



Nellie Rumsey

April 7, 1935 - May 4, 2025

Surrounded by her family, Nellie Tinsley Rumsey went home to our Lord on Friday, May 3, 2025. Born April 7, 1935, in Easley, SC, to parents John and Emma Tinsley, Nellie grew up in the Victor Mill Village of Greer, SC, graduated from Greer High School and learned secretarial skills through Greenville Technical College. Nellie married the love of her life, Freeman Rumsey, in 1954, and together they raised their family in the once rural edges of Greer, in the Abner Creek Community.

Nellie loved serving our Lord and others through her dear church, Abner Creek Baptist, where she sang in the choir, taught Sunday School for all ages, served on ministry teams, led mission's projects and programs and more, until a paralyzing stroke crippled her in 2018. Nellie also served her neighbors and the community through delivering meals on wheels, volunteering in the Good New Club at Abner Creek Academy, and leading WMU for the Greer/Three Rivers Baptist Association.

In addition to being a gifted seamstress and voracious reader, Nellie faithfully cared for her family, devoted intense energy to homemaking, and enjoyed traveling the world and caring for her neighbors. Literally never allowing any grass to grow under her feet, Nellie also worked over twenty-eight years in the Spartanburg County District 5 Schools as a kindergarten teacher's assistant and elementary school secretary. Before formally working in schools, she

volunteered with and led the Parent Teacher Association for the schools where her children attended. In the off-school hours and days, Nellie also worked for her brother, Thomas Tinsley, at Professional Insurance Services in Greer. Nellie finally retired from employment at 73 years of age.

Nellie became a widow after 27 years of marriage and never remarried. She was also predeceased by her brothers Frank and Kenneth Tinsley and grandson, Cory Hart.

She is survived by her siblings of Greer: Kathleen Morris and Thomas Tinsley (Margaret), children: Phil Rumsey (Sandy) of Hendersonville, NC, Patti Sutton (Dale) of Greer, Diane Hardison (Ken) of Williamston, NC, grandchildren: Luke (Shelley), Jake (Ashley), Emily (Scott), Ellen (John), Zach (Kristen), and Isaac (Madeline) and twelve great-grandchildren with the 13th on the way.

Nellie's family deeply appreciates the outpouring of love, support and prayers from friends, neighbors and church families during this time. The Rumsey family thanks National Health Care, Greer, Terra Bella Thornblade and VCare Hospice for their compassionate and attentive care of Nellie. We are most grateful for Nellie's life-long abiding faith in Christ our Savior and we rejoice in the assurance that she is in God's presence now and forevermore.

Funeral services will be held 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at Abner Creek Baptist Church conducted by Rev. Donald Thomas and Rev. Dale Sutton. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

Visitation will be held 9:30-10:45 a.m. Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at Abner Creek Baptist Church.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Abner Creek Baptist Church at 2461 Abner Creek Road, Greer, SC 29651.

Online condolences may be made at www.thewoodmortuary.com.

Cemetery Details

Abner Creek Baptist Church Cemetery

2461 Abner Creek Road
Greer, SC 29651

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 7. 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM (ET)

Abner Creek Baptist Church
2461 Abner Creek Road
Greer, SC 29651

Service

MAY 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

Abner Creek Baptist Church
2461 Abner Creek Road
Greer, SC 29651

Tribute Wall

KW

“ I have fond memories of both Nellie and Freeman so well. Heaven has welcomed a beautiful angel.
Kay Waddell

Kay Waddell - May 10, 2025 at 10:42 PM

PS

“ I am so sorry for the loss of your Mother. Nellie was the secretary at Lyman when I began my teaching career. It was always a joy to see her daily for many, many years until the school closed. She was the heart of the school! Prayers for her family. Patti Dobson Simmons

Patti Simmons - May 09, 2025 at 08:41 AM

BR

“ How sad we are at NHC Healthcare. We loved Ms. Nellie!

Brooke - May 07, 2025 at 12:42 PM

PS

Thank you.

Patricia C Sutton - May 20, 2025 at 10:00 AM

DM

“ Delores McCray purchased the Country Basket B looms for the family of Nellie Rumsey.



Delores McCray - May 06, 2025 at 04:21 PM

BP

“ Barbara & Rich Pagano purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Nellie Rumsey.



Barbara & Rich Pagano - May 06, 2025 at 02:25 PM

DD

“ As a GA at Abner Creek Baptist Church Mrs. Rumsey was our leader. She helped me learn the books of the Bible and many Bible verses in order to pass our steps to the next level. She had a campout at her house for the GAs one night which we all loved. All the GAs loved her.

Debbie Dillard - May 06, 2025 at 12:36 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Nellie Rumsey.



May 06, 2025 at 11:51 AM



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

May 06, 2025 at 11:51 AM

MH

“ So very sorry for your loss. Prayers for you 🙏❤️. Maxine zHowell

Maxine Howell - May 05, 2025 at 08:10 PM



“ 176 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



The Wood Mortuary - May 05, 2025 at 07:08 PM



“ *Joan Harbin lit a candle in memory of Nellie Rumsey*



Joan Harbin - May 05, 2025 at 06:30 PM

PK

“ Ms Nellie was my Senior High Sunday School teacher along with FE Hendrix at Abner Creek church. Talk about 2 of the most godly people to teach us and be mentors to. She taught me to love God’s Word and treat it with reverence, taught us young people that every answer to every problem we could ever have could be found in the Holy scriptures. They encouraged us to learn, study, and appreciate the Bible’s teachings. Ms Nellie possessed a beautiful smile and a beautiful heart. I moved away after graduating and didn’t see her very much, but she impacted my life in a great way. I reckon I have since taught Sunday school in my church for the last 30 years or so. I credit her with giving me courage, conviction to study, and the bravery to stand up in front of others. I will always be grateful. She was a fine lady...

Paul Kelley - May 05, 2025 at 06:22 PM

RR

“ Rebecca Chasteen Roach lit a candle in memory of Nellie Rumsey



Rebecca Chasteen Roach - May 05, 2025 at 03:46 PM

TF

“ Tinsley family purchased the Pink Potpourri Bouquet for the family of Nellie Rumsey.



Tinsley family - May 05, 2025 at 03:30 PM

RB

“ *Phil, Patti, and Diane — We are so sorry for your loss! I will remember Aunt Nellie as a godly woman and as a great lady. Did you know that she once sewed clothes for our Barbie dolls! And of course there was visiting the farm in which I took the greatest of delights. I can just see Uncle Freeman sitting in his recliner smoking a pipe (I loved that pipe; it reminded me of Papa) while Nellie was busy about the house. I have no doubt that Our Lord is celebrating her homecoming even as I write this note — and just as in that sweet house in Abner Creek, your mother can be busy again in her new home unburdened by care, pain, and paralysis. How patient she was waiting! I do admire her so for that!*

With heart-sympathy,

Robin (Morris) and Benny Buscato

robin buscato - May 05, 2025 at 01:48 PM

PS

Robin, your message is beautiful and encouraging. Thank you. Patti

Patricia C Sutton - May 05, 2025 at 02:15 PM

RB

“ *Robin (Morris) & Benny Buscato purchased the Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet for the family of Nellie Rumsey.*



Robin (Morris) & Benny Buscato - May 05, 2025 at 01:32 PM