



## Mrs. Esther Mae Ferree Russell

March 12, 1918 - November 29, 2011

Esther Russell, 93, of Brooks-Howell Home, Asheville, went home to glory Tuesday, November 29, 2011. Born March 12, 1918, in Bonair, IA, she grew up in Minneapolis, MN, and was daughter of the late Earl Cleveland and Lovica Todd Ferree. She was also preceded in death by her husband of 63 years, Rev. Arthur Russell, a United Methodist (former Evangelical United Bretheren) Missionary Pastor at Red Bird Mission in Kentucky.

Esther attended John Fletcher College in Iowa. She and Arthur had a fruitful ministry in rural Iowa for ten years, southeastern and central Kentucky for over thirty years, and in fifteen active retirement years in the Greeneville, TN, area. They moved to Brooks-Howell Home in 1992 and continued a full, happy life.

Esther's many talents included singing, playing and teaching the piano and autoharp, painting, drawing, writing, and speaking. She will be fondly remembered for her generosity, creativity, sweet smile, and love of the Lord and of others.

She is survived by her son, David Russell; daughters, Margaret Cleaver and Rebecca Cutshall; seven grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 3:30 PM, Saturday, December 3, 2011 at Brooks-Howell Chapel with Rev. Pat Leahy officiating. The family will receive

friends one hour prior to and immediately following the service. Private interment will be held at Pisgah View Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Brooks-Howell Home, 266 Merrimon Avenue, Asheville, NC 28801, or Asheville Bible Church, 234 Merrimon Avenue, Asheville, NC 28801.

Morris Funeral Home, 304 Merrimon Avenue, is assisting the family. Condolences may be sent through the website [www.morrisfamilyfuneralhome.com](http://www.morrisfamilyfuneralhome.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Pisgah View Memorial Park

US Hwy. 1923  
Candler, NC 28715

# Previous Events

## Service

DEC 3. 3:30 PM (ET)

Brooks Howell Home  
266 Merrimon Avenue  
Asheville, NC 28801  
<http://www.brooks-howell.org>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Esther Mae Ferree Russell*

October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM



“ *Arthur & Esther were a blessing to me when they lived in Greeneville, TN. Such an amazing and alive couple! "Home to glory" I would say adequately describes where they are! To Becky, and to all the family: May God bless & comfort you.*

*In Christ's love,  
Freddie & JoAnn Ricker*



**JoAnn (Cutshaw) Ricker** - December 07, 2011 at 10:51 AM



“ *Dear Russell Family, My memories of your family are precious-- dating back to 1956 when I spent the summer with you at Beech Fork. Then teaching at Red Bird High School. Had Margie in biology class and driver ed. Becky was was in Miss Johnson's third and fourth grade room, David was off to college and your family was in residence at Heim House. During those precious weeks at Beech Fork I "Preaced" one Sunday when Pastor Russell was off representing the mission to EUB churches--coved the entire book of Jonah in 8 minutes! Also built what I thought was a sturdy picnic table out of oak planks. Upon completion, five year old Becky jumped on top and started dancing the table collapsed! My love and prayers are with you. Love, Ted and Carol Curtis*

**Theodore G Curtis** - December 02, 2011 at 08:46 AM

KN

“ Grandma and Aunt Esther are playing some golden harps with Grandpa and Uncle Arthur yodeling and playing the spoons. Kind of makes one want to get to Heaven all the sooner! Thinking of you and so sorry that we can not be at the service.  
Blessings to all.  
Mike and Kristin Kroehler Newman



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**Kristin Newman** - December 01, 2011 at 10:10 PM

JM

“ she would walk down the hallways of brooks howell home where if and when she saw me she would always have her arms open wide for a hug and she would greet me with a warm smile, and then she would go and play the piano in the reception area..... those are the memories that i have of mrs. russell. (peaches) jeannette mayfield



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**jeannette mayfield** - November 30, 2011 at 04:19 PM

DS

“ Esther was a caring, Godly, and loving lady. She reached out to others and you felt drawn to her. She was talented and shared her gifts with many and enjoyed teaching children. My life is richer because of Esther - she was truly a Blessing. Diana Stevens

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**Diana Stevens** - November 30, 2011 at 07:46 AM