



Peggy Boling Center

December 28, 1934 - September 14, 2022

Peggy Center, 87, of Greer, SC, died on September 14, 2022, after a stroke. Born in Taylors, SC in 1934 to the late Lucy Turk Boling and James Theo (Dutch) Boling, she suffered from debilitating childhood illnesses including Whooping Cough and Scarlett Fever. She was not expected to live past age six and was inspired to become a nurse by her in-home nurse, Miss Bess and her stories of Florence Nightingale.

Peggy attended nursing school at Spartanburg General Hospital (Class of 1957) and worked as a floor nurse at Allen Bennett Memorial Hospital. She later attended McLeod Infirmary in Florence, SC to study anesthesia. After returning to Allen Bennett Hospital, she worked as a nurse anesthetist and later became Chief Anesthetist, a position she held until her retirement. She later served as a part time school nurse for ten years for the Greenville County School District.

She married the late Cleo Center in 1962 with whom she had three children, and moved to Greer, SC. Married for 49 years, she and Cleo built a life together that included membership at First Baptist Church, Greer, SC where she taught Sunday School.

She loved to travel including camping and exploring, car trips, much of the US including Alaska, Hawaii, the Caribbean, several trips to Europe including

Ireland and Greece, and annual trips to the Blue Ridge mountains, Edisto Island, SC, and Hilton Head Island, SC.

Because of kidney damage related to Scarlett Fever, she was the recipient of a kidney transplant in 2009 and, later, was a two-time cancer survivor. She also suffered from chronic joint and back pain.

Despite these setbacks, she insisted on living well and living large.

She loved people and was always happiest when entertaining or being a part of a greater crowd

After her stroke, when told that the physical therapist was going to visit her, she replied “good, I can’t wait to see what I can do”. This was the indomitable spirit of Peggy Center. Sadly, she entered hospice care before that could happen.

Peggy was a Volunteer with Meals on Wheels and active in the Greer Community Ministries “Big Thursday’ fundraiser.

She loved gardening and was also a skilled artist who worked in mediums of crafts, acrylic paint, sewing and handwork but excelled at quilting, was a member of Peach Patchers Quilting Guild and made and gave away quilts to her nieces, family members, and close friends.

In later years, she became re-acquainted with Jewell DeYoung, who had also been widowed, and they quickly became devoted friends. They shared a love of travel, and she became a fan of Jewell’s passion for car shows, particularly the Corvair Club events. She moved her church membership to Apalache Baptist Church and attended with Jewell, becoming the “cute old couple”, loved, and admired by the entire community.

Peggy B. Center is survived by her sister Julia Boling Smith (Lanise) of

Taylors, SC, daughter Maria Cromer (Cary) of Travelers Rest, SC, two sons, Hank Center of Okatie, SC, and Jimmy Center, of Taylors, SC, two grandchildren Alex Batson (Allison), and Emily Haughton (Tommy), two great-grandchildren, Tilly Haughton and Sally Haughton, many nieces and nephews, the “Georgia” cousins, countless friends, and devoted companion, Jewell DeYoung.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by husband, Henry Cleo Center, (2011), brother James Earl Boling, and sister, Mary Juanita Boling Garner.

Funeral services will be held 11:00 a.m. Saturday, September 17, 2022, at The Wood Mortuary conducted by Rev. Brian Childers and Rev. Brett DeYoung.

Visitation will be held 9:00-10:45 a.m. Saturday at The Wood Mortuary.

The family is at their respective homes.

Memorials may be made to Greer Community Ministries, P.O. Box 1373, Greer, SC 29652 or Apalache Baptist Church, 1915 Gap Creek Rd., Greer, SC 29651.

Online condolences may be made at www.thewoodmortuary.com

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 17. 9:00 AM - 10:45 AM (ET)

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

Service

SEP 17. 11:00 AM (ET)

THE WOOD MORTUARY CHAPEL
300 West Poinsett Street
Greer, SC 29650
(864) 877-3351
woodmortuary@bellsouth.net

Tribute Wall

RH

“ I just saw this announcement. I was not expecting to see Peggy! When my Mama died she came over & we caught up on about 30 years.
She was a special lady. We worked at Allen Bennett in the old days. She told me to come see her & I wish we had come sooner. She wanted to show us a house in her neighborhood. I grew up on Ansel School Road, live in Charleston now but thinking of coming "home."

Condolences to Hank, Maria & Jimmy . I know she will be missed.

