.

She is survived by many loving friends and relatives including her daughter Barbara and son-in-law Larry Marquess; her grandson Alex, his wife Sara, and their daughter Abby; her grandson Wade and his wife Claire, all of Colorado. She is also survived by her sister Dorothy and brother-in-law Jim Boulton of Abingdon, Virginia, and sisters-in-law Carol Hurst and JoAnn Hurst as well as her nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be conducted on Saturday, November 7, 2015, at 2:00 p.m. at the Mercer Funeral Home Chapel with Dr. Don Scott officiating. The family will receive friends from 1:00 p.m. until the service hour.

Burial will follow at Roselawn Memorial Gardens in Princeton where family members and friends will serve as pallbearers.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made to Trinity United Methodist Church, 401 College Avenue, Bluefield, WV 24701 or to the American Heart Association, Great Rivers Affiliate, P.O. Box 15120, Chicago, IL 60693.

Those wishing to share memories or condolence messages with the family may do so by visiting www.MercerFuneralHome.com . Mercer Funeral Home & Crematory is serving the family of Mrs. Helen Hurst Bailey.

Cemetery Details

Roselawn Memorial Gardens Cemetery

Princeton, WV

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 7. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Mercer Funeral Home Chapel
1231 West Cumberland Road
Bluefield, WV 24701

Funeral Service

NOV 7. 2:00 PM (ET)

Mercer Funeral Home Chapel
1231 West Cumberland Road
Bluefield, WV 24701

Tribute Wall



“ *Helen Hurst Bailey*

October 05, 2023 at 06:08 PM



“ *As newlyweds Ray and I joyously moved to our first home on Washington street. We were blessed with wonderful neighbors among them the Baileys. I fondly remember Helen's patience and understanding as my girls would catch a glimpse of "the white cat"! Ahh, the joy from three little girls. Scampering feet, cries of glee, a flash of white fur - chaos was upon us - all under the watchful raised eyebrows and warm smile of Helen Bailey. You are in our hearts and prayers,
Ray Nancy Hopkins, Stephanie (Hopkins Bain), Leslie (Hopkins Eaton) and Lorrie (Hopkins Morton)*

Nancy Hopkins - November 26, 2015 at 09:47 PM



Ray and Nancy Hopkins

Nancy Hopkins - November 26, 2015 at 09:59 PM



“ *My parents (Bill and Opal Hostetter) were long time friends and church members with your parents at Trinity UMC. My father and I wish to express our condolences on the loss of you mother. My father can still recount his last conversation with Helen. We have you and your family in our prayers.
Bill Hostetter
Sarah Hostetter Munson
Charleston, SC*

Lynn Munson - November 11, 2015 at 02:24 PM

CC

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Cindy Crowe - November 10, 2015 at 06:50 PM

CC

Helen attended the Eagle Scout Ceremony on April 30, 2006 for Tyler Crowe and Daniel Hays at Trinity UMC.

Cindy Crowe - November 10, 2015 at 06:57 PM

CC

Left to Right: Daniel Hays, Helen and Tyler Crowe

Cindy Crowe - November 10, 2015 at 06:57 PM

"T

“ One of my favorite memories of Aunt Helen was when she was a cheerleader for the Family Thanksgiving Touch Football game. She must have been in her 80's at the time, but she and Donna and Bruce's mother Betty stood on the sidelines doing old time cheers, clapping and laughing.
We will miss her...



"Tiger" Tolliver - November 05, 2015 at 04:06 PM

MB

“ So sorry, Barbara, to hear of your Mother's passing. I substituted for 16 years and invariably ran into your mother and father through those years. Had lots of good times staying at your house when we were little. Then your parents all of a sudden were my peers! Loved them both. We will miss the viewing due to being out of town. God's blessings to you and your family.

Martha and Berkie

Martha Birkelbach - November 05, 2015 at 02:25 PM

WB

“ Your mother was so special, Barbara. I enjoyed knowing her through church and United Methodist Women. We "Egg Ladies" will especially miss her! She was so beautiful too - I always thought she looked like Lauren Bacall. My thoughts & prayers are with you & all who loved her. Wilma Bury

Wilma Bury - November 05, 2015 at 09:51 AM

JV

“ So sad to hear of Mrs. Bailey's passing. She was one of the sweetest ladies and had a smile for everyone. RIP sweet lady and may God bless this family and give them peace now and in the days ahead.

