



## Mildred Gwendolyn Sterling

December 16, 1911 - November 1, 2019

MILDRED JOHNSON STERLING, 107, of Judsonia passed away on November 1, 2019. She was born to Lindsey and Josephine Johnson in Argenta (North Little Rock) on December 16, 1911. After graduating from Judsonia Public Schools in 1928, she attended Galloway Women's College in Searcy and graduated from Hendrix College in Conway. She began teaching school in Central, Bald Knob and Judsonia, and then worked for the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. In 1946 she married Charles Sterling and they moved back to Judsonia to raise their two children. Tragedy struck their family when the Judsonia tornado of 1952 destroyed their home and belongings and killed Mildred's father. With nowhere to live and no employment, they moved to Little Rock and Mildred became a piano teacher, also using her musical talents as an accompanist for various soloists, ensembles, children's choirs, and Sunday School Departments at Immanuel Baptist Church.

After her husband died in 1974, she moved back to Judsonia and took a part-time job at Judsonia Pharmacy (Healthway) where she worked until retiring at age 96. In 1986 she began teaching a Sunday School Class at Judsonia First Baptist Church and filled that position for 27 years.

When failing eyesight and hearing forced her to give up that class at age 101, she joined the Immanuel Baptist TeleBible Class whose weekly lessons became a lifeline for her. Throughout her lifetime she witnessed the evolution of transportation-from the steamboat, to the railroad, to the car, to

the airplane, to the space shuttle. She enjoyed visiting classes at the local school and telling the children stories about the changes she had seen in the world. She attributed her longevity to her faith in the Lord, a strong work ethic, staying active, and continuing to learn.

Mildred is survived by her son Charles Lindsey Sterling of Judsonia; daughter Marietta Hunt (Charles) of North Little Rock; grandsons J. J. (Nathalie) Hunt of Cabot and Joey (Leslie) Hunt of Fort Worth, Texas; great-grandchildren Ethan, Emily, Elliot and Pearl Hunt; sisters Ruth Gill of Dumas and Juanita Brill of Silver Spring, Maryland; and several much-loved nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her husband, Charles Sterling; a sister, Bernice Humphries; and three brothers, J. C. Johnson, Wilmar Lawrence Johnson, and Lindsey Bernard Johnson.

Visitation will be held from 2:00-4:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 3, at Powell Funeral Home in Bald Knob. Funeral service will be at First Baptist Church, Judsonia, at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, November 4, with burial to follow at Evergreen Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the First Baptist Church, Judsonia or the Immanuel Baptist Church TeleBible Sunday School Class in Little Rock. [www.powellfuneralhome.net](http://www.powellfuneralhome.net).

# Cemetery Details

## Evergreen Cemetery

Van Buren Street  
Judsonia, AR 72081

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 3. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Powell Funeral Home & Cremation Services (Bald Knob)  
1272 Highway 367 North  
Bald Knob, AR 72010  
(501) 724-3201  
baldknob@powellfuneralhome.net  
<https://www.powellfuneralhome.net/>

## Funeral Service

NOV 4. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church Judsonia  
611 Van Buren Street  
Judsonia, AR 72081

# Tribute Wall



“ Powell Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Mildred Gwendolyn Sterling



Powell Funeral Home & Cremation Services - November 02, 2019 at 05:11 PM

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“ The Judsonia Class of 1928 has met their final Member at the Gates with great celebration and have paid all bets they made so many years ago on which would be the, “Last one standing.” Due to work I was unable to attend the Service, however my heart had been with ALL family members, her beloved Church, and every life she touched with love throughout her life. With utmost love and respect!



Fonda (Orr) - November 04, 2019 at 08:30 PM

LC

“ What an amazing life! Just think of all the lives Mrs. Sterling inspired & a survivor too.

Linda Counts - November 04, 2019 at 11:51 AM

RG

“ *Rex & Doria Gillham lit a candle in memory of Mildred Gwendolyn Sterling*



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**Rex & Doria Gillham** - November 02, 2019 at 10:10 AM

BP

“ *I have never been so inspired by someone as I have by this special lady. I worked with Mildred many years at Health-Way and was always in awe of her love of life, her optimistic outlook, and mostly, her faith.*

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**Becky Pilcher** - November 02, 2019 at 08:19 AM

SS

“ *Aunt Mildred was a beautiful lady, inside and out..Jimmy and Shari Sterling..*

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**Shari and Jimmy Sterling** - November 01, 2019 at 04:36 PM