



## Jeanette Ward

May 30, 1936 - November 20, 2015

1936 would turn out to be a record breaker year for a heat wave in the United States, but down in Alabama, Dewitt Martin and his wife Emma Smith Martin welcomed their fifth child into the family. Jeanette was born on May 30, 1936. The Martin families were firmly entrenched in the agrarian lifestyle of the area that had only a few years prior, become the site of the largest manmade lake in this country. Jeanette's early years taught her the value of good morals, a strong work ethic and firm family values that would bode well for her in years to come. While still a teenager, Jeanette was smitten by a young highway engineer named Bill Ward who was working on a roadway near her home. In 1952 she would become his wife. For the next 63 years, she would wear many different hats as a wife and mother, for it was she who kept the home fires burning because Bill's continuing education and work as an engineer would keep him away from home for long periods of time. Being a young mother and raising five children called for strong discipline and great organizational skills. While gentle of nature she could be a force to be reckoned with should she know something was just not right. She managed to wear all of these hats well. Her children, her husband and grandchildren will forever benefit from that legacy of love and selfless dedication to her family. There are a lot of good cooks in the world, but the things that came from Jeanette's kitchen were steeped in love and executed with the purpose of being pleasing to the recipients of her skills. Jeanette loved music and her favorite times were those spent listening and joining in as the family gathered

for a singalong. Another favorite passion of hers involved God's creatures with wings. She never tired of her bird watching and tending the feeder. Jeanette is survived by her husband Bill. Her children are Brian Ward and his fiancé Sharon Boyd, Lisa J. Ward, Carol Ward and her husband Daniel Garland, Deanna Davis and her husband Herschel and Melinda Ward. There are six grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Also surviving is her brother Sam Martin and his wife Ellen. Jeanette's wonderful life will be remembered on Wednesday, November 25th at 2:00 Central Time at Liberty United Methodist Church in Goodwater, Alabama. Following the gathering at the church she will be buried in the historic church cemetery alongside other members of her family. The family will receive friends at McKoon Funeral Home at 38 Jackson Street in Newnan on Tuesday, November 24th between 6:00 PM and 8:00 PM Eastern Time. In lieu of flowers, her family suggest memorial contributions may be made in her memory to Liberty United Methodist Church Cemetery Fund 1630 Liberty Road Goodwater, AL 35072. Online condolences may be expressed at [www.mckoon.com](http://www.mckoon.com). McKoon Funeral Home 770-253-4580.

# Cemetery Details

## Liberty United Methodist Church Cemetery

1630 Liberty Rd.  
Goodwater, AL 35072

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV **24**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home  
38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263  
(770) 253-4580  
[care@mckoon.com](mailto:care@mckoon.com)

# Tribute Wall

MA

“ I am so sorry for your loss. May these words found in the Bible at Revelation 21:4 bring you hope and comfort at this difficult time. "And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away."

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**Mary** - November 29, 2015 at 10:29 PM

GF

“ Pop,Brian,Sharon and Ward family Our hearts are broken over the loss of your Mom. We will keep you in our prayers.Another beautiful Angel is in heaven and will keep watch on her loved ones. You are very special to us and will always have a special place in our hearts.We love you.

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**Gerson and Sara French** - November 24, 2015 at 04:17 PM

ES

“ Having grown up with Jeanette as cousins through Martin, Smith and Riddle lineage we seemed like close family. Memories of those early years are precious . Hers is a life well lived and all who came in contact with her are better people because of the light she shined. Thoughts and prayers are with the family.

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**Eric Smith** - November 24, 2015 at 10:31 AM

JD

“ So sorry to hear the sudden death of Jeanette. she was along time friend. Jeanette love her family very much. Much Love to all of you.

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**Jeanette Davis** - November 24, 2015 at 10:01 AM

LR

“ Dear Melinda, I am so very sorry about the loss of your mother. What a beautiful lady and awesome tribute that you all wrote about her. My heart is broken for you, and you and your family remain in my prayers always. I love you.

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**Lucy Robbins** - November 24, 2015 at 09:25 AM

EW

“ Bill & family, It was a shock and very sad when you told me about Jeanette's sudden passing. We were blessed to have you as our "across the street neighbors" for more than 40 years! During this time, we watched all of your children grow to adulthood. We regret very deeply that we will be out of town and unable to see you at visitation. Please know that our thoughts, prayers and hearts are with you during these times. We have always felt that Bill & Jeanette were the most devoted couple we have ever known! Kathleen & Eugene Willingham

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**Eugene Willingham** - November 23, 2015 at 07:38 PM

AW

“ Jeanette was my second mom, and I always loved that she called me her "second son". Although the years intervened as they have a way of doing, and I didn't get to see her as often as I would have liked, she was never far from my thoughts. As my dad would say, "she was good people". The world is a sadder place without her, but I am a better man for having known her. And I know that makes her proud. I am but one of many who will never forget her. May she rest in Peace, and may God's perpetual light shine upon her....

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**Andy Ward** - November 23, 2015 at 06:23 PM

BW

“ We were so shocked and saddened to hear of Jeanette's sudden passing. Our thoughts are with you all at this very sad time.

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**Bobby and Geraldine Welch** - November 23, 2015 at 05:21 PM

SB

“ My beloved cousins and uncle, I was devastated to hear about the sudden loss of Aunt Jeanette. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Words can't adequately describe what Aunt Jeanette meant to us Martin girls. She called us her other daughters and we loved her like a second mother. We will miss her terribly. Know that you all have our deepest sympathy. Love to all, Sharon, Susan, and Sandra

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**Sharon Martin Bryan** - November 23, 2015 at 01:22 PM

LE

“ Melinda and Family, We are so very sorry for the sudden loss of your precious Mother. Please know we are praying for each of you and ask God to give you peace as you move forward. We love you and are just a phone call away. With Jesus' love, Barbara Lester, Donna Kirby, Lisa Elrod and Teresa Mathis

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**Lisa Elrod** - November 23, 2015 at 09:29 AM