



Bernice Sue Reed Wills

April 17, 1925 - January 20, 2018

Bernice Sue Wills, 92, of Fort Payne, passed away Saturday, January 20, 2018. She was born April 17, 1925 in DeKalb County to the late James Dallas and Lillie Ester Oliver Reed. Mrs. Wills was a teacher at Ruhama School for over 37 years and continued to substitute teach for many years after retiring. Mrs. Wills was active in her community as a volunteer with the United Givers Fund and the ARC. She was a member of the Garden Club, the Lookout Mountain Homemakers, Retired Teachers Association, and was active for over 60 years in the 4-H Club, where she won several leadership awards through the years. She was a former Rotary Rose and was Woman of the Year in 1984. She was a faithful member of Ruhama Baptist Church where she taught Sunday School for many years.

Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Wednesday at Wilson Funeral Home with Rev. Brian Maxwell and Rev. Chris Murdock officiating and a eulogy by Larry Simpson. Burial will follow in Walkers Chapel Cemetery. The family will receive friends Tuesday from 4 until 8 p.m.

She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Edwin and Stephanie Wills; sister, Eulene Dobbs and husband, Noah; son-in-law, Phil Slaughter; grandson, Zachary Wills and wife, Megan and granddaughter, Amelia Wills; great-grandchildren, Gage Wills and Kylie Wills; step-granddaughter, Mallory Bradley and husband, Russ; step-great-granddaughter, McKenzie Bradley;

and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Lamar Wills; daughter, Sharon Wills Slaughter; brother, S.T. Reed; and sisters, Ardell Turnure, Lela Wagner, and Robbie Nell Reed.

Cemetery Details

Walkers Chapel Cemetery

1411 County Road 118
Fort Payne, AL 35967

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **23**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Wilson Funeral Home
3801 Gault Ave. N
Fort Payne, AL 35967

Funeral Service

JAN **24**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Wilson Funeral Home
3801 Gault Ave. N
Fort Payne, AL 35967

Tribute Wall



“ *Bernice Sue Reed Wills*

January 12, 2023 at 10:45 AM



“ *Other than my parents, Mrs. Wills was perhaps the most influential person in my life. She instilled in me a lifelong love of learning and the confidence to think outside the box. As students, we learned so much more than English in her classroom. She taught us life lessons - patience, tolerance, respect and courage to stand up for what we believe. If you were fortunate enough to have Mrs. Wills as a teacher, you were fortunate indeed. I'll never forget you, Mrs. Wills. You were the best!*

Denise Jackson Mitchell - January 23, 2018 at 05:39 PM



“ *Dr. Alan and Mrs. Cathy (Kerby) Stephenson purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Bernice Sue Reed Wills.*



Dr. Alan and Mrs. Cathy (Kerby) Stephenson - January 23, 2018 at 10:46 AM



“ *I met Sue when I was in 4-H, and kept in touch with her over the years. She was a wonderful person and a great influence on all who had the honor of knowing her. Cathy Kerby Stephenson*

Cathy Kerby Stephenson - January 23, 2018 at 10:37 AM



“ *Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Bernice Sue Reed Wills.*



January 23, 2018 at 09:55 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Bernice Sue Reed Wills.*



January 22, 2018 at 02:53 PM



“ *Sue was a sweet and fun person and I enjoyed sharing garden tips and being a sister in ADK for many years. She will leave many sweet memories.*

Sarah Horton - January 22, 2018 at 09:05 AM

GM

“ I met Ms. Sue through 4-H when 3 of my children were active in 4-H. She lived the 4-H and Christian Pledges. The ripples of her effects in young lives is still going strong today through the children and grandchildren that she taught. It was always a joke when we were ask where we were from and Ms. Sue ALWAYS replied "they are from the other mountain!" You are a blessed family to have had Ms. Sue in your lives. God Bless.

p.s. I saw her in Walmart one day when she was "kitty" sitting for her son's family kitty. We were looking for the ONE kind of food that kitty liked. As we talked, we shared memories and she said to me, "I want Brian to preach my funeral. My children don't know him, but I do." Yes, she knew my Brian and I am forever grateful for leadership in his life. That little gold Oldsmobile she sold Brian made a lot of trips to Auburn! We still called it Ms. Sue's little car. We all loved Ms. Sue.

Gwen Maxwell - January 21, 2018 at 10:33 PM



“ Touching Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Bernice Sue Reed Wills.



January 21, 2018 at 09:30 PM

JM

“ Mrs. Wills was my sixth grade teacher. She taught so much more than reading and math. She was fearless! She played kickball with an energy and excitement unmatched by any coach. Mrs. Wills loved her students and we knew it. We also knew not to mess with her. She was tough but fair. Her influence will live on in the lives of those of us who were fortunate enough to have experienced sixth grade with one of the greatest.

Janet McConnell - January 21, 2018 at 07:09 PM

MP

The influence this woman had all the lives she touched will stand the test of time, I cant see the name of a person being started with a lower case letter that I don't think of her, She said use a capital letter because their NAME IS IMPORTANT, (I) before (E) except when after (C). I Love You Mrs. Wills

Mark Plunkett - January 22, 2018 at 07:48 AM

SH

I remember when I was in elementary school, I could not wait to have Mrs Wills because when I joined 4H she was over it and I just loved her! She was an awesome teacher and would have some of the best stories about life lessons. She cared so much for the children she taught and the school. She was great role model for not only for children but adults as well and it saddens me so much that the world has lost her...💜

Stacie Harris - January 24, 2018 at 06:21 PM