



Mrs. Joan Dekle Riles

February 20, 1931 - January 7, 2018

Joan Dekle Riles, 86 of Lake Blackshear, died Sunday, January 7, 2018 at Wynfield Park. Funeral services will be held Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at 11:00 AM at Sunnyside Cemetery in Cordele, GA. The family will receive friends at the residence of Wayne and Melanie Riles at 1654 Lovers Lane Rd. Rev. John Smith will officiate.

Born in Cordele, GA, February 20, 1931, Joan was a 1948 graduate of Cordele High School and a 1952 graduate of Valdosta State College. She married her childhood sweetheart, Frederick "Sonny" Emerson Riles, Jr., and was a dedicated 2nd grade school teacher for 32 years. She worked with the Fulton County School system, while her husband finished his education at Georgia Tech in Atlanta, then continued teaching when they moved, with Crisp and Dougherty County Schools as well as Deerfield Windsor School.

Survivors include three sons, Britt Riles and his wife, Debbie of Oakfield, GA, Wayne Riles and his wife, Melanie and Burt Riles and his wife, Amy, all of Albany, 2 sisters, Emily Whittle Wakefield and her husband, Matthew of Cordele, GA and Jane Cunningham of Warner Robins, GA, a sister in law, Vicki McGarity Riles of Albany, 2 step brothers in law, James Murphy of Albany and Mike Murphy of Lake Blackshear, GA, a step sister in law, Becky Flanigan, 8 grandchildren, Eric Riles of Lake Blackshear, GA, Tori Riles Whiting and her husband, Jay, of Albany, Heather Riles Bernier and her

husband, Matt, of Tallahassee, FL, Christie Riles Riner and her husband, Brad, of Statesboro, GA, Wayne Riles of Destin, FL, Rick Riles of Atlanta, GA, Becca Riles of Statesboro, GA and Buddy Riles and his fiancé, Emily Espy, of Birmingham, Alabama, 5 great grandchildren, Maddy Bernier, Ellery Bernier, Riles Riner, Catherine Riner and Reid Riner, several nieces and nephews and her special friend and companion, Joe Frank Middlebrooks.

Honorary pallbearers will be Mike Mooney, Lee Walters, Alan Dismuke, David Guillebeau, Jim Potts and Len Whittle.

Mrs. Riles was preceded in death by her parents, Dr. S. M. and Minnie Reid Dekle, her husband, Frederick "Sonny" Emerson Riles, Jr. and a son George Griffith Riles.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Porterfield Memorial United Methodist Church, 2200 Dawson Rd., Albany, GA 31707 or to the Warwick United Methodist Church, 199 Magnolia St., SE, Warwick, GA 31796.

To share your thoughts with the Riles family you may visit our website at www.kimbrellstern.com.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

JAN 10. 11:00 AM (ET)

Sunnyside Cemetery
E 8th Ave
Cordele, GA 31015

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Joan Dekle Riles*

May 22, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ *Mrs. Joan Dekle Riles*

December 24, 2022 at 02:54 AM



“ *Burt, Wayne & Britt I was deeply saddened to hear about Joan's death. She was a sweet, kind lady. But I know she's in Heaven with Jesus and is reunited with Sonny. Our pastor says there is resurrection on both sides of the grave, both for Joan and for you all. May God wrap you all in His loving arms and give you peace.*

Tom Glass - January 11, 2018 at 07:52 PM



“ *We are so sorry to here of your Mom. She was always such a sweet and loving lady. We will keep all the Riles and Whittle Families in our prayers!*

Warren and Connie Field

Warren P. Field - January 10, 2018 at 10:36 PM



HM

“ Dear Wayne. Britt, Burt, Emily and family,
We were very saddened to read about Joan's death on Sunday. We treasure our relationship with the Riles and Whittle family members from Joan's teaching days at Deerfield-Windsor. Our older son, Mike, remembers fondly his time playing baseball with Burt at D-W. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family as you look toward God's promises for comfort.

Helen and Paul McCorvey - January 10, 2018 at 12:51 PM

EH

“ Eddie And Lisa Hunt lit a candle in memory of
Mrs. Joan Dekle Riles



Eddie and Lisa Hunt - January 09, 2018 at 04:20 PM

AD

“ Susan & I are sending our deepest sympathy
for the loss of such a sweet lady. She is loved
by so many and will be greatly missed. Our
thoughts & Prayers are with you all.



Alan Dismuke - January 09, 2018 at 03:39 PM

GG

“ It was such a joy to know Joan. Always had a kind word and a
beautiful smile. Praying for you all.

Gretchen Gay - January 09, 2018 at 01:02 PM

GR

“ Sending our sympathy & prayers to each of you. Thinking of you in the days ahead! Glenda Rambo

Glenda Rambo - January 09, 2018 at 09:39 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Joan Dekle Riles.



January 08, 2018 at 08:34 PM

GM

“ Gary & Tammy Mays purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mrs. Joan Dekle Riles.



Gary & Tammy Mays - January 08, 2018 at 03:13 PM

DR

“ Dearest Riles family, so sorry for the loss of your sweet mother. It was always such a joy to see her at church with her sweet smile and sweet disposition. She was a true lady and genuinely cared for others. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Glenn and Debbie Reynolds

Debbie Reynolds - January 08, 2018 at 02:28 PM



Amy, My deepest sympathy to your family in this difficult time. My prayers are with you.

Lisa G Baker - January 09, 2018 at 08:03 AM

BA

My Aunt Joan was the youngest of 8 born in the Dekle family. My mother, Nora Jeanette, was the oldest. I have many wonderful memories and shared family reunions at the Riles' Lake house. Aunt Joan was special to me and so many others. I believe she borders on sainthood for being a teacher for 32 years. She will be missed and never forgotten. My deepest sympathy goes out to the Riles, Dekle, and related families.

Berkley (Berk) Adams

Berk Adams - January 09, 2018 at 10:33 PM