



## Katharine Jones Ogburn

December 7, 1921 - September 5, 2018

Katharine Jones Ogburn, 96, died at her Apex home on September 5, 2018, of congestive heart failure.

Katharine was born at her parents' home in the Fairview Community of Apex on December 7, 1921. Her parents were Cary Braxton Jones and Bessie Sprinkle Jones. Her father, who had a sawmill business, died when Katharine was only thirteen months old. Her mother, an elementary school teacher, raised three young children on the family's farm. By example and through necessity, Katharine learned strength, independence, and the value of hard work.

Katharine attended Peace College (now William Peace University) in Raleigh. In 1944 Katharine married Gene Winton Ogburn and they had four daughters. Besides working as a homemaker, Katharine also worked in Apex for Holland's Jewelers, The Dome clothing store, and Ace Hardware. She was a member of Apex United Methodist Church for sixty-five years, the Earnest Workers' Sunday School Class, and a charter member of the Florence Holleman United Methodist Women's Circle. Katharine was an enthusiastic Duke Blue Devils fan. She served many years as a Fairview Community Club board member. She had a long-standing interest in her Jones family heritage and was active on the Jones Family Reunion Committee.

Katharine was preceded in death by her parents and her sister, Frances Jones Jackson, of El Centro, CA. She is survived by her beloved brother, Cary Benjamin (Ben) Jones of Pittsboro, NC, and her four cherished daughters, Carol Jean Ogburn of Richmond, VA, Katharine (Kit) Irene Ogburn (husband Ron Walther) of Asheville, NC, Elizabeth (Betty) Ogburn Nelson of Burnsville, NC, and Dr. Cynthia (Cindy) Ogburn Donnelly (husband Tim Donnelly) of Apex.

She is also survived by six granddaughters, a grandson, and four great-granddaughters. Katharine's grandchildren are Debra (Debbie) Campbell West of Durham, NC, Susanne Nelson Korta (husband Chris) of Tallahassee, FL, Carrie Nelson Johnson (husband Ben) of Fairview, NC, Maria Nelson Simcox (husband Ethan) of Morganton, NC, Meghan Brooke Sanders of Lander, WY, Leslie Donnelly Lorbacher (husband Scott) of Apex, NC, and Warren Lewis Donnelly, of Medellín, Colombia. Katharine's great-grandchildren are Olivia and Sophie Korta of Tallahassee, FL, Stella Johnson, of Fairview, NC, and Ida Simcox of Morganton, NC. A fifth great-granddaughter to be named Aubrey Lorbacher is expected in September. Katharine is also survived by four nieces and two nephews. Surviving nieces and nephews are Susan Jones, Mary Linda West, Janet Bell, Elisabeth Thornton, Cal Ogburn and Jim Riley.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Apex United Methodist Church, 100 South Hughes Street, Apex, NC 27502, or to a charity of choice.

The family gratefully acknowledges the many acts of kindness shown to Katharine by her church family and other friends. We appreciate every call, visit, card, and gift. Weekly meals provided by the Apex United Methodist Church Food Ministry were a continuous source of support for many months.

The family has truly been blessed by Katharine's long and active life, and we have been blessed, too, by many supportive family members and Katharine's special circle of friends.

Katharine's daughters thank the caregivers from Twins Loving Care, especially Cindy Hill, with whom their mother formed a special bond. We are also grateful to Transitions LifeCare nurse Elizabeth Derjan, who always provided gentle care and loving support. Katharine was also supported by companions and caregivers Pat Utle, Trice Cox Robertson, and Gail Burwell. She loved them all dearly.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at Apex United Methodist Church on Saturday, September 8, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. Following the service, the family will receive guests at the Crossroads annex, adjacent to the sanctuary. A private interment will take place at Swift Creek Baptist Church Cemetery, Raleigh.

# Cemetery Details

## Swift Creek Baptist Church

9300 Penny Rd  
Raleigh, NC 27606

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life Service

SEP 8. 5:30 PM (ET)

Apex United Methodist Church  
100 S Hughes St.  
Apex, NC 27502

# Tribute Wall

JW

“ We were very sorry to hear of your mother's passing. Our condolences to all.



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**Jim & Lynne Weber** - September 19, 2018 at 11:23 AM

NS

“ Katherine's daughter, Carol, is a good friend so I did get to visit Katherine in her warm home. She was always friendly and treated me warmly as a visitor. I appreciated that.  
Norris Spencer

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**Norris Spencer** - September 08, 2018 at 02:19 PM

TL

“ Thad Tunstall and Retha Lesher purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Katharine Jones Ogburn.



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**Thad Tunstall and Retha Lesher** - September 08, 2018 at 10:08 AM

CR

“ I have counted "Ms. O" as a dear friend from the time when Hugo and I bought the house across the road from her, more than 30 years ago. When it would snow, even an almost pretend snow, we would cross the road and make waffles with her. It was a dear tradition to the 3 of us. I visited her nearly every day from the time we moved there until we moved back to Alabama in 1984. My daughter took her first step in her living room near the built in bookcase. She set us to attending Apex United Methodist Church and the Sunday school class where we made many friends. She was a mother to me when my own mother was far away. Just knowing she is gone leaves an empty place in my heart.

*Crystal Rogers*

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**Crystal H. Rogers** - September 08, 2018 at 09:08 AM

BW

“ I always admired Mrs. Ogburn. She was a grade mother in some of our classes at old Apex Elementary. She was kind to everyone and had a fine group of sweet daughters. I remember riding back to ECU with Kitty and graduating with Carol Jean many years ago.

*Betty Tunstall Williams*

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**Betty Williams** - September 07, 2018 at 08:18 PM

SW

“ I have so many memories of "Miss Katharine". She was mother of my classmates. She was ever so helpful when shopping at The Dome. Her salesmanship often caused me to purchase more than I intended. And her smile was infectious.



*In a recent visit by one of her daughters, she was busy making pot holders. I'm a fortunate recipient of one of those pot holders and know it was made with love and effort. My regret is that I never mailed her my thank you card. It's a small thing to some but I'll always cherish that pot holder and think of her with great fondness.*

*The family has my sincere sympathy. Always keep your mother and your memories in your heart. It will keep her close to you forever.*

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**Sandy Williams** - September 06, 2018 at 09:44 PM