



Martha Mae Mathis

November 15, 1925 - November 30, 2014

Martha Mae McClain Mathis, 89, died November 30, 2014 at Mountain View Nursing Home.

A native of Lavonia, GA, Mrs. Mathis was a daughter of the late E.C. and Nettie Mae Dunson McClain. She received her undergraduate from Newberry College and earned her Master's Degree from USC. She retired in 1987 from teaching at J.L. Mann High School and was a member of Taylors First Baptist Church.

Surviving are her husband, Eugene "Gene" H. Mathis of Spartanburg; one daughter and son-in-law, Julia and Hank Morrow of Mount Pleasant; three sons and daughters-in-law, Dr. Richard and Jane Mathis, Blair and Jana Mathis all of Spartanburg and Skip and Tammy Mathis of Greenwood; two sisters, Rachel Goforth of Kings Mountain, N.C. and Jean Mauney of Shelby, N.C.; thirteen grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held 2:00 p.m. Thursday at Wood Mortuary conducted by Dr. Jimmie Harley and Rev. Sal Barone. Burial will follow in Taylors First Baptist Church cemetery.

Grandsons will serve as pallbearers.

Visitation will be held 12:30-1:45 p.m. Thursday at Wood Mortuary.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Taylors First Baptist Church, 200 West Main Street, Taylors, S.C. 29687 or Spartanburg First Baptist Church, 250 East Main Street, Spartanburg, S.C. 29306

Online condolences may be made at www.thewoodmortuary.com

Cemetery Details

Taylor's First Baptist Church Cemetery

200 West Main Street
Taylors, SC 29687

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 4. 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM (ET)

The Wood Mortuary Chapel
300 West Poinsett Street
Greer, SC 29650
(864) 877-3351
woodmortuary@bellsouth.net

Service

DEC 4. 2:00 PM (ET)

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300 West Poinsett Street
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Tribute Wall

MS

“ I was sorry to hear the news of Mrs.Mathis' passing. She was my 12 grade English teacher at J.L. Mann from 1979-1980. Having been an educator now for nearly a quarter century I have gained new respect and appreciation for all a master teacher like Mrs. Mathis brought into the classroom, and the kinds of challenges she faced. She brought humor to the classroom and commanded (and got) respect from her students. My prayers for comfort go out to her family and friends.

Mike Swords - December 09, 2014 at 12:51 PM

DB

“ Marti Mathis was one of the most inspiring and encouraging people I have ever had the privilege of knowing. My family loved her dearly. She is a shining example of the Christian faith in action. The many students she touched and her influence cannot be measured this side of eternity. I loved every visit and every kind word that she spoke to me. I am praying for your family in the days to come. May God sustain you in your acute sorrow and loss. Jill B. Branyon

Dr. Jill B. Branyon - December 02, 2014 at 10:36 AM

RS

“ Blair and Family,
Joyce and I were saddened when we heard about the death of Mrs. Mathis. Please know that all of you will be in our thoughts and prayers as you mourn her death.

Richard & Joyce Strawhorn - December 02, 2014 at 08:49 AM

GA

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the family. Karen has special memories for our Newberry High school girls beach trips. She loved us and tried to guide us. We will be forever grateful for this. Gregg remembers how much she meant to him at church. God bless all of you.

Gregg and Karen (Boozer) Avedisian

Gregg Avedisian - December 01, 2014 at 07:00 PM

PB

“ So sorry to hear of Mrs. Mathis's passing. She was not only a favorite teacher but also someone I could talk to about anything. My prayers are with you all. Paula Fuller Brewington

Paula F Brewington - December 01, 2014 at 05:39 PM

SK

“ So sorry to hear of Mrs. Mathis' passing. We had so many fun times when she chaperoned 15 of us to Ocean Drive in the late 1960's. Great memories. She was a very special lady. Love & prayers to you all. Stuart Whitener Kennemore

Stuart Whitener Kennemore - December 01, 2014 at 05:38 PM

DT

“ Just saw this obituary via Facebook....my most favorite memory of 'Miss' Mathis....I rode to school with you guys sometimes...and she made up a poem/song about my name...."Deborah Jane Partain, nut-brain, went down the waterdrain, in an airplane"..... she was one of my most favorite teachers - LOVED HER! I'm so sorry for your loss. Debbie P. Turner

Debbie Turner - December 01, 2014 at 12:11 PM

AS

“ Dear Mathis family, I loved your mother. She was, by far, one of my best teachers. I read so many books because of her, and I continue to read all the time. I was a tenth grade English teacher, mostly because of Mrs. Mathis. Prayers for all of you.

Ann Summer

Ann Summer - December 01, 2014 at 10:29 AM

JH

“ We saw the obituary in the paper today for your Mom and are so sorry for your loss. You were blessed to have her a long time and we know she will be greatly missed. Our prayers are with you all.

