



Mrs. Nettie Faye DeFoor Kilpatrick

March 8, 1935 - June 24, 2021

A celebration of the life of Mrs. Nettie Faye DeFoor Kilpatrick, 86, who entered into rest on Thursday, June 24, 2021, will be held at 11 o'clock on Monday, June 28, 2021, in The Chapel of Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home. The Rev. Kevin Walters and The Rev. Eric McCreary will assist the family and burial will follow in Magnolia Cemetery. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service. Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Directors are caring for the family.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Andy Kilpatrick Memorial Scholarship, a fund set up after Andy's death that awards a deserving senior of Hartsville High School who will continue his or her education. Nettie was very proud of this scholarship since she believed it helped keep Andy's memory alive while helping others -- The Andy Kilpatrick Memorial Scholarship, The Citizens Bank, c/o Ben Kilpatrick, P.O. Box 2255, Hartsville, SC 29551.

"Wear your life jacket" and "put on your sunscreen" were just two of the too-many-to-mention life lessons Nettie DeFoor Kilpatrick gave to her children and grandchildren during her life, which ended on June 24, 2021.

Nettie, born on March 8, 1935, was one of seven children to Carrie Lee Kidd and Harley Cornelius DeFoor, near Haleyville, AL. Although she lived most of

her life in South Carolina, Alabama remained one of her favorite places, and she loved spending time with her numerous siblings and their spouses as well as her many nephews and nieces.

A chance encounter in Haleyville with U.S. Army veteran and Haleyville native Ben Kilpatrick led to a courtship and eventually marriage in 1956. She moved to Columbia, S.C., where Ben was completing his bachelor's degree at the University of South Carolina. There they had their first child, Tammy, in 1959. Following Ben's graduation, the couple moved to Hartsville, S.C., where Ben began working for Sonoco Products Company, eventually becoming a regional manager until his retirement in 1990. Nettie, too, worked at Sonoco until 1963, when the couple had their second child, Andy.

Nettie had many interests, one of which was tennis. Through hours of practice with friends at the city courts at Lawton Park, Nettie taught herself to play the sport, later participating in lessons at both Prestwood Country Club and the Hartsville Country Club. She became a fierce competitor, whether it was singles or doubles, and she was particularly proud of her wicked drop shot. She made some of her closest friends playing tennis; whether it was a once-a-week group or playing in a USTA league, Nettie loved tennis.

Although age may have slowed her down, her passion for the game remained strong, and she often took her grandchildren, Connor, Julie, and Mia, to the courts to hit a few balls. With the advent of cable television and its diverse offerings, the Tennis Channel became an entertainment staple on any given evening.

She also watched local and network news to stay abreast of current events, becoming famous in the family for saying "we have to keep up with what's happening in the world," and offered an endless supply of snacks for her grandchildren when they needed cheering up.

And when the summer heat precluded a tennis match, Nettie could be found at the Prestwood Country Club pool, nearby Lake Robinson, or on the beach at Ocean Isle, N.C., children — and later grandchildren — in tow, teaching them the finer points of swimming and telling them not to go too deep. She also helped teach “half of Hartsville,” as Ben likes to say, how to ski through her pointers -- even though she didn’t ski herself.

Besides outside activities, Nettie was an avid bridge player, but she also enjoyed a variety of card games with her children and grandchildren such as Uno, rummy, and crazy eights.

Along with Ben, Nettie became a loyal fan of the University of South Carolina Gamecocks, attending countless numbers of football and basketball games, but cheering them on regardless of the sport. Both her children and two of her grandchildren graduated from USC, and when granddaughter Mia chose Wofford College to continue her undergraduate education, Nettie became a Terrier fan as well.

Aside from sports, Nettie was extremely active in her community. She was a troop leader in the Girl Scouts, engaging in camping trips and displaying in her girls the joys and benefits of serving others. She was willing to take the girls anywhere -- camping at the beach, hiking at the state park, climbing Sugarloaf Mountain. Whether it was teaching the girls to sew “sit-upons” to get credit for a badge or helping them make their own pinata out of paper mache (which was so well-crafted that it would not break and had to have the candy poured out of the hole at the top), she put in the extra time to make sure the girls were accomplishing new skills while having fun learning them.

Her desire to help her community carried over to her volunteer work for the

Hospital Auxiliary, starting at Byerly Hospital and continuing after its move to Carolina Pines Regional Medical Center.

Nettie never met a stranger. In social gatherings, restaurants, or other sites where crowds gathered, she always struck up a conversation with people she didn't know and somehow found a connection related to acquaintances or family. Six degrees of separation? Try one or two, tops.

Most importantly, Nettie was a devout Christian with an unwavering faith in her Lord Jesus Christ. She attended the Gregg Avenue Church of Christ in Florence, S.C. for many years before attending services closer to home at the Hartsville Church of Christ.

She was surrounded by her loving family at the time of her passing. She is survived by Ben, her husband of 65 years; daughter Tammy Watkins of Mount Pleasant, SC; son-in-law Jeff Watkins of Mount Pleasant; beloved grandchildren Connor Watkins and Julