



Mrs. Ruth Gary Hill

July 26, 1930 - January 30, 2022

Mrs. Ruth Gary Hill, aged 91, passed away peacefully in her home on January 30, 2022 surrounded by her beloved family. She was born July 26, 1930, in Webster County, MS, the daughter of Chester Clyde Gary and Necia Tabb Gary. She spent her childhood in the Springhill Community of Webster County and graduated from Springhill High School. She then attended Sunflower Junior College, where she played as a Forward on the women's basketball team, and she went on to graduate from Delta State University. Upon graduation, she served as an elementary school teacher for several years. In 1952, she went in search of a new pair of sandals at the Hill's Department Store in Eupora, MS, and instead found her future husband, B. W. (Bernard Wallace) "Tug" Hill. They were married on July 26, 1953, and spent 62 loving years together until his passing in 2015. During their lifetime together, Mr. and Mrs. Hill owned and operated Hill's Department Store and Hill's Landing in downtown West Point for over 30 years, until their retirement in 2002.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Hill served as pillars of their family and the West Point community their entire lives. Mrs. Hill was a member of First Baptist Church of West Point, where she worked in the children's department for over 50 years. She was an Eastern Star member and past member of the Pilot Club of West Point. Mrs. Hill enjoyed staying active in Forever Young at First Baptist, exercising with her PACE friends at The Wellness Center, and playing bridge several times a week with three different clubs. She also had a passion for

traveling and had visited 49/50 of the states, as well as several countries. The truest joy of her life was to serve and support others, which was most evident in her years of helping children—a cause to which she unceasingly dedicated her time, affection, and resources.

Known to her treasured grandchildren as “Mimi,” Mrs. Hill was always dressed and ready for adventure. In fact, she often remarked: “If you ask me to go, I’ve already got my shoes on!” Mimi held true to her word her entire life; she never missed any of her family’s various events: from church choir programs to Oak Hill Academy basketball games; from trips out West or simply trips to Walmart; from the biggest life events such as births, graduations, and weddings to even the smallest ones—like nights of all-you-can-eat-crawfish at Rosey Baby with her grandchildren. (She didn’t even like crawfish, but she never let that get in the way of a dinner with her crawfish-craving grandchildren.)

Her devotion to her grandchildren could also be seen in one of her favorite hobbies: gardening. When granddaughter Katherine asked to hold her wedding reception in Mimi’s backyard, as her own mother had done, Mimi was overjoyed to continue the tradition and immediately began preparations. Mimi herself, with the company of her faithful cat Sassy, had placed over three thousand white periwinkles in her yard by the time of the wedding—a testament both to her green thumb and her infinite love for her family.

Mrs. Hill leaves her family with a lifetime of cherished memories, most especially those made over her table every Sunday after church. She served as a cornerstone of a family whom she fiercely loved all the days of her life. Mrs. Hill served many roles for her family: teacher, provider, confidante, #1 fan, and so many more. Her legacy is that of a strong-willed woman with a compassionate heart who was devoted to her faith and family.

Visitation will be on Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at First Baptist Church in West

Point from 1:00-3:00PM. Funeral services will follow at 3:00 P.M. Burial will be in Greenwood Cemetery in West Point. Calvert Funeral Home of West Point is honored to be entrusted with the arrangements.

She is survived by two daughters, Debbie Hill Billington (Dr. William) and Donna Hill Ross (Scott), all of West Point; six grandchildren, William Morgan Billington, III (Katie) and Gary Steele Billington (Dr. Elyse) all of Charlotte, NC; Ross Wallace Billington (Lorianna) of St. Augustine, FL; Lauren Renee Billington of Jackson, MS; Katherine Ross Stringer (Glen) of Columbia, MS; and Stephen Scott Ross of West Point; one brother, Harold Ray Gary (Jetty) of Brookhaven, MS; six nieces, one nephew, and a number of great-nieces and -nephews. In addition to Mr. Hill, Mrs. Hill was predeceased by two brothers, Glynn Gary and Robert Gary, an infant son, and a nephew.

Pallbearers will be Dr. Hal E. Hill, Jr., Wes Williamson, Gregg Kaiser, Edgar Harris, Carson Sharp, and Collin Sharp. Honorary pallbearers will be Scott Reed, Stanley Spradling, Kris Hollis, Dr. Ned Miller, Kale Pierce, Keith Holton, Buddy Downer, Robert Smith, Grady Davis, Charles Magers, Charlie Smith, Minnie Booker, FBC Forever Young, and FUMC Bridge Club.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 794, West Point, MS 39773 or Canopy Children's Solutions, 1465 Lakeland Drive, Jackson, MS 39216.

Cemetery Details

Greenwood Cemetery

West Point, MS 39773

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 1. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church
134 E Broad St
West Point,, MS 39773
(662) 494-4213

Funeral Service

FEB 1. 3:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church
134 E Broad St
West Point,, MS 39773
(662) 494-4213

Tribute Wall

AP

“ *Sending prayers for the family and friends!!* ”



Annette P. - February 03, 2022 at 11:47 AM

ER

“ *Death stinks, but add in a comma and the name of Jesus and it changes everything.* ”

Death stinks, but then there's Jesus. I didn't know Mrs. Hill personally, but our team at Raborn Media works with her grandson Gary, and we think the world of him. Her obit touched me when I read:

"The truest joy of her life was to serve and support others, which was most evident in her years of helping children—a cause to which she unceasingly dedicated her time, affection, and resources."

