



## Mrs. Lydia Padgett Dempsey

March 16, 1937 - June 26, 2026

It is with sad hearts that the family of Lydia Padgett Dempsey, age 89, announces her passing. She went to her heavenly home on June 26, 2026, while at home surrounded by her loved ones. She was the daughter of Lawrence and Pauline Padgett. The Directors of Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home are caring for the family.

A graveside service to honor her life will be at 11 o'clock on Thursday, July 2, 2026, at Westview Memorial Park Cemetery. The Rev. Dr. Beverly Kennedy and The Rev. Dr. Kevin Walters will officiate. The family will receive friends from 5:00 until 7:00 pm on Wednesday, July 1, 2026, and other times at the residence, 209 Green Street, Hartsville, SC 29550.

She shared a beautiful love story with her high school sweetheart and the love of her life, Donald Dempsey, or as she called him, "Demp." She has continued to carry his love and memory in her heart since his passing in 1984. She has now joined him, her heart no longer broken, as they happily stroll over heaven together.

She was the heart of her family and cherished and loved dearly as "Mama" by her four daughters, and as "Granny" by her eight grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. She had a special song she sang to all of her grands, "You Are My Sunshine," and through the years, they embraced that song as a reflection

of the love they felt for her. Her family was truly the sunshine of her life, and she was, in every sense, the sunshine of her entire family. We were blessed beyond measure to call her our Mama and Granny.

Her favorite week of every year was the annual Dempsey family beach vacation during the last full week of June. She loved having her family under one roof, surrounded by love, laughter, and simply being together. For the past fourteen years, this treasured tradition has brought everyone together. It seemed only fitting that this year, she made her journey to her heavenly home the day before this special week, ensuring that her family was gathered together one last time.

She loved the game of baseball and cheered hard for her all-time favorite team, the Atlanta Braves. She was so excited when the grands and great grands began to play ball! Needless to say, Granny was the biggest cheerleader for all the children in their special activities.

She was a member of West Hartsville Baptist Church and attended faithfully until declining health prevented her attendance. She was a member of the JOY Sunday School class and loved all of her close friends, she shared this time with each week.

She began her working career as a nurse's aide at Byerly Hospital. Later in life, she was a kindergarten teacher at Emmanuel Baptist School, where she shared the love of Jesus and nurtured young minds. Oftentimes, she would see her "kindergarten children," and they would always give her a hug and share that she was their favorite teacher. She also worked as a salesclerk at Coker's Department Store, Minnie's Giftique, and Belk. She loved helping her customers choose that special gift or outfit, and those customers often became her lifelong friends.

Left to cherish her memory are her daughters: Donna (Mitchell) Sansbury, Debbie (Bobby) Pritchard, Gina Easterling (Jake Winburn), and Abby (Allen) Tyner; her grandchildren, Ashleigh Hogge (Danny), Meredith Sansbury (Casey), Daniel Pritchard (Brandy), Brett Pritchard, Erin Tiller (Josh), Donnie Easterling (Erin), Laura Privette, and Lee Tyner (Anna - Spencer); her great grandchildren; her sister, JoFrieda Kelley; one niece and two nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Donald Dempsey, her parents, Lawrence and Pauline Padgett, and two nieces.

The family would like to send a heartfelt gratitude to Crescent Hospice caregivers: Laken, Acey, Crystal, and Chaplin Joey. Also, a special thank you to Dr. Cody Kidd and Dr. Eric Bonno of Carolina Pines Medical Center.

Memorials may be made in her memory to West Hartsville Baptist Church, Crescent Hospice, or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

# Cemetery Details

## Westview Memorial Park Cemetery

2223 Kelleytown Road  
Hartsville, SC 29550  
info@bpafuneralhome.com

# Upcoming Events

## Visitation

JUL 1. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home  
306 W. Home Ave.  
Hartsville, SC 29550  
(843) 332-6531  
info@bpafuneralhome.com  
<http://www.bpafuneralhome.com>

## Funeral Service

JUL 2. 11:00 AM (ET)

Westview Memorial Park Cemetery  
2223 Kelleytown Road  
Hartsville, SC 29550  
info@bpafuneralhome.com

# Tribute Wall

CB

“ Tom & I are so very sorry to hear this. She was a lovely lady and her life was well lived. All of you are in our thoughts & prayers. May God wrap his arms around you and give you peace. Love, Cecelia

Cecelia Brown - 20 minutes ago

PS

“ Sending love and prayers. A beautiful life well lived. 🙏💕💕

Pam Sansbury - 34 minutes ago

LH

“ Leland And Kathy Huggins sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Lydia Padgett Dempsey



Leland and Kathy Huggins - 1 hour ago

CM

“ Ms Dempsey was a special lady and one of my favorite teachers she was strong stern and we knew she loved us all. She had an affectionate smile and spirit and she will never be forgotten. She leaves legacy of wonderful children and grandchildren. Praying for you all 🙏 Sheba's now a beautiful angel in heaven to watch over us



Crystal Minnehan - 1 hour ago

PT

“ I had the privilege of knowing many of Miss Lydia’s children and grandchildren during my years at HHS. What a lovely lady with wonderful legacy. So glad I got to know her and all of you. Cherish the many memories.

