



Julia "Della" Nichols Sears

August 9, 1939 - April 9, 2019

Julia Nichols Sears, "Della", passed into the arms of her Lord on April 9th, 2019, surrounded by a loving family. Julia was born on August 9, 1939 to Ted Roosevelt Nichols and Ethel Holcomb Nichols as the third of eight children. Her childhood was spent in the beautiful Blue Ridge foothills of Wilkes County, North Carolina, and in Maryland where the family temporarily moved during World War 2 so her father could help in the war effort. Julia loved music, but her family couldn't afford music lessons, so she taught herself to play the hymn "Bringing in the Sheaves" on the old family piano. In 1957 Julia was part of the very first graduating class of West Wilkes High School. Consequently, the Statler Brothers song "The Class of '57" always held a special place in her heart. After graduation she moved to Durham and later to Raleigh where she would be introduced to the love of her life, Billy Leonard Sears, who at the time was a Textile Science student at NC State University. They would marry on September 1, 1962 and would spend the next 56 years together. In 1964 they moved to Greensboro and built a wonderful life. Julia worked as an administrative assistant for JP Stevens Company and later for the Guilford Technical Community College Small Business Center.

Julia loved visits to the Blue Ridge Parkway and the beaches of Emerald Isle. In later years she took a special interest in her grandchildren and their adventures as they grew up. She loved, defended, exhorted, and admonished her family when necessary, and was always eager to share in celebrating their

achievements, no matter how big or small. Both she and Billy were very active in Green Level Baptist Church and especially in the church's efforts with the Baptist Children's Homes of NC. Julia also loved a good hot dog and good seafood, and enjoyed trying out new restaurants as well as eating at old favorite haunts.

Julia was preceded in death by her parents, and sisters Louella Brown, Janeta McGee, and Christine Blankenship. She is survived by her husband Billy, son Warren Sears and wife Kathy Sears, grandchildren James Sears and Ashley Sears, brothers Dale Nichols and William Nichols, and sisters Judy Nichols and Debbe Pruitt.

A private inurnment for the family will be held in Green Level Baptist Church cemetery. A visitation for the family will be on Saturday, April 13, 2019 from 1:00-2:00pm in the sanctuary of Green Level Baptist Church and a memorial service will be held from 2:00-3:00pm in the sanctuary.

The family would like to extend special thanks to the staff of Fresenius Kidney Care of Apex and Transitions Life Care, whose loving care of Julia made a very difficult time of life more bearable.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Renovation fund at Green Level Baptist Church of Cary, NC, or to Transitions LifeCare of Wake County.

Cemetery Details

Green Level Baptist Church Cemetery

8509 Green Level Church Rd
Cary, NC 27519

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 13. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Green Level Baptist Church
8509 Green Level Church Rd
Cary, NC 27519

Celebration of Life

APR 13. 2:00 PM (ET)

Green Level Baptist Church
8509 Green Level Church Rd
Cary, NC 27519

Tribute Wall

SD

“ We loved our visits with Della and Billy. She always had such a positive outlook on life and we appreciated that, her sunny disposition, and her sweet smile. She would share happy tales of her family and we could see the love she felt for all of them as she spoke. We know she will be missed by many and we will miss her too.

Sherry Dancy, Dot and Curt Foster

Sherry Dancy - April 11, 2019 at 11:59 AM

FF

“ Fawzy Nassar & Family purchased the Beautiful i
n Blue for the family of Julia "Della" Nichols
Sears.



Fawzy Nassar & Family - April 11, 2019 at 09:51 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for
the family of Julia "Della" Nichols Sears.



April 11, 2019 at 08:42 AM

BF

“ We did not know Della but members of the family are dear to our hearts. Judy and Bill and all the family ...you are in our prayers. You have our heartfelt sympathy. Hold onto your precious memories and God's promise of a glad reunion day. Bobby and Joyce Faw

Bobby and Joyce Faw - April 10, 2019 at 10:48 PM

BS

“ I am so sorry to hear about Della, We were friends for a long time, We went to Purlear Baptist Church together growing up. Went to school together for 12 years. She was a sweet soft spoken person. She called me 2 years ago after our 60th class reunion. She was unable to attend it and I filled her in on our classmates. The class of 1957 of West Wilkes will miss her. My prayers and thoughts are with all of you. Barbara Vannoy Stone.

Barbara Stone - April 10, 2019 at 08:58 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Julia "Della" Nichols Sears.



April 10, 2019 at 04:46 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Wake Funeral & Cremation Services, Inc. - April 09, 2019 at 07:26 PM

JN

My memories of my sister Julia was when she would come home to visit when she was younger. She always came with presents and a hug .Once I recall she brought us a Hoola Hoop .I was ecstatic ,It was the greatest thing in the world to me .She always knew what would make us happy .As a teenager I and my sister Debbe would spend a couple of weeks with her and her husband Billy in the summer .She would over feed me because I at the time was extremely thin .She was afraid I was too thin ,but I I was always running and playing ,but she was convinced I needed to be fattened up .But whatever she did she did it to benefit me. She loved her family and fiercely defended them and her son Warren was raised in a loving Christian family because of Julia and Billy's Christian roots. She loved her family friends and church family ,and that is why we mourn so her passing .But we shouldn't because she won the battle and now she is home. I love you Julia !!

judy Nichols - April 09, 2019 at 09:25 PM