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



Linda Smith Wall

Aug. 6, 1937 - Oct. 13, 2026

Linda Smith Wall, 89, of Morganton died Tuesday, October 13, 2026 at Grace Ridge Retirement Community following a period of declining health.

She was born in Burke County on August 6, 1937 and was the daughter of the late Harold Russell Smith, Sr. and Lolita Oxford Smith Hoyt.

A 1958 graduate of Meredith College in Raleigh, Mrs. Wall was a homemaker with a love for horses and a keen interest in history and archaeology. In addition to being a homemaker, she volunteered with the Morganton Service League and the Quiz Bowl team at Freedom High School, while also serving terms on the Burke County Board of Education and the Western Piedmont Community College Board of Trustees, as well as the Western Piedmont Community College Foundation. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Morganton.

Surviving are her children, daughter Jenner Wall of Charlotte, and son Edward Wall of Morganton, sister-in-law Harriet Smith Proctor (Dean) of Hickory, and nephews Eric Smith (Monica) and Brad Smith (Laurie), all of Charlotte.

In addition to her parents, Mrs. Wall was predeceased by her husband of 52 years, Carl H. Wall, Jr. and her younger brother, Harold Russell Smith, Jr. (Bucky).

The family is grateful for the care Linda received at Grace Ridge Skilled Nursing Center, and especially for the love and devotion of her care givers, Berit, Emily,

Teresa, Anita, Ari, and Denise, with special love to Christie who had been with her the longest.

A memorial service for Mrs. Wall will be held at 11:00 am on Thursday, October 22, 2026 in the sanctuary of the First Presbyterian Church of Morganton with Rev. Lance Perry and Rev. Dr. Thomas A. Bland, Jr. officiating. A reception will follow in the church fellowship hall.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Exploring Joara Foundation, PO Box 296, Morganton, NC 28680 or the First Presbyterian Church, 100 Silver Creek Rd., Morganton, NC 28655.

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

Tribute Wall



Ms. Wall was truly one of the most truly generous, kindest people I have ever met. She believed in me a lot more than I did at the time, and she selflessly gave of her time and gifts to help me and the rest of our little team go as far as we could. Her impact is truly immeasurable, and I just wanted to take a moment to let anyone who reads this know that.

–Kevin McSwain

I am so sorry for your loss. Always enjoyed seeing your Mom. She was was so sweet and funny. I always loved talking to her and hearing where she was traveling to next! You are in my thoughts and prayers.

–Dovie McBrayer



–Barbara Hudson

Family and friends, May our Lord's gentle care embrace you all as you journey through the grieving period. Linda has a heavenly mansion. Always enjoyed our short visits when at Wall Lumber.

–Wayne and Leslie Giese

–Sam Avery

It was my pleasure to have known and cared for Mrs Wall at Grace Ridge. She was a lovely person. She had a very supportive family and caregivers I will miss her but know she is in a better place . With Love Patricia Davis

–Patricia Davis



–Vicki Sandiford

We are saddened to hear of Linda's passing. Knowing Ed stands as an extraordinary tribute to her wonderful legacy. Morganton is diminished by her departure. With profound sadness, Doug and Kim

–Douglas Joseph

Linda was a family friend as long as I can remember. She was so enthusiastic about learning and she was generous to her causes. Through the years we had many special times especially our Christmas Day visitations from the Walls and wonderful times at the beach. Looking back they were the funniest of times and great memories to hold onto on days like today. I will miss her terribly and pray for Eddie and Jenny and Bo, her beloved dog.

–Sandy Rudolf



Greatly saddened to hear of Linda’s passing. What an amazing and generous lady! I had the pleasure of meeting



her at the Berry site where she was enthusiastically present for so many years. She was truly a blessing and will be forever in the hearts of many.

–Crickett Hefner Ellis



Linda Wall was an amazing woman and had a tremendous influence on me though I am not sure she knew it. I will forever remember her as a force, a true "let's get this done" kind of woman. She always showed up, delivered, and encouraged. She showed me what it meant to believe in a cause. You were one remarkable lady, and I will never forget all that you shared of yourself.

–Tina Matthews

Linda was a dear friend of my family. Full of curiosity and class, she was so enthusiastic about the Bible, history, family updates, my daughter‘s riding, and my Dad’s scholarly work on the first century. She was a force. Full of energy and love. I am so sorry to learn of her passing, but I know she had a positive influence on so many lives. She was wonderful to come up for Dad’s retirement. (Dr. James Charlesworth at Princeton Seminary) Rest In Peace and May God bless her family. We are grateful and lucky to have known her. Michelle

–Michelle Charlesworth

Linda's advocacy and support laid such a strong foundation for Exploring Joara. So many field students, summer campers, and professional archaeologists benefitted from her generosity. Cost of room and board is one of the biggest barriers for students completing their required field school. I'm certain that there are more well trained professional archaeologists in the country thanks to her.

–Emma Richardson

Dear family, Linda was an inspiration and joy to all who knew her. She was a champion for the missions of nonprofits and supported them generously with her time and finances. Also, Linda was a true friend to those who knew her. In addition to her loyalty, she was a wonderful traveling companion and lots of fun.

So many fond memories were made on the Grace Ridge bus excursions! Please accept our sincere condolences, Susan and David Pollpeter

Jenner and Eddie, I am so very sorry to hear of your mothers passing. I didn't know her well, but she was always so kind and had the sweetest smile. She was and always will be your Beautiful Angel. I'm sending my condolences and heartfelt prayers.

—Babs Merrill Poole