



Mrs. Lillian Watts Cunningham

September 25, 1929 - July 3, 2022

Lillian Watts Cunningham, 92, of Rock Hill, formerly of Hartsville, died peacefully on July 3, 2022, following a short illness.

Lillian was born on September 25, 1929, in Great Falls, SC. She was the only child of the late Bennie Frank Watts and Lillian Dye Watts. She graduated as Valedictorian of Great Falls High School and went on to graduate from Winthrop College.

Lillian devoted her life to her family and was the quintessential Southern homemaker. She dabbled in watercolors and created beautiful artwork for her family. She loved poetry, Claude Monet paintings, puffy white clouds, and the smallest, most insignificant pieces of God's creation that she thought were lovely...leaves, sticks, moss. She even left a small cobweb in the kitchen window in her Highlands, NC home because she saw it as a work of art.

She was a member of First Presbyterian Church in Hartsville where she served as a Sunday School teacher. Up until her death, Lillian spent many years sending birthday cards to friends and church members. She was known for her tiny, beautiful handwriting. She used to love to watch Atlanta Braves baseball with her husband and, especially, South Carolina football. After every win, she would call her children with a Cock-A-Doodle-Do!

She had the kindest, most unassuming way about her, and everyone she met knew she was a godly woman. Pick up your Bible and read Proverbs 31. That was Lillian Cunningham.

Lillian was predeceased by the love of her life, McCleery Beall Cunningham, her husband of 69 years. Survivors include her son Robert McCleery Cunningham and wife Janis of Denver, NC, her son William Frederick Cunningham and wife Michelle of Rock Hill, SC, her daughter Elizabeth Cunningham Gault and husband David of Rock Hill, SC, and grandchildren William Cunningham, Caroline Cason, Elizabeth Ligon, Maggie Cunningham, Hannah Dunn, Anna Grace Burch, and Bryce Batchelor, and great-grandchildren Claire Cason, Camille Cason, Atticus Dunn, Cullen Cason, and Lily Ligon.

A graveside service will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 6, 2022, at the Liberty Hill Presbyterian Church Cemetery, 18 Meeting Lane, Liberty Hill, SC, with visitation following the service.

Memorials may be sent in Lillian's name to First ARP Church in Rock Hill, SC, or the Liberty Hill Presbyterian Cemetery Association in Liberty Hill, SC.

The Directors of Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home & Crematory are caring for the family.

Cemetery Details

Liberty Hill Presbyterian Church Cemetery

18 Meeting Lane
Liberty Hill, SC 29074

Previous Events

Graveside

JUL 6. 3:00 PM (ET)

Liberty Hill Presbyterian Church Cemetery
18 Meeting Lane
Liberty Hill, SC 29074

Tribute Wall

RA

“ Robert Andrews lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lillian Watts Cunningham



Robert Andrews - December 24, 2025 at 06:22 AM

CW

“ Michelle,
My Thoughts and Prayers are with Bill and You and His Family. I didn't know Mrs. Cunningham but from the Condolences written She was a Godly Woman. Peace, Comfort, Strength and Healing to All the Families. Love and Prayers.

Connie (Sells) Wallace - July 09, 2022 at 09:42 AM



Thank you so much for your words of comfort.

Beth Gault - July 11, 2022 at 10:11 AM

CW

Beth,
I know what it's like lose a Mother. My Mother has been gone 22 years and not a day goes by that I don't miss her.

I know you remember her... you may have even had her for P.E. at the Junior High School and I think you and my sister Rebecca were in the same grade.

Life can pass us by so quickly.,
Cherish all the Wonderful Memories of Your Mother deep in your Heart.
Please tell Michelle I said Hello.

Connie (Sells) Wallace - July 11, 2022 at 05:49 PM

BG

“ *She was a lovely lady and Mac was a true southern gentleman.*

Brenda Grooms - July 06, 2022 at 01:21 PM



Thank you for your kind words.

Beth Gault - July 08, 2022 at 12:38 PM



“ *Jess Powell lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lillian Watts Cunningham*



Jess Powell - July 06, 2022 at 11:31 AM

P(

“ *Miss Lillian was such a sweet lady and I was so blessed to be neighbors with her and Mac. They were always going out of their way for a young couple and I loved to go over and sit and talk on their back porch. So many wonderful memories and so much love!!!!*

Priscilla Smith (Myers) - July 05, 2022 at 01:49 PM



Thank you for your kind words.

Beth Gault - July 05, 2022 at 05:30 PM

PC

“ *Bob, Bill, and Beth,
My sincerest condolences to all of you. Your
mother and Mac were absolutely wonderful
people and children of God. They are
together again. Miss them both! With Love
and Sympathy,
Pressly Coker*



Pressly Coker - July 04, 2022 at 02:47 PM



Thank you for your kind thoughts.

Beth Gault - July 04, 2022 at 07:20 PM

JH

“ *JANICE HUGHEY lit a candle in memory of
Mrs. Lillian Watts Cunningham*



JANICE HUGHEY - July 04, 2022 at 01:23 PM

BG

“ *Our condolences for the family. Lillian was a
dear sweet lady.
Don and Bess Gore*



Bess Gore - July 04, 2022 at 12:11 PM



Thank you so much.

Beth Gault - July 04, 2022 at 07:20 PM

CS

“ Beth, Bill and Bob, Mary Catherine and I are heartbroken to hear of the loss of your wonderful mother, Lillian. She was without question as sweet and good as anyone I’ve ever known and Mac was the same way. You were blessed to have them guide you. I was blessed to have known them my whole life. The bond that Lillian, Mac, Margie and Thurston shared brought them into our home and us into their home. The Santee camping trips from over 60 years ago are still vivid memories as well as Lillian’s beautifully written notes received often including one not too many weeks ago. We pray that God will hold you close during this difficult time, and in time, you will receive His strength and peace and feel joy as you reflect knowing that your mother and your father were two people who were of the highest order of Christian faith and integrity

Clyde Stuckey - July 04, 2022 at 11:46 AM



Clyde, Your sentiments mean more to me that I can ever tell you. Thank you so much.

Beth Gault - July 04, 2022 at 07:22 PM

CB

“ Tom & I are so very sorry for your loss. Lillian was a wonderful lady and a pillar of our church at First Presbyterian for longer than I remember. You have our deepest sympathy. Love, Cecelia

Cecelia D Brown - July 04, 2022 at 10:57 AM



Thank you. First Pres held a special place in my parents' hearts.

Beth Gault - July 04, 2022 at 07:22 PM

RM

“ Rachel Doyle Medlin sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Lillian Watts Cunningham



Rachel Doyle Medlin - July 04, 2022 at 08:41 AM

RC

“ Richard And Jane Cheshire lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lillian Watts Cunningham



Richard and Jane Cheshire - July 04, 2022 at 07:37 AM

BM

“ Billie McManus lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lillian Watts Cunningham



Billie McManus - July 04, 2022 at 05:48 AM

AW

“ My precious caring friend Lillian. Bless you. Together again with your Mac. Love from Anna



Anna Williams - July 04, 2022 at 04:32 AM



Thank you, Anna. They both loved you so much.

Beth Gault - July 04, 2022 at 07:23 PM