



Nelda Virginia Edwards

July 11, 1941 - July 17, 2015

Nelda Young Edwards, 74, passed away Friday, July 17, 2015 at her home in Newnan, GA. Nelda was born July 11, 1941 in Toxey, AL at the Young family home to the late Basil Franklin Young and Sibyl Norsworthy Young. In early childhood, Nelda's father died in an accident while working at Alabama State Docks in Mobile, AL. Subsequently, her mother married the late Oliver Clyde Rhodes, Jr., who loved and raised Nelda as if she was his own daughter.

Nelda grew up in Mobile and attended Murphy High School graduating in 1959. A member of Alpha Delta Kappa Sorority, Nelda also was a Majorette and an Azalea Trail Maid at Murphy High School. She graduated in 1963 from Auburn University where she was a member of Chi Omega Sorority and the USAF ROTC Angel Flight. She met Sam H. Edwards, a fellow student, while attending Auburn, and they were married forty five years. Nelda moved to Atlanta in 1966 and attended graduate school at Georgia State University while employed as a High School Resource Teacher in the Clayton County School System. Nelda received the Masters of Arts Degree in English Literature from Georgia State University in 1971 and was employed as an Associate Professor of English at Clayton State University.

While in Atlanta, Nelda was a member of Cross Creek ALTA Tennis Team, served as a volunteer fundraiser for her sons' Buckhead Youth Baseball teams, and conducted a support group for Multiple Sclerosis patients in

conjunction with the Georgia Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Nelda and her family moved to Newnan, GA in 1987 where they enjoyed a longtime membership at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Nelda enjoyed participating in The Book Group in Newnan for many years and volunteered at Atkinson Elementary School as a guest reader and story teller.

The memorial service will be held Saturday, July 25, 2015 at 4 o'clock at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 576 Roscoe Road, Newnan GA with The Reverend Allan Sandlin officiating. A private family interment will be held at Oak Hill Cemetery.

Rather than flowers, the family respectfully requests memorial contributions be made to, Shelter Rescue Please Rescue Me, a charitable animal rescue located in Newnan, www.shelterrescueinc.org, P.O. Box 72571, Newnan, GA 30271, or to the Georgia Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, 950 East Paces Ferry Road, NE, # 110, Atlanta, GA 30326.

Condolences can be expressed online at www.mckoon.com

Survivors include husband, Sam H. Edwards of Newnan; sons, Judson Samuel Edwards of Seattle, WA, Hunter Young Edwards and wife Crandall Sproul Edwards of Newnan; grandchildren, Franklin Young Edwards, Virginia Mae Edwards; sister, Lynne Rhodes Duke & husband Andrew of Mobile, AL; nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts and uncles.

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory (770) 253-4580

Cemetery Details

Oak Hill Cemetery

96 Jefferson Street
Newnan, GA 30263
(770) 253-3744

Previous Events

Service

JUL 25. 4:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
576 Roscoe Road
Newnan, GA 30263

Visitation

JUL 25 (ET)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
576 Roscoe Road
Newnan, GA 30263

Tribute Wall

PB

“ I met Nelda on our very first day at Murphy High, Fall 1956. Assigned to the same home room, we formed an immediate friendship. Over the next three years, as well as having classes together, we shared hopes, dreams and confidences, and even double-dated. Once I spent a weekend at Nelda's home where she attempted to teach me some twirling "moves" and urged me to try out for the Murphy Pantherettes (which I never did but not because she didn't try!) I admired Nelda greatly for her grace, charm and sweetness. I don't claim to have counted as her best friend, nor was she mine, but we liked each other very much. After graduation, when she went on to college and I went on to the world of work, we did not stay in touch, but I thought of her often. After 20 years, the class of 1959 began having a reunion every 5 years (1979, 1984, 1989 and so on. I hoped she would be in attendance, but she was not. Then, in 1991, a "50th Birthday" party was planned, as most of the class would have turned 50 that year. I was so happy to see Nelda, with her husband Sam, at the gathering --- the first time 32 years I saw and spoke to Nelda. She had not changed a bit. Sadly, that was also the last time. I was so sorry to hear of her passing; it is like a shining star of my generation has left us. Reading her obituary, it didn't surprise me that she led such an accomplished, meaningful and purpose-filled life. My sincere condolences go out to her family. I feel a loss, just having enjoyed her presence in my life for three short years. I cannot imagine what a loss those close to her must feel.

Pat Carroll Bloodsworth - July 25, 2015 at 06:54 PM

EL

“ Nelda will be missed by so many who loved her. I always thought of her as someone very special. I am so thankful that Sam and her sons were able to be with her and that she died in her own home. We will see you again Nelda, on the other side. Until then, thoughts and prayers for you husband, sons and your sister, Lynn.

Elaine and John Leech - July 25, 2015 at 03:42 PM

RM

“ Sam, it is with great sadness that we learned of Nelda's passing. We have not been the neighbors' that we should; we love you and are so very sorry for your loss. Just know that she is still just beyond your sight and hearing. You have been a wonderful and dutiful husband to her. Charles and Rhonda

Rhonda McClendon - July 25, 2015 at 02:59 PM

PK

“ Nelda was one of my Chi Omega sisters at Auburn and was so nice . . .and pretty too ! I am sad to hear this news

Patty Pritchett Knight - July 24, 2015 at 02:19 AM

BP

“ Am saddened at the loss of a my beautiful cousin. I remember her always having a smile on her face. She will be missed.

Benita Barton Pipes - July 22, 2015 at 05:41 PM

TF

“ Please accept our heartfelt condolences on the loss of your loved one.

The GrandView Family - July 22, 2015 at 04:18 PM

NA

“ Sam, we were so sorry to learn of your loss. Our love and prayers are with you and your family.

Neva & Ken Allen - July 22, 2015 at 11:46 AM

KC

“ Sam, I am so sorry to hear the news. May God grant you peace and comfort during this trying time. The angels in heaven are rejoicing as they have welcomed her home! Our prayers are with the family.

Katrina Cline - July 22, 2015 at 08:50 AM

DK

“ Dear Edwards Family, The St. Brigid Chapter of the Daughters of the King at St. Paul's will pray for you, and we offer you blessings and peace during this time of adjustment. We know she is in the arms of Jesus and hope that knowledge brings you some comfort. God bless you.

Dr. Kitty Kelley - July 21, 2015 at 09:45 PM

RW

“ Nelda, I will miss you until I see you again. You were my favorite roommate at Auburn. I will never forget that both of us got weekend restrictions because I opened the dorm door for you after 11:00 pm. Times have really changed, yes? But your delightful wit and personality never changed and the love and warmth that you brought to your family and friends did not change. I'm so glad I got the chance to know you.

Ramona Weaver - July 21, 2015 at 04:23 PM

BW

“ Thinking of you all and wishing you peace and comfort.

Bobby and Geraldine Welch - July 19, 2015 at 05:38 AM

RD

“ *May our Lord bless and comfort you and your family during this time of grief. Please accept our sincere condolences.* ”

Ray & Linda DuBose - July 18, 2015 at 12:26 PM