



*Ruth Ellen Culler
Laughridge*

April 5, 1934 - Oct. 22, 2023

Ruth Ellen Culler Laughridge, 89, of Morganton, NC, passed away Sunday, October 22, 2023.

Born in Watauga County, NC on April 5, 1934, she was the daughter of the late Tracy Eugene Culler and Bonnie Lee Barnes Johnston.

Ruth was a member of the Church of Christ. She was a loving mother and grandmother who enjoyed both listening to and performing music, quilting, sewing, and watching old westerns and Perry Mason.

Ruth is survived by her sons, Gene Johnston (Margaret), Bobby Johnston (Laura), Ricky Johnston (Regina), and Kenny Johnston (Lisa); daughter, Renee Johnston Lytle; grandchildren, Brady Johnston (Shay), Julie Anne Martinat (Trey), Robert Johnston (Robbie), Shawn Johnston, Tracy Sams (Tony), Stacy Johnston, Heather Clark (Brandon), Jacob Black (Cari), Konner Johnston, Michaela Tweed, Russell Walsh and Brittney Walsh; and numerous great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Ruth was preceded in death by her husband, Cecil Franklin Laughridge; granddaughter, Melanie Johnston; brothers, Max, Dallas, and Lloyd Culler; and sisters, Anna Lee Culler Hinman, Jean Culler Voder, and Celie Culler.

and sisters, Anna Lee Cullen Timmian, Jean Cullen Todd, and Vera Cullen.

The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m., Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at Sossoman Funeral Home. The funeral will be held at 1 p.m., Thursday, October 26, 2023 at Church of Christ in Morganton with Minister Jeff Lovitt officiating. Entombment will follow in Burke Memorial Park Mausoleum.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Amorem Hospice.

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

Tribute Wall



For some reason I just had a thought about you & didn't even know you was gone, but know I've thought about you a lot since my aunt Judy Nantz passed. You'll definitely be missed because you always treated me like your granddaughter. You were an amazing woman.

—Kristi Street

You will be greatly missed. Love you Aunt Ruthie!

—Kathleen Mitchell

Ruth is my longest best friend and will always be in my heart. We could talk and confided in each other about anything. Over 45 years Ruth was same wonderful person everyday every time. I have never seen or known a Marriage more happier with more unconditional love than Ruth And Cecil Laughridge. I'm honored and blessed to be Ruth's friend and honored to sing Thursday for Ruth, family and friends. I may fall short but will sing from the heart for my best friend as I know Ruth would have done for me. Ruth's voice was top notch not long ago when I recorded a original song written, sang and composed by Ruth. An Angel just joined the choir in Heaven, John Pons

—John Pons

Gene, Rick and family, we're so saddened to learn of your Mom's passing. May

God Bless and assist each of you in the days ahead.

—Sam & Jan



—Leah Blackburn

Aunt Ruthie. I love you so much. I didn't get to visit as much as you or I would have liked in the last few years because of kids & Lloyd's dementia. Just know you were always in my heart. I know you are rejoicing at the reunion with all your loved ones. Until we see you again I love you.

—Dianne Wicks