



## Mary Evelyn Curtis

September 14, 1930 - September 24, 2024

Mary Evelyn Curtis left this life on September 24, 2024. She was born September 14, 1930 to Jesse and Thelda Hayes in Adamsville, TN. After high school she attended Harding College where she met Burl Curtis, a preacher student who became the love of her life. They were married for almost 70 years where they encouraged, supported and helped each other in all areas of their works. For seventeen years they worked in the mission field of South Carolina. Because of their love of God and each other, they made a great team. Burl preached for five congregations, planting three of them. Side by side they conducted numerous home Bible studies, VBS's, campaigns, Bible camps, owned and operated a Christian book store. Evelyn continued her education at Clemson and the University of SC. Together they conducted almost 100 teacher workshops in twelve states.

After returning to Arkansas, Evelyn opened Curtis Kindergarten and pre-school. The school was very successful with a wonderful Christian staff of 24 and a long waiting list of students. In 1990 she received an award from Governor Bill Clinton as one of Arkansas' outstanding Child Care Professionals. In 2002 the Searcy Chamber of Commerce chose her as Business Woman of the Year. In 2007 she and her husband were given the key to the city by Mayor Belinda LaForce for their accomplishments and inspiration to others. In 2013 she received the Legacy of Women in God's Service by WINGS for many years of faithful dedication and ministry to others.

Because of her training, experience and genuine love of people she was given many opportunities to serve. She spoke often for Ladies Days, retreats, camps, Bible classes at church and Harding Place. She taught classes in Early Childhood at Vo-tech and conducted workshops for AACUS on both local and state levels. She taught continuing education classes for Headstart directors and teachers. She also conducted classes for wives of the preacher students at Harding University.

Although she had a productive life, she had much rather be remembered for her love of God, family and deep devotion to her husband. She cherished the friendships of many wonderful ladies who enriched her life. She and her husband were faithful members of the College Church of Christ where they served in many capacities.

Mrs. Curtis is survived by her four children and their spouses, Larry Curtis (Claudia), Beth Hoofman (Joey), Becky McLain (Jeff), Kevin Curtis (Jennifer), fourteen grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers please send memorial gifts to Haiti Christian Development Project, PO Box 21119, Little Rock, AR 72221.

# Cemetery Details

## White County Memorial Gardens

Eastline Road and Park Avenue  
Searcy, AR 72143

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 27. 1:30 PM - 2:00 PM (cst)

Powell Funeral Home & Cremation Services (Searcy)  
2602 W. Beebe-Capps Expy  
Searcy, AR 72143  
(501) 268-7220  
searcy@powellfuneralhome.net  
<https://www.powellfuneralhome.net/>

## Funeral Service

SEP 27. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (cst)

Powell Funeral Home & Cremation Services (Searcy)  
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# Tribute Wall



“ Powell Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Webcast in memory of Mary Evelyn Curtis



Powell Funeral Home & Cremation Services - September 27, 2024 at 06:52 PM



“ Powell Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Mary Evelyn Curtis



Powell Funeral Home & Cremation Services - September 26, 2024 at 06:02 PM

SC

“ She was such a sweet, kind, Christian lady. My two oldest children were so blessed to have been able to attend Curtis Kindergarten as preschool children. I knew they were always loved and taken care of there. Prayers and blessings go out to her family.

Susan Carr - September 29, 2024 at 06:05 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Mary Evelyn Curtis.



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September 26, 2024 at 08:54 PM



“ In Christ, Jason and Amanda Miller planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Evelyn Curtis.

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**In Christ, Jason and Amanda Miller** - September 26, 2024 at 08:54 PM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Mary Evelyn Curtis.



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September 26, 2024 at 06:56 PM



“ Mike & Mary Hughes planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Evelyn Curtis.

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**Mike & Mary Hughes** - September 26, 2024 at 06:56 PM

DH

“ A wonderful Lady and Christian.Mrs.Curtis was my daughters favorite teacher.My daughter fell at school and broke her arm I do not remember who cried more my daughter or Mrs Curtis.I would bring cup cakes for the whole class and her eyes would sparkle with joy but she made sure they got one after lunch.it is sad to know that she is gone but it is a great honor to have known her.

Dennis Hughes/Crystal Hughes - September 26, 2024 at 04:07 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Mary Evelyn Curtis.



September 25, 2024 at 02:26 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mary Evelyn Curtis.



September 25, 2024 at 02:10 PM

LH

“ *We loved Aunt Evelyn and are sorry this chapter of life is closed.*

*My first memory of her was when she and her whole family came to our house on Capps Road, some 48 years ago. Uncle Burl was preaching at a meeting and Aunt Evelyn was bubbling around, happy as always! She was a true servant of God.*

*Leanna Honeycutt*

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**Leanna Honeycutt** - September 25, 2024 at 09:41 AM