



## Mildred Rochester

September 21, 1931 - June 20, 2023

Mildred Wortman Rochester, 91, widow of Leon James Rochester, passed away June 20, 2023.

She was born September 21, 1932, in Blacksburg, South Carolina, the last of thirteen children of D. C. and Nancy Crow Wortman. Later her family moved to Greer, and upon her graduation from Greer High School, she began work at Southern Bell as an operator. She flourished at Southern Bell and moved up in the 1960's breaking the "glass ceiling" being only one of two women in the Southeast doing what was classified as a "man's job". She was active in her community in the Jaycee's and the Pioneers (Southern Bell retirement group), where she served as President. Her main mission was to her church, which she gave much time and money until the end. All who knew her were better off. Her love and kindness will be sorely missed.

Surviving are her son, Jimmy Rochester, Jr. and his companion, Connie Seay, six grandchildren, one great-grandchild and one sister, Mavis Elledge. She was also blessed with several angels that she was so grateful for (you know who you are).

She was predeceased by her husband of 50 years, Leon James Rochester; Melvin Kirby, a longtime companion, and special friend; one grandson; and eleven brothers and sisters.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Victor Baptist Church, Post Office Box 1154, Greer, SC 29652, or to the charity or church of one's choice. Online condolences may be made at [www.thewoodmortuary.com](http://www.thewoodmortuary.com).



# Cemetery Details

## Wood Memorial Park

863 Gap Creek Road  
Duncan, SC 29334

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

JUN 23. 1:00 PM (ET)

Wood Memorial Park  
863 Gap Creek Road  
Duncan, SC 29334

# Tribute Wall

JE

“ I had just found out about my dear friends passing. My heart is broken. I had helped her with store runs occasionally especially when she didn't feel the best. We met when I worked at Ingles and she was just one of those types of people that you instantly fall in love with because how they talk and how they see the world and appreciate the small things that you do and help you feel important by calling you one of her angels. It was a privilege to know you Mildred and I enjoyed all our chats. So much more we said we would talk about at another time like recipes and family photos but unfortunately we never got to do. I wanted to come see you when you mentioned you were sick but I was scared to bring you any sickness. I didn't want to chance it cause my family and I was taking turns on being sick. Your face will always hold a humble place in my heart. Never stop thinking about you. You are missed and loved my dear friend. Till we meet again!

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**Jennifer** - August 25, 2023 at 07:04 PM

JH

“ Joan Harbin lit a candle in memory of Mildred Rochester



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**Joan Harbin** - June 23, 2023 at 05:33 PM

JR

“ *Jessica Rochester lit a candle in memory of Mildred Rochester*



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**Jessica Rochester** - June 23, 2023 at 11:20 AM

JR

“ Thank you all for your sweet messages, prayers, & condolences. She was one of the best ladies I’ve ever known, & I am so blessed to have gotten to call her my Grandma. If you knew her, you know how special she was, how good she was to everyone, how beautiful & classy she was, how full of love & joy she always was.

*I’ll always cherish all of the many many memories I have with her... all of the trips to the zoo, the birthday parties for me & my siblings, Christmases & summers spent at her house were some of the best times of my life. She helped to instill my love for taking pictures of literally everything, bought me my first camera. She instilled my love for reading by encouraging me to read, & taking me to the used book store once a week to make sure I always had a book (or 3) to read. She took me to NYC for my first (& only so far) time, giving me a feeling of wanderlust & a desire to be well traveled like she was. She was beautiful & always looked her best, she always made sure I did too. I loved playing dress up in her gowns, heels, & jewelry as a kid, I felt so beautiful trying to look like her. She loved shopping at Belk & bought her makeup there, she would always get the “free gift” makeup bags from Clinique & Estée Lauder & give them to me. Every Christmas she would give each of her grandchildren an ornament, in a theme specific to each of us. She cooked the best pancakes, but also loved taking me to eat at IHOP. My first time going to the movies was with her, we saw The Babysitters Club. I went to many musicals (including an actual show on Broadway!) with her. My Grandma was a traditional southern lady, but also very cultured too. Someone to really be admired. There is no one else like her.*

*I can only hope to be as good of a woman as she was, I will do my best to make her proud & to live my life with as much joy & love as she did.*

*RIP Grandma Mildred, I love you so much, I’ll miss you forever.*

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Jessica Rochester - June 22, 2023 at 09:39 PM

MP

“ There is no words for how much I will miss my sweet special friend.the Lord took home a angel when he took you.rest in peace my friend

melinda painter - June 22, 2023 at 08:22 PM

MP

“ Words can not express how much I will miss my sweet friend. Someone that gave me advice and prayed for me can not be replaced, the Lord received a angel when he took her home Rest In Peace my sweet friend

melinda painter - June 22, 2023 at 06:55 PM

LW

“ lucy Williams lit a candle in memory of Mildred Rochester



lucy Williams - June 22, 2023 at 06:15 PM

JR

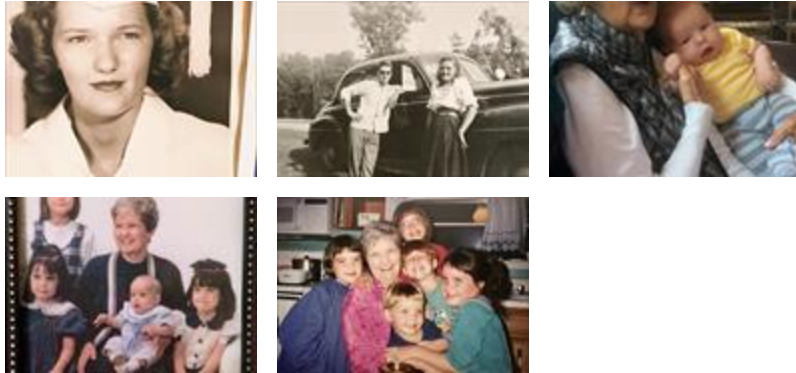
“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



Jessica Rochester - June 22, 2023 at 06:07 PM

JR

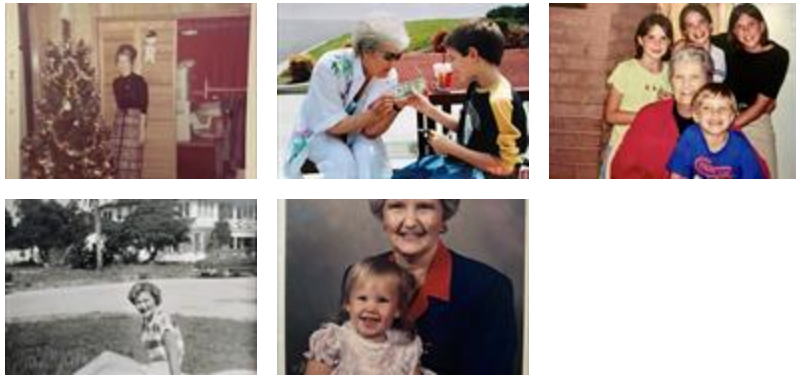
“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Jessica Rochester - June 21, 2023 at 09:20 PM

JR

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Jessica Rochester - June 21, 2023 at 08:28 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Mildred Rochester.



June 21, 2023 at 12:56 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mildred Rochester.

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June 21, 2023 at 12:56 PM