Paula Terry - 1 hour ago

VP

“ Vickie And Donald Parker lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lydia Padgett Dempsey



Vickie and Donald Parker - 1 hour ago

TB

“ The entire family is in my thoughts and prayers. Good memories from our Green Street crew many years ago. I am sure Mr. Demp & Ms. Lydia have reunited again!



Tonda Jacobs Bunch - 1 hour ago

MS

“ My deepest sympathy and condolences to all the family and all who loved this precious lady.

Myrtle Stokes - 1 hour ago

RW

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. "Miss Lydia" was one of the sweetest ladies I have ever known. Her laugh and smile was infectious and she always made everyone feel special. Heaven truly gained an angel!

Rita & Jimmy White

Rita & Jimmy White - 1 hour ago

JG

“ Jimmy And Judy Gainey sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Lydia Padgett Dempsey



Jimmy and Judy Gainey - 2 hours ago

DS

“ Our prayers and thoughts are with the family, you were certainly blessed to have her as your Mom.

Phoebe



Danny and Phoebe Stokes - 2 hours ago

DB

“ David And Beverly (Bee) Byrd lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lydia Padgett Dempsey



David and Beverly (Bee) Byrd - 2 hours ago

JH

So sorry for your loss. My prayers are with you all during this difficult time 🙏❤️

Jennifer Millen Hatchell - 2 hours ago

BR

“Becky Rummage lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lydia Padgett Dempsey



Becky Rummage - 2 hours ago

DT

“Debbie Talbert lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lydia Padgett Dempsey



Debbie Talbert - 2 hours ago

JE

“Jonnie Thomas Estermyer lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lydia Padgett Dempsey



Jonnie Thomas Estermyer - 2 hours ago

LR

“Terry and I have some fun stories from being on trips with this sweet lady.

Lucia Robertson - 2 hours ago

DM

“ *Doug And Scarlett Mason lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lydia Padgett Dempsey*



**Doug and Scarlett Mason** - 2 hours ago

CB

“ *Carol Bryant lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lydia Padgett Dempsey*




**Carol Bryant** - 2 hours ago

CG

“ *Connee Gamble Grantham lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lydia Padgett Dempsey*



**Connee Gamble Grantham** - 3 hours ago

  
Rebecca  
Rolfe  
Hogge

“ *To the Dempsey family  
Lydia was such a sweet lady, a dear friend and a very good neighbor on Green Street. She will be missed. Her entire family are in my thoughts and prayers.  
Rebecca Hogge*

**Rebecca Rolfe Hogge** - 3 hours ago

LP

“ Linda & Billy Price lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lydia Padgett Dempsey



Linda & Billy Price - 3 hours ago

FL

“ So sorry to hear about Mrs. Dempsey. She was such a sweet lady. I'll be praying for your family.

Fran Bailey Langley - 3 hours ago

LL

“ To the entire Dempsey family  
We are so sorry for your loss but heaven has certainly gained an angel when Granny Dempsey  
Went thru those Pearlie gates. God bless and be with each one of you today and the days to come  
You all were So blessed to have such a beautiful Mama And Granny, we will be praying for all of you ❤️🙏



Lawrence & Cindy Lowe - 3 hours ago

SC

“ Susan Braddock Clemmons lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lydia Padgett Dempsey



Susan Braddock Clemmons - 3 hours ago

RW

“ Ron Wall lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lydia Padgett Dempsey



Ron Wall - 3 hours ago

EB

“ Eric , Jo Lynn Bradshaw lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Lydia Padgett Dempsey



Eric , Jo Lynn Bradshaw - 3 hours ago

EB

We are so sorry for your loss. Your family will be in our prayers. Love and prayers

Eric , Jo Lynn Bradshaw - 3 hours ago

DC

“ Heaven has gained a great soul. Our sincere condolences. What a special week is the last week of June. Keep your memories close to your heart. May God wrap his loving arms around your entire family at this time of sadness and always remember how much she loved you all.



Dawn and Bill Crawford - 4 hours ago

JB

“ My sister and I always looked for Ms. Lydia when we went to Belk. We have lost a beautiful lady and her memory will always be with me. To the family may God wrap his loving arms around each of you and give you strength and comfort in the days and months ahead. Love in Christ to each of you.

Janelle and Walter Britt - 4 hours ago

DN

“ My heart is broken 💔. So sorry to hear of Mrs. Lydia's passing. May God's love comfort you all. Mrs. Lydia was a sweet precious lady.



Dan and Kathy Newsome - 4 hours ago

LL

“ This news was so sad to see. Mrs Dempsey was my kindergarten teacher at Emmanuel. She was my favorite teacher I ever had. She was an angel. I always enjoyed talking with her as I got older at Belk. She would always help me find the perfect outfit. She will always have a special place in my heart . I am so sorry for your loss. 💕💕

Laurie Lane - 4 hours ago