Jeanette Vernon - November 05, 2015 at 08:37 AM

SC

“ Barbara, your mother was a very kind and loving lady. She was my "craft buddy" during VBS and I enjoyed our time spent together. She was so good with the kids and loved them. We always talked about family and she was certainly proud of hers. She just beamed with pride! She always talked with my husband about WVU games and he love talking with her about sports. Every Sunday I saw her she always ask about our kids and their family. Helen will be greatly missed by all at Trinity. I will miss her! You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers during this time.
God Bless, Steve and Cindy Crowe



Steve and Cindy Crowe - November 05, 2015 at 08:29 AM

SC

“ Have known Helen, Roy and Barbara ever since they joined Trinity. Had recently gotten to know Helen since she recruited me into th "Trinity Easter Egg Gang". She was a special classy lady who love her family, church and friends. I feel fortunate to have had her in my life. She will always be remembered. What a special "angel"!

Sara Crews - November 05, 2015 at 05:40 AM

JA

“ Helen was a precious lady. She was very kind to my family when we moved here and invited us to attend church at Trinity. She will be missed. My thoughts and prayers go out to her family.



Jennifer Anderson - November 04, 2015 at 10:47 PM

PB

“ *Barbara, your mother was such a lady. She was so special to our family. She watched our kids grow up and always kept up with their activities. We will always remember her with love. I am so sorry that we will be out of town this weekend. Please know that you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Fondly, Pam Browning*



Pam Browning - November 04, 2015 at 09:52 PM

CM

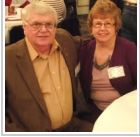
“ *I posted this news on my facebook page and our alumni page. The comments are so sweet and she was so well liked. Hearing so many nice comments from a variety of people - some from Trinity, some neighbors, former students and more. I met two nice nephews at Westwood about a month ago. To all her loved ones - we know you have lost a special lady. Gods peace to all.*

Cindy (Romano) McGraw - November 04, 2015 at 07:34 PM

CS

“ *I was so sorry to hear this! Mr. and Mrs. Bailey were icons of kindness and professionalism when I was in school. She always remembered to ask about my family years later. What a wonderful lady. She will be missed.*

Cathy Saddler - November 04, 2015 at 07:14 PM



“ *Barbara, your mother is someone I will never forget. So kind to everyone. I will truly miss my "pew buddy". Love and prayers to you and your family.*

*Love,
Nancy Jackson-Adams*

Nancy Adams - November 04, 2015 at 06:46 PM

CT

“ *Barbara, I am so sorry to hear of your mother's passing. She and your dad were so nice - I always enjoyed seeing them when I visited Mom and we went to Trinity! Saying a prayer for you and your family.*



Carolyn Bailey Thompson - November 04, 2015 at 01:50 PM

Fran
Alba

“ *Batbara, I remember this lovely lady always with a smile on her face. My Mama always enjoyed their time at Trinity especially Sunday school and making the Easter eggs. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family, Fran and Pip Alba*



Fran Alba - November 04, 2015 at 12:40 PM

VH

“ *Such a Sweet Lady...Heaven has received a wonderful Angel...*

Vickie Hart - November 04, 2015 at 09:10 AM

DN

“ Heaven gained an angel for sure! Helen and Roy were friends with my parents (Bruce & Grace Walk) for many years. They shared many a round of golf, many laughs and an enduring friendship like none other. Thoughts and prayers with your family during this time. At no other time did I see her smile any more real than when she spoke of her family.

Dona Neal - November 04, 2015 at 08:31 AM

SM

“ Barbara and family, I had not seen Mrs. Bailey in many years but I have fond memories of this kind and gentle lady. I know you can take comfort in the many years she was given on this earth and all the lives she touched in such a positive way.

*Sharon Hoback Massaroni
W. Palm Beach, FL*

Sharon Hoback Massaroni - November 04, 2015 at 08:00 AM

SF

“ This truly saddens my heart. Mr. Bailey was my Principal at Central Junior High School and I remember Mrs. Bailey substituting. After their retirement, I would see them out and about. After Mr. Bailey passed away, I would always see her at East River Mountain Town Band concerts and she would ask how my son was, who was in the Town Band. She was always such a kind and gentle spirit. She sure loved taking her walks up and down College Avenue. I saw someone last week who from behind reminded me of her and of course it wasn't, but I was definitely thinking about her. She will be so missed. Hugs and prayers to the family.

Sharon Crisco Farley - November 03, 2015 at 12:25 PM

MC

Such a lovely and grand lady. Always loved talking to Helen and discussing any topic. She was so good to take the bulletin to my aunt Clarabell Looney on Sundays when she was unable to go to Trinity services. She will be loving remember by so many.

Mary Clark Cassidy

Mary Clark Cassidy - November 04, 2015 at 07:40 PM

WP

She and her husband were pillars of the community. A lady of class.

Wayne Pelts - November 04, 2015 at 09:16 PM