



## Mrs. Winona "Nona" Gruver McDonnold

August 19, 1913 - November 21, 2010

Winona "Nona" Gruver McDonnold, 97, formerly of Gracelyn Garden Apartments passed away Sunday, November 21, 2010 at St. Joseph's Hospital. A native of Asheville, she was daughter of the late Harry Edinger and Mable Vincent Gruver. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Harry Key McDonnold, daughter, Shirley Ann Holzworth and sons, Harry Gruver McDonnold and Hexie Key McDonnold.

As a lifelong Democrat, Nona ran headquarters for many local elections. In 1968 she served as Vice Chairman of the NC Democratic Executive Committee and was a delegate to the National Convention in Chicago. She also served as Vice Chairman of the Buncombe County Democratic Executive Committee. She was awarded the Distinguished Citizens Award of 1968. Nona was a member of the Buncombe County Election Board serving until 90 years of age.

She was very active in the community and served as president of the Women's Civic Club, Buncombe County Cancer Society and March of Dimes. Nona was a former member of First Presbyterian Church where she served as president of the Women of the Church. She was a current member of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church.

Her survivors include her sister, Bettie Pritchard of Asheville; daughters-in-law,

Helen Lentz Shaginaw of Atlanta, GA and Jane Nelson McDonnold of Greer, SC; six grandchildren, twelve great-grandchildren, one great –great grandchild and many nieces and nephews.

A funeral service will be held 3:00 PM, Sunday, November 28, 2010 at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church with the Revs. Mark Ramsey and Mary Faith Carson officiating. The family will receive friends at the church from 2:00 – 3:00 PM. Interment will be held 11:00 AM, Monday, November 29, 2010 at Lewis Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church or charity of one's choice.

Morris Funeral Home, 304 Merrimon Avenue is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be sent though the website [www.morrisfamilyfuneralhome.com](http://www.morrisfamilyfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Lewis Memorial Park

415 Beaverdam Road  
Asheville, NC 28804

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 28. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church  
789 Merrimon Avenue  
Asheville, NC 28804

## Service

NOV 28. 3:00 PM (ET)

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church  
789 Merrimon Avenue  
Asheville, NC 28804

## Service

NOV 29. 11:00 AM (ET)

Lewis Memorial Park  
415 Beaverdam Road  
Asheville, NC 28804



# Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Winona "Nona" Gruver McDonnold*

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October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM



“ *I love Nona McDonnold!*

*She was an amazing woman and has been and will continue to be an inspiration to me. Nona & Harry, Billie & Weldon Weir and my parents, Hal & Martha Weir were great lifetime friends. I have fond memories of shared homecooked Sunday dinners, children's birthday parties and of course "political" discussions! Nona stepped out of a women's accepted roll of political observer and was a proven leader for decades for our Democratic Party at the local, State and National level. Her political presence was just one of the many facets of her life: Nona was a civic leader and a beloved friend to all who knew her. I shall miss her wisdom and her love. Peace my friend,  
Carol Weir Peterson*

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**Carol Peterson** - November 28, 2010 at 11:02 AM

DB

“ Nona was a dear, dear friend of our family; Margaret, Graham, Anne and Debbie Morrison. She and mom were so close and liked to travel together. And I was fortunate enough to be able to travel with them in NYC and Atlanta. After mom died, Nona was always interested in what I was doing. I loved to go to Asheville and have lunch with Nona and some of the "bridge gals". I also tried to get dad to date Nona after mom died because I thought she would be the perfect step-mom. She will be missed by so many but will always hold a special place in my heart.

*Debbie Morrison Bryant*

*Kernersville, NC*

*daughter of Margaret and Graham Morrison*

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**Debbie Bryant** - November 27, 2010 at 05:15 PM

AH

“ Will always remember Nona and her love of family and friends. The " Bridge Club gals" were such good friends for over 50 years. Always giving of herself.

*She loved chocolate and had some great memories of eating big chocolate desserts with her. What fun we had when we roomed together in NYC. We got our hair and faces done and laughed through it all. She was so loved and such a dear to our family.*

*Anne Morrison Harvey, ( Margaret Morrison's daughter) Pawleys Island, SC*

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**Anne Harvey** - November 27, 2010 at 04:39 PM

AS

“ I'm Anne Hill Snyder, daughter of J Hart and Dorothy Snyder. We built the house at 33 Mount Vernon Place next door to Nona and Harry. My younger brother, "Rebel", my uncle Parmly Burridge Johnson, and I grew up in that house. Nona was the best! Hexie and Harry and Parm were the best of friends.

We moved in 1960 to Lynchburg VA when I was 16 and it truly was one of the saddest days that I can remember. Leaving Asheville, but more than that leaving our wonderful Nona. She was a true friend to my parents and to us kids.

I had kept up over the years and last spoke to Nona when I was visiting those beloved mountains with Daddy and we called to say hello. She was an amazing woman and I shall never forget her. I have some wonderful pictures of many of the McDonnolds and would love to share them. My email is [annesnyder@comcast.net](mailto:annesnyder@comcast.net). God bless you all as you bid farewell to Nona.

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Anne Snyder - November 27, 2010 at 08:34 AM

ES

“ *Nona Gruver McDonnold will always live in my memory, since she was connected with two very significant events in my life.*

*The first event was in the year 1939, when my mother died and my father had disappeared. I was seven years old and did not fully comprehend what had*

*happened, or what it was like to be an orphan. But the month before my mother's death Nona had given birth to her two wonderful twin sons, Harry and Hexie,*

*of the mirror image type, but both with red hair like mine. This was my first time for getting to see what babies were like. And for a period of time my*

*sister and I lived in the country home of Nona's father and mother, Harry and Mabel Gruver, and actually in the two bedrooms that had been built for Nona and*

*her sister, Bettie.*

*The second event happened much more recently: In May 2008, my wife, Lora Kinsinger Scott, and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary at our mountain farm*

*in Marshall, NC. Nona and her sister were both present. My mother, Mildred Whitlow Scott, was their first cousin. My grandmother on my mother's side was*

*Maude Miller Whitlow, who was sister of Nona and Bettie's mother, Mabel Miller Gruver.*

*Ed Scott*

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**Ed Scott** - November 25, 2010 at 03:33 PM

ES

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Ed Scott** - November 25, 2010 at 03:17 PM

DM

“ Nona lived a rich and full life and she is now in Heaven. Her passing is a loss to everyone who knew her because she always made people feel good about themselves. It is difficult for me to celebrate a person's life when I feel bad about my loss of their time on earth.

*I am pleased I have memories, especially childhood memories, of Nona.*

*And, I know my sister, Dr. Emily Matthews, and my brother, Pierce Yarrell Matthews feel the same as I.*

*Dean*

*Matthews*

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**Dean Matthews** - November 24, 2010 at 05:24 AM

DC

“ *Winona was very sweet lady and will be missed.* ”



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**Debra Creasman** - November 23, 2010 at 05:47 PM



“ *2 files added to the album Memories Album* ”



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**Morris Funeral Home & Cremation Service** - November 22, 2010 at 01:26 PM