



Mrs. Ruth Merritt Rigsby

June 30, 1921 - January 26, 2018

Ruth Merritt Rigsby, 96, of Augusta, Georgia, formerly of Albany, Georgia, died January 26, 2018 at Kentwood Nursing Facility in Augusta.

Ruth was born June 30, 1921. She was a native of Jakin, Georgia and often told stories about growing up with her brother and three sisters in this close-knit community where the focus was on church, family and school. As a young girl she excelled in acrobatics, recitation, and writing. She knew from an early age that she wanted to be a teacher. She graduated from high school at age 15, and that fall she entered South Georgia College in Douglas where she earned a two year degree which allowed her to teach.

While teaching in Hilton, Georgia, she met her future husband, James Harold Rigsby. They were married in 1942. When Ruth's two children were in elementary school she went back to school and received a BS in Education from Valdosta State. During her 25 year career, she taught in Hilton; Donaldsonville; Iron City; Boling, Texas; Valdosta, and Albany. She cherished her students and the many teachers she worked with over the years.

Ruth is survived by a son, James Harold Rigsby, Jr. (Jimmy) and his wife Kent of Augusta; one granddaughter, Merritt Rigsby Fields and husband, Jeff; four grandsons: Rob Rigdon; Mac Rigdon and wife Jesse; Wilkes Fraser and wife Melissa; Trey Rigsby and wife Michele; and 12 great grandchildren.

Ruth was preceded in death by her husband, James Harold Rigsby; her parents, Byron O. Merritt and Mattie Lou Stamper Merritt; brother and sisters; and daughter, Sara Ann Rigdon Fraser.

Ruth often said that her greatest success was her family – seeing her children mature, get a college education, marry and produce fine grandchildren. Her grandchildren adored her and when they are together love to share their stories of growing up with “Mammy.” Ruth was also blessed with a life rich in friendships.

There will be a graveside service at 2 P.M. on Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at Crown Hill Cemetery in Albany with the Rev. Matt Lampley officiating.

In lieu of flowers, please make memorials to First Baptist Church of Albany, 145 Oakland Pkwy, Leesburg, GA 31763.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

JAN 31. 2:00 PM (ET)

Crown Hill Cemetery
1907 Dawson Rd.
Albany, GA 31707

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Ruth Merritt Rigsby*

May 22, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ *Mrs. Ruth Merritt Rigsby*

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ *Mrs. Ruth Merritt Rigsby*

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ *Mrs. Ruth Merritt Rigsby*

December 24, 2022 at 02:54 AM



“ *Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with your family. Mrs. Rigsby was our neighbor on Partridge in Albany for over 30 years! She and Harold were wonderful neighbors. She was a special lady and loved her family. Debbie TenHagen Sutton*

Debbie Sutton - January 30, 2018 at 10:38 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Ruth Merritt Rigsby.*



January 29, 2018 at 07:23 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mrs. Ruth Merritt Rigsby.*



January 29, 2018 at 02:18 PM



“ *I had Ruth as my 8th grade English teacher at Albany Junior High. Right after she retired and I graduated from college, I worked at Albany Junior High . I saw Ruth often when she was in Albany and loved her. I am sorry to miss the service due to being out of town.*

Nancy Reimer - January 29, 2018 at 11:59 AM



“ *I will always remember having Miss Ruth and Mr Harold as dear friends of our family as we were growing up in South Georgia. Always kind, wonderful people who enjoyed having a good time. Our family has your family in our thoughts and prayers. Collin McCrary, Troy, Alabama*

Collin McCrary - January 29, 2018 at 11:50 AM

JB

“*Mrs. Ruth was our next door neighbor in Albany for many years, and before that, she had been a family friend who taught school with my mother. She was always so friendly and happy. She was very sharp and active well into her 90s. We will miss her! Heaven has grown even brighter now that she’s there.*

- Jenni, Jim and Andrew Bode

Jenni Bode - January 28, 2018 at 01:26 PM