



Ruth Southerland Mrtin

January 12, 1925 - August 3, 2013

Ruth Southerland Martin passed from this life to join her Heavenly Father on Saturday, August 3, 2013 at her home in the White County Community of Roosevelt.

Ruth was born on January 12, 1925, in Wilburn, Arkansas to Sam and Creacy Southerland. She is preceded in death by her husband of 59 years, Ernest Martin, her parents, her sisters Nervy Southerland, Irene Hazelwood, Lorene Harral, Kate Magness, and Nettie Latch and brothers Harvey Southerland and Veston Southerland.

She is survived by her daughter Faye Babb and husband Tom, her grandson John Babb, her granddaughter Heather Blanton and her husband Matt, her brother Clinton Southerland and wife Mildred, her sister Naomi Stratton and husband Jim, many precious nephews and nieces and great nephews and nieces, many students, and a host of friends and relatives.

A devoted wife to Ernest, she worked beside him on the farm, trying her best to can or freeze everything he grew in the garden. When he decided to bring someone, or a group, in for lunch, she could prepare a meal on short notice. Together they raised a rather mischievous daughter, Faye, who thought that together they could do anything. Sometimes she expected them to. They never failed.

Ruth was a teacher. She began her teaching career in a one-room schoolhouse in DeKalb (Cleburne County) in 1944. After taking some time to work at a defense plant in Indiana during World War II, she returned to teach at Wilburn from 1946 to 1956. In the fall of 1956 she began teaching second graders at Pleasant Plains, Arkansas and held that position until she retired in 1982. After retirement she did substitute teaching for a number of years. How she loved and enjoyed her students! Once you had been in Mrs. Ruth's class, you always belonged to her.

She loved her Lord and her church, Roosevelt Baptist. Growing up with a family of singers, she treasured singing gospel songs and sang at church until she was no longer able. Then she sang in her heart.

Visitation is scheduled for Monday, August 5, 1:00 pm at Roosevelt Missionary Baptist Church with funeral services to follow at 2:00 pm. She will be buried next to Ernest in Roosevelt Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Roosevelt Cemetery or Roosevelt Missionary Baptist Church.

Tribute Wall

VM

“ Tom, Faye, Heather and John - just want you to know you are in my prayers at this time. Sincerely Vicki Moseley

Vicki Moseley - May 04, 2016 at 05:22 PM

CL

“ Dear Friends, We know your sorrow, and wish we could be there with you. You are in our prayers. May God Bless.
Love ye,
Charles and Nelda

Charles & Nelda Lamb - February 10, 2016 at 03:17 PM

MS

“ Faye and Tommy yall have our deepest sympathy and the knowledge that Ruth is in a far better place. Just think now she is with Earnest and still trying to keep him from telling all those stories and trying to get into someones watermelon patch. It was a real pleasure knowing Ruth and hauling hay for them years ago. Always had a lunch when time came. All our love and sympathy. Mike And Helen

Mike & Helen Smothers - February 10, 2016 at 03:17 PM

MC

“ My prayers and condolences to your family. Mrs. Martin was a remarkable and memorable woman.

Miranda Crawford - February 10, 2016 at 03:17 PM

HH

“ Mrs. Martin was one of my favorite teachers her family is in my prayers.

Helen Gilbert Huskey - February 10, 2016 at 03:17 PM

VM

“ Tom, Faye, Heather and John - just want you to know you are in my prayers at this time.

Sincerely
Vicki Moseley

Vicki Moseley - February 10, 2016 at 03:17 PM

DJ

“ Faye, Tom, Heather, & John, Sorry for your loss. Prayers are with your family. I love the video memorial. What a wonderful tribute of life.

Dena & Steve Jones - February 10, 2016 at 03:17 PM

MP

“ Dear Faye, Tom and family. I am so saddened at the passing of Ruth. Her infectious smile and sense of humor are vivid memories from my childhood. Our deepest sympathy go to you during this very difficult time. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Mike and Kay Price - February 10, 2016 at 03:17 PM

IG

“ Fay, I have been out of town and just learned of your mother's passing. My sincere condolences to you and all of your family.
Irene Gray

Irene Gray - February 10, 2016 at 03:17 PM

SW

“ FAYE, TOMMY AND FAMILY,
I AM SO SORRY TO HEAR OF RUTH'S PASSING, AND AM
SORRY I COULDN'T COME TO THE SERVICES FOR HER. MY
THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU. THERE WAS
NEVER A BETTER TEACHER THAN RUTH, SHE WAS SO GOOD
WITH KIDS AND A WONDERFUL LADY, SHE IS SINGING FOR
HER LORD AND SHE IS IN A MUCH BETTER PLACE AND SHE'S
WITH ERNEST AGAIN BUT ROOSEVELT WILL NOT BE THE
SAME WITHOUT HER.
FAYE, MY PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU.
SHIRLEY & BOB

SHIRLEY (STURCH) WALLER - February 10, 2016 at 03:17 PM