Sossoman
Funeral Home & Crematory Center
5th Generation Family Owned & Operated Since 1949.



Linda Ann Rice

July 12, 1941 - Nov. 11, 2022

Linda Ann Rice, 81, of Morganton, NC entered into eternal rest on November 11, 2022, after a long period of declining health. She was born July 12, 1941, in Amarillo, TX to the late Charles Leonard Ulm and Anna Ruth Ulm. They moved from Amarillo and raised Linda in London Mills, IL. She was the beloved mother of 7 children and 2 stepchildren.

Linda is survived by her loving husband of 39 years, Larry Rice; 6 children, 2 sons, Mike Jensen (Kathy) and Jerry DeForest (Tina); 4 daughters, Mona Edwards, Ruth Huff, Sherry Horner, and Charlene Hurley (Doug); stepdaughter, Kelly Tullock (Joseph) and stepson, Timothy Runyon (Ila); 18 grandchildren; 9 great grandchildren and 1 great-great grandchild. She is also survived by her stepmother, Jo Ulm; 1 brother, Lennie Ulm; and 4 sisters, Delores, Mary, Diana, and Cindy.

Linda was preceded in death by one son, Dale DeForest Jr. and her parents, one grandson, Richard Horner; three sisters, Judy, Ginger and Jolene and one brother, Ray.

Linda worked and retired as a social worker for the State of Illinois for 25 years. She and her husband moved to Morganton in 2006. They loved going to estate sales and auctions and collecting antiques. They are members of El Bethel Baptist Church in

auctions and collecting antiques. They are members of El Bethel Baptist Church in Morganton.

Services for Linda are as follows: Visitation on Wednesday, November 16, 2022 from 3 pm - 5 pm at Sossoman Funeral Home. Funeral and celebration of life will be held at 11 am, Thursday, November 17, 2022 at El Bethel Baptist Church, 1669 N Green St,

Morganton, NC 28655 with Pastor Justin Cunningham and Pastor Ron Cooper officiating. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

In lieu of flowers please make memorial contributions to El Bethel Baptist Church, 1669 N Green St, Morganton, NC 28655.

We will always carry her memory in our hearts.

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

Tribute Wall

I have just learned of Linda's passing. My sincere condolences to the Deforest family. I am truly sorry for your loss. I wish I could have met her.

—Mark



Hey Grandma, I just want to thank you for never giving up on me and for yours and Grandpas belief in me. You showed me what love is. That's a lesson that I will carry forever. I hope I make you proud. I love you.

—Les



This is my beautiful mother who was loved beyond measure. She was such a strong and determined woman from a very young age. Giving birth to 7 children who she pretty much raised as a single mom. She worked hard to make sure we were always taken care of one way or another. She had a amazing mother our grandmother who was a big part in showing us strong ethics. She was blessed in meeting the love of her life Larry. She will be missed dearly but know she is in God's arms being held with love. Love you always mom, mona

—Ramona B Edwards



I never got to meet Mrs. Linda in person but I did talk to her several times. She was super sweet and always willing to listen and help through hard times. You will be missed sweet lady. I shall keep your family in my prayers. Rest easy.

–Ashley Smith



So sorry for your loss. Your mom was an amazing mom to us all at times. We will miss her forever as well! Sending Prayers to you all.

–Linda Lehere



I love you always and forever mom.

–Sherry Horner



Sorry for your loss. I know how hard it is to lose someone you love. I'll keep you in my thoughts and prayers.

–Jalene Norris



Ruth, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this time. We are here for you we can do anything. Love you dear Michael & Stephanie Johnson

–Stephanie Johnson

Our prayers and thoughts are with our with you all.

—Crystal Murphy



My deepest sympathy to you and family prayers for all of you. Dennis Franklin

—Dennis Franklin

So sorry for your loss to all of your family.

—Marianne Pilkington



I love you mama . Ty for always being a wonderful mother and a loving person. You have taught all of your children the true meaning of LOVE . love your daughter , Ruthie

—Ruth Huff

My deepest sympathy to all the family.prayers for strength and comfort during this time of loss..Diane ward

—Diane Ward