Rena Hamrick
rena1054@aol.com

Rena Hamrick - September 20, 2022 at 06:13 AM

CC

“ I loved to go to her house. The bonus room was organized with materials for quilts. She was working on several at a time and they were all very different. She was fun to be with and I enjoyed all of my visits. I lived on St Croix and would go to see her. This was before her husband died. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Charlene Waddell Campbell

Charlene Waddell Campbell - September 18, 2022 at 01:03 PM

KB

“ Jimmy and family, I just heard about your moms passing. I will always remember your mom as one of the sweetest ladies I know! Ruth loved her and I know they are having a great reunion. Prayers for you all..

Karen Bruce - September 17, 2022 at 09:45 PM

AK

“*Maria, Hank, Jimmy and family members: It's never easy to lose a parent, especially your mother. I'll always treasure the time I spent with your family over the years, from the early days on Lancaster Ave to across the highway to the big house on the hill with the long hallways and that amazing basement that we could play horses or whatever we made up for hours. I can see us sitting in the kitchen eating with your mother and daddy and how much our two families enjoyed family time and loved us. I remember when we would aggravate Hank until we got called down, and I can hear your mothers voice in a calm but firm tone, Girls.... We would run off and giggle and go look for Jimmy to bother. Do you remember the times we would go to Greer First skating or go to Methodist Camp in my daddy's car with the backseat facing backwards and we would sing louder and louder changing words to Row, Row, Row your boat.. and then giggle and get into trouble. We might go to my nanny and papas, it didn't matter as long as we were together we could have done anything. We both had parents that were the best, they lived us, they knew where we were and who we were with. They taught us right from wrong and values that we now understand and treasure ourselves in our own families. I would go to Allen Bennett and I would always tell whoever was doing my paperwork or any surgeries that were going to require your mother, I would tell them I didn't want anyone but Peggy Center in my room with me. And if I thought I had clout, I would say, just go ask her and she will tell you that no one but her is going to do anything for this patient, she has standing orders that don't expire. She made me feel so special anytime I would see her or your daddy out and about. They never forget that little Ashmore girl. That's priceless to me. If you need anything, please let me know and I will be there for you. There are days that don't make sense for anyone and when you need someone to help you with those days or anything else, I will be available anytime for you. You've always had a special place in my heart and you always will. I love you and your family and I'm praying for strength, comfort, peace and love during these difficult times. Peggy Will never be*



*forgotten, she lives on in our hearts and memories. –
All my love and prayers are with you,
Angie Ashmore Kruse
And The Rudolph Ashmore Family*

Angie Ashmore Kruse - September 16, 2022 at 09:48 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Peggy Boling Center.*



September 16, 2022 at 04:54 PM



“ *I am so sorry to hear of Peggy’s death. She worked at ABH with my Dad, Dr Woodruff, and when we saw her she always had a story to tell about him when they worked together. She was such a sweet lady. My thoughts and prayers are with the family.*

Mary Susan Woodruff Pearson - September 16, 2022 at 03:01 PM



“ *You are in our thoughts and we have prayed for you during this sad time.*

Virginia Chandler - September 16, 2022 at 02:05 PM

WC

“Peggy was a true gem, soft spoken and kind. I met Peggy through the Peach Patchers Quilt Guild. She and I took a class together and she "showed me the ropes" - told me tips and tricks for hand applique. She talked about family mostly as we stitched. Later she made a Quilt of Valor, that she was proud of, for her grandson who served in the military. She will be missed. Keep happy memories close to your heart, now and in days to come.

Wanda Caldwell

Wanda P Caldwell - September 16, 2022 at 01:25 PM



“Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Peggy Boling Center.



September 16, 2022 at 06:04 AM

JF

“Judy Friddle lit a candle in memory of Peggy Boling Center



Judy Friddle - September 15, 2022 at 11:04 PM

UL

“ To the sons and daughter of Ms. Peggy,
I have been a neighbor of hers for over 18 years and she was definitely one of the gems of our little community. I also had the pleasure of seeing her from time to time at the gym and also as she frequently accompanied Jewell to our annual Korean War Veterans Association Picnic. You all have my sincere and heartfelt condolences. May God bless you all.

Ulish

Ulish - September 15, 2022 at 05:08 PM

BH

“ Peggy was a special friend to all of us. I will miss seeing her and Jewell coming in the church together each Sunday. I know Jewell will miss her so very much as we all will. May God bless you in your loss. Love in Christ. Betty Rose Humphries

Betty Humphries - September 15, 2022 at 02:42 PM

JP

“ Peggy Center was someone I admired greatly. Her many gifts and talents were a blessing. She had a big heart for others. I will always remember the love she & Cleo shared. Prayers of sympathy to her family.



Judy Ponder - September 15, 2022 at 01:27 PM