Though I didn't know her, I have to think she's with Jesus, and that she's surrounded by so many of the children she spent her life serving. What a honor.

*Sending thoughts and prayers to your family,
-Raborn Media*

Erin - February 02, 2022 at 12:05 PM

ST

“ *With sympathy and friendship,*

Susanne Allen Thomas

Susanne Allen Thomas - February 02, 2022 at 06:39 AM

JO

“ *Ruth was such a sweet lady. We always had so much fun at the Wellness Center. She was nice to everyone. Donna and Debbie you and your precious families are in my thoughts and prayers.*

Juanita O'Brian

Juanita O'Brian - February 01, 2022 at 05:52 PM

CG

“ *Debbie, Donna and all of Mrs Ruth's beloved grandchildren, I was trying to think of just one memory to share and I couldn't. That's because every memory I have of Mrs. Ruth and Mr. B. W. makes me smile. She was such a classy, friendly lady who always made me feel special and loved. That attribute doesn't end with her but but has been passed down to her family. Hers was a life well-lived! I know she will be missed by all of you, but what a treasure you all have in the memories you made together. I'm so happy I had the opportunity to know her and all of you!*

Connie Gordon - February 01, 2022 at 05:35 PM

CG

“ *I remember Mrs. Hill from First Baptist. And from Hill's Department store. She was always kind and giving and a beautiful person inside and out!! Prayers for the family during this sad time!!*

Claire Cameron Garrett - February 01, 2022 at 12:53 PM

JA

“ *Ruth was such a kind lady. She will be missed by everyone who knew her.*

We send love and prayers to her family.

Jerald and Margie Andrews

jerald andrews - February 01, 2022 at 12:13 PM

KS

“ *So sorry to hear of the loss of Ruth, such a lovely, sweet and very generous lady, who was loved by all who knew her. Prayers for comfort and peace for her family and her many friends.*

Kay Stanley - February 01, 2022 at 11:18 AM

BH

“ *Ruth's finest achievement may be evidenced in the lives of her beloved daughters, Debbie and Donna, whose love and care of her was exemplary. Her kindness to me through many years reminds me that her ready smile and gentle voice always sought to encourage and embrace. She will be greatly missed by her loving family, countless friends and others. A life well lived, Ruth.*

Barbara Hamilton

Barbara Hamilton - February 01, 2022 at 11:09 AM

KD

“ *So very sorry for your loss! She was such a sweet lady..a true Southern Lady!! Thoughts and prayers for this Special family!!*

Kay Dedeaux

Kay Dedeaux - February 01, 2022 at 11:02 AM

AM

“ *Such a sweet and loving lady. She always greeted you with a smile. I have fond memories as a child when we were neighbors and Debbie and I played together. I know you are with the Lord now. Prayers for the void your family will feel, but what memories you have left them to celebrate your life.*

Alice Maiersperger - January 31, 2022 at 11:39 PM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Mrs. Ruth Gary Hill.*



January 31, 2022 at 10:38 PM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Ruth Gary Hill.*



January 31, 2022 at 10:23 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mrs. Ruth Gary Hill.*



January 31, 2022 at 09:41 PM

JD

“ We're so sorry to hear this about Ruth. She was such a sweet, lovely lady! I always enjoyed talking with her and Tug in the store those many years, and going to church with them even longer. This gracious lady will be missed! My condolences to Debbie and Donna and their precious families. You all will be in our prayers.

JoAnn Dyer - January 31, 2022 at 08:25 PM



“ Sweet Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Ruth Gary Hill.



January 31, 2022 at 06:13 PM

DL

“ I am so sorry to hear of your loss. She was a very sweet lady. May God help you as only HE can through this time of sadness

Dot Lee - January 31, 2022 at 03:20 PM

NC

“ So sorry to hear about Ruth. She was a dear gracious lady and friend. You all are in my thoughts and prayers.

Nancy Cox - January 31, 2022 at 03:01 PM

KW

“ I'm so sorry for the loss of Mrs.Hill. She was such a nice and kind lady. I'll be praying for peace and comfort for all of you.
Kim West

Kim West - January 31, 2022 at 02:57 PM

BH

“ Beautiful lady inside and out. She loved and was so loved. Sincere condolences to all the families and all her friends. She will not be forgotten! RIP, Ruth ❤️❤️🙏🙏

Betty Henry - January 31, 2022 at 02:08 PM

SG

“ Debbie and Dr B, so sorry in the loss of Mrs. Hill. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Sandy Guest - January 31, 2022 at 02:00 PM

BM

“ So sorry to hear about Ruth. She was such a dear person and friend. My prayers are With the dear family.



Billie Mayo - January 31, 2022 at 01:51 PM