



Hilda Lee Malone
McNeely

Nov. 23, 1925 - Feb. 13, 2025

Hilda Lee Malone McNeely, 99, of Morganton, NC, passed away Thursday, February 13, 2025.

Born in Caswell County, NC on November 23, 1925, she was the daughter of the late Frank J. Malone and Hallie C. Malone.

Hilda graduated from Prospect Hill High School as valedictorian and earned her Bachelor of Arts in biology from Elon College. She was a beloved teacher who was a role model for so many students in her 31 years of teaching science. She taught at Durham County High School, Greensboro Womens College, was head of the Duke University Hospitals Hematology Department, and then at Burke County Public Schools from 1949 to 1980. She was known to go the extra mile for her students by meeting them after normal hours to complete assignments.

Along with her husband, Charles, Hilda was an avid Tar Heels fan who enjoyed going to Kenan Stadium to watch football. She enjoyed basketball just as much and felt like Dean Smith was always going to will the team to victory.

Mrs. McNeely was an active lady and loved to be on the go. She enjoyed playing golf, bridge, traveling abroad, volunteering as a Pink Lady, and even cross-country skiing.

Hilda was a woman of faith who lived it in her daily walk with the Lord. She was an active member of Drexel First Baptist Church, and she had served as a Sunday School teacher, GA leader, sang in the Joy Group, and served in many other capacities.

Mrs. McNeely is survived by her children, Malone McNeely (Shirley) and Kaye M. Hicks (Mike); grandchildren, Brandon McNeely, Katie M. Barkley, Michael M. Hicks, and Bradley B. Hicks; great-grandchildren, Luke & Avery Barkley; cousin, Sandra Newton; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Hilda was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Burgin McNeely; and a brother, F. Jabez Malone, Jr.

The family will receive friends from 3 to 4 p.m., Sunday, February 16, 2025 at Drexel First Baptist Church. A celebration of Hilda's life will follow at 4 p.m. in the church with Rev. Bruce Piercy officiating. A private graveside service will be held at Drexel Memorial Park.

Sossoman Funeral Home and Crematory Center is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Visitation

Feb. 16, 2025
3 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Drexel First Baptist Church

Service

Feb. 16, 2025
4 p.m.

Drexel First Baptist Church

Committal

N/A

Tribute Wall



Malone, As you know I lost my dear father about a year and a half ago so I can understand your loss. For me I have many great memories and lessons I learned that give me comfort. I know my dad is in a better place and he lived a great life. I hope that you can find similar comfort in the coming years. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

—MICHAEL DANIELS



Malone, I'm truly sorry of the passing of your mother. Mom's can't ever be replaced thoughts and prayers go to you from all of us at Hurley Castle.

—Eric A Hurley



Dear Malone & Kaye, Your mom was such a sweet lady. I remember how she would come visit w Mama and how she would come visit me after mama died. She was truly a blessing to our church and to Drexel.

—Libby Arney

Hi Kaye, I remember your sweet mother when she came to the beauty salon and Martha did her hair. She always had a smile to share. We laughed many times

Martha did her hair. She always had a smile to share. We laughed many times together. I am sorry for your loss. Hilda was a special lady. Lisa Rector

—Lisa Rector

Kaye your mother was a beautiful woman and a unique individual. I am so glad I got to meet her, what a lovely spirit. My heart goes out to you and your family as you go through this time of life. God's peace be with you.

—Fran Cabe

—Thom Summey



Hilda was a very special lady and it was an honor to know her and care for her. She impacted my life and I will always hold a special place in my heart for Hilda. Her family is incredible and she loved them very much. I pray for peace and hope for the family. Hilda we love you so much and you will be missed dearly! Thank you for blessing my life.

—Stacey Wilson



I am so sorry for your loss. Praying for you your family in the days ahead!

—Emily Browning

Mrs. McNeely was a wonderful woman and a great teacher.

—Dianne Odum

Kaye and Malone, I am so sorry for your loss. Your mom was a part of my life for so many years. I loved how straightforward and honest your mom was. I always

telt she was so authentic. That's such a rare and wonderful way to be in the world. Praying for you as you remember and celebrate.

—Lydia Hoyle

Oh, she was so special! I loved her as a teacher and then as a friend. She had a sweet, sweet spirit. I really admired and respected her. Heaven surely gained an angel!

—Carolyn Powell

Dear Kaye and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Mrs. McNeely was an amazing lady and teacher. She will be missed by all who knew her. Prayers for all of her family and friends to have comfort and peace. Bless you all.

—Cynthia Webb Wilkinson



I respected this fine teacher. She made you want to learn, and I never wanted to disappoint her. Thank you for caring about your students.

—Debbie Cobb Rhoney

Loved having her as a teacher and as a friend of the family. God's peace and comfort to all the family at this time.

—Brian Baird

Thoughts and prayers for the family.

—Jerry & Patsy Yoder



A PRECIOUS aunt and teacher. I owe much to Hilda and her family for support all these years. She was loved by many



family for support all these years. She was loved by many.
Deepest sympathy to the family.

—Freddie Setzer



—Anonymous