Jay and Debbie Horton - December 01, 2014 at 08:21 AM

EH

Marti was always smiling and happy. We loved her and the family when they were in Newberry. God bless and comfort you during this difficult time. Evangeline Lide

Evangeline Lide Hendricks - December 01, 2014 at 08:30 PM

CR

“ Blair, Julie, and family:

I just happened upon your Mom's obit in this morning's SpartNburg paper. I am ashamed to say that I had lost track if you guys since our days of growing up in Newberry!

Mrs. Marty was undeniably my favorite teacher of all my high school days. She inspired so much confidence and self-esteem on me as well as taught me so much about creative writing. I still have my weekly journal tucked away where we all wrote things each week. Her responses and notes in the margins were sometimes grammatical suggestions and other times "Dear Abby" counsel! Her faith in God was always evident in the classroom in the ways she lived out her daily life as an example to the many students she inspired.

Our prayers are with all of you at this time. May God surround you with His arms of strength and support!

*Cecil (and Leigh) Ringer
Boiling Springs SC*

Cecil and Leigh Ringer - December 01, 2014 at 07:43 AM

HF

“ Rick, Skipper, Blair, Julie and Mathis family,

I cannot tell you how many times through the years I have thought of your mom and something she said or taught us in her class. Not only was she an outstanding teacher, she was a friend and mentor. If only the school systems now had more like her! She was definitely one of my all-time favorites. My prayers and thoughts will be with each of you in the coming days ahead.

God Bless!

*Regards,
Henry Franklin*

Henry Franklin - November 30, 2014 at 10:34 PM

SH

“ I have very fond memories of Mrs. Mathis and the entire family. Julie, I will always remember the fun times we had at both of your homes in Newberry and later as we were roommates at Clemson. Your mother inspired and encouraged me in so many ways. She loved teaching and loved her students. I feel very blessed to have known her and her family. I pray you are comforted at this time by the LORD she loved and taught us all to love. Love in Christ,
Sandra Slice Hayes

Sandra Slice Hayes - November 30, 2014 at 08:12 PM

RN

“ Mrs Mathis was an outstanding English teacher whom I remember fondly. She had a wonderful sense of humor and made a real difference in my formation. I am grateful that she was a part of my life. God's peace be to her family and friends.

Rick Nelson - November 30, 2014 at 06:22 PM

SS

“ What an incredible teacher she was, what a joyful presence in so many lives. I feel most fortunate to have been blessed with her guidance and her loving concern during my high school years. My heart rejoices in the great gift she was for so many students, including this one who tried her patience so diligently. Thank you for sharing her with me, all those years ago. Prayers of comfort for you, prayers of thanksgiving for her. Much love to all. Sue

sue summer - November 30, 2014 at 05:47 PM

BG

“ I grew up in Newberry with the Mathis family. I had Mrs. Mathis for English in the tenth grade. She was an awesome teacher. Julie, Blair, Rick, and Skipper, I am thinking and praying for your family! Please tell your dad how sorry I am.

Bonnie Wall Gramling - November 30, 2014 at 05:07 PM

AP

What a wonderful person and teacher! Mrs. Mathis is the reason that I became an English teacher. She has a special place in my heart. I can still see her smile, hear her infectious laugh, and feel her caring spirit. My sincere condolences to the family. She was the ultimate multi-tasker!

Ann Renwick Price - December 02, 2014 at 06:41 AM


Mickie
Frank

My condolences to your family. Mrs. Mathis was my Senior year English teacher and had a great influence on me. I started off the first few weeks of school, thinking I could just skate through; your mom had other ideas and in a very positive manner, quickly got me back on track. She taught me the joys of writing term papers (my love of research goes back to her class) and reading for pleasure. She was such an inspiration in my life and I am sure in yours. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Mickie Frank - December 02, 2014 at 08:52 PM

LJ

My deepest sympathy to the Mathis family. Mrs. "M" was my favorite teacher in high school and I was an English major in college, largely due to her influence. I have many fond memories of her class and her shared pearls of wisdom remain with me to this day. Thanks be to God for Mrs. "M" and her amazing gift of teaching! -- Lisa Johnson

Lisa Johnson - December 04, 2014 at 04:10 PM

HL

Rick, Skip and family, I want to echo the sentiments of so many who have shared their memories of your mom and offered their condolences. It was my great loss that i didn't have her as a teacher. I truly envied those who did because of all the great things I heard about her in the classroom. I did know her through my friendship with you, through the church, and through your parent's friendship with my parents. In all those associations, she was truly a remarkable lady. I pray that your memories of her will console each of you and warm your hearts.

Hugh Lister - January 04, 2015 at 05:52 PM