



Mrs. Willa Bella Rowe

April 6, 1918 - September 20, 2013

Willa Bella Rowe, 95, died Friday, September 20, 2013 at Emerald Ridge Care Center after a period of declining health.

Willa Bella was born April 6, 1918 in Andrews, NC to Will and Juanita Arrowood. After growing up and attending school in Andrews, she completed business school in Asheville and married Charles Rowe of Virginia in 1942. They had three sons. Charles died in 1975.

From the late 1950's to the mid 1960's Willa Bella enjoyed her position as school secretary at David Millard Junior High School where she endeared herself to students, teachers, staff and parents and immersed herself in school activities. These were some of the most fun years of her life.

She was later employed by Dr. Charles Anderson, after which she went to work for AB Tech, retiring from there in 1983. Her retirement years were spent caring for family members, enjoying her house and yard, and being an incredible grandmother to her grandchildren who spent many happy hours at her house. She became a kind of "neighborhood nanny" to their friends as well.

Willa Bella was an avid reader and a talented seamstress but her cooking endeared her most to her family. Even as a working mother raising three big,

athletic sons, she managed to put home cooked meals on her table seven nights a week that would have qualified as Sunday dinners in most households. She set an extra place for whoever showed up. Her youthful nature, boundless energy and extreme independence caused her friends to marvel at the things she was able to accomplish into her later years, such as mowing her own grass until her late 80's. She was strong, capable and loving, and she will be missed.

Willa Bella was preceded in death by her parents; her sister, Elizabeth Petrie; and two of her sons, Dr. Thomas Rowe of Greensboro, NC and Jon Rowe of Fort Worth, TX. She is survived by her son, Gary Rowe and his wife Carol of Asheville; grandchildren Jamie Rowe of Los Angeles, David Rowe of Athens, GA, Jason Rowe (Krista) of NYC, Jessica Foster (Jamie) of Arlington, TX and Kavin Rowe (Gabrielle) of Durham, NC and six great grandchildren.

The family would like to especially thank her lifelong friend, Peggy Ramsey, who contributed many hours of loving care and companionship in her later years, as well as her caregivers at Emerald Ridge.

The family will receive friends at Morris Funeral Home, 304 Merrimon Avenue, on Thursday, September 26, 2013 from 6pm to 8pm. Burial will be private.

Cemetery Details

Riverside Cemetery

53 Birch Street
Asheville, NC 28801

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **26**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Chapel of Morris Funeral Home
304 Merrimon Ave.
Asheville, NC 28801
(828) 252-1821
info@morrisfamilycare.com
<http://morrisfamilycare.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Morris Funeral & Cremation Care created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Willa Bella Rowe*



Morris Funeral Home - September 20, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mrs. Willa Bella Rowe*

October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM

LS

“ MISS WILLA

YOU ALWAYS BROUGHT A SMILE TO MY FACE AND TO ALL THOES AROUND YOU .I JUST HOPE YOUR BOYS KNOW HOW MUCH YOU LOVE THEM THAY WHERE ALL YOU TALKED ABOUGHT WITH LOVE AND THAT SWEET MISTORES SMILE YOU HAD YOU COULD SEE A TWINKLE IN YOU EYE EVERY TIME YOU SPOKE OF THEM EVEN THOE WE KNEW EACH OTHER A SHORT TIME MISS WILLA BELLLA ROWE YOU WILL ALWAYS HOLD A SPECIAL PLACE IN MY HEART AND ALL THAT KNEW YOU I KNOW YOU ARE USING THAT CHARM YOU HAVE IN HEVAN NOW THOE MY HART IS SADDEN FOR ALL THE FAMILIEY AND FRIENDS YOU LEFT BEHIND I KNOW GOD NEEDED HIS WILLA BELLA HOME SO I WILL PRAY FOR THEM AND REJOICE FOR YOU NO MORE PAIN WILLA REST IN PEACE WILLA BELLA ROWE I KNOW YOU ARE SMILING DOWN FROM HEVEN NOW

WITH LOVE

LAVONNE SURRETT

LAVONNE SURRETT - September 26, 2013 at 09:59 AM

TS

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Our prayers are with the family during this difficult time.

May God strengthen and comfort all. Tedd & Gail Smith

Tedd & Gail Smith - September 26, 2013 at 06:49 AM

WS

“ *VERY SWEET LADY. I'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER HOW CALM AND SWEET SHE WAS TO ALL THE KIDS IN THE MAYHEM OF THE 7TH GRDE FOR DAVID MILLARD STUDENTS. A VERY SPECIAL LADY...WESLEY SPARKS DM ALUMNUS*

WESLEY SPARKS - September 25, 2013 at 08:10 PM

AN

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. The Bible provides comfort during these difficult times. Revelation 21:3,4 states “And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away”. Very soon now, we will never experience losing our loved ones in death. Hope these words give you a new hope.*

Ana - September 25, 2013 at 04:22 PM

CN

“ *Willa was such a pleasure to know we miss her so much but remember all the good times we had with her. May God Bless you all at this time*

CNA - September 24, 2013 at 01:29 PM

JC

“ Gary, Carol, and Family,
Willa Bella was special to me at David Millard, at A-B Tech, and through the years afterwards. I can't imagine how hard it must have been for her to lose both Jon and Tommy. She was a truly devoted mother to her own mother and to the rest of your family. We still fix her wonderful sweet potato casserole every Thanksgiving and Christmas. Hers was a long life well lived.

Our best to you all,
Jean Clayton and Bill Barkley (Jon's class)

Jean Clayton - September 24, 2013 at 10:55 AM

MA

“ Ms. Rowe has a hope of a resurrection where you will be able to enjoy her again. it's a blessing that you were able to be with her for 95 years! My mom died almost 4 years ago and I keep the hope alive by knowing that Jehovah God made a promise through Jesus death, according to John 5:28,29, the dead will once again come to life in God's new world. What a reunion that will be! MARY

MARY - September 23, 2013 at 09:40 AM

JL

“ Willa Bella, you treated me like a daughter from the day I became a Rowe through happy, sad, good and bad. Your influence in my life, the kids' lives made each of us better people. You touched so many lives. There is a hole in my heart with your departure but a joyous celebration in heaven with your arrival. You will always be my 'other' Mom. Love, Jini

Jini Lynch - September 21, 2013 at 09:12 AM

LI

“ Ms Willa,
it has been a pleasure getting to know you and your family and friends, We have the utmost respect for you raising your wonderful sons, having the honor to know one of them, and your loyal friend Ms Peggy. You will ALWAYS be in our thoughts and memories. FLY HIGH OUR SWEET FRIEND, WE LOVE YOU ! Lissa, Lavonne, Kelly, Melissa, Lisa, Tammy, Diane, Stephanie, and Lisa R.

lissa - September 20, 2013 at 07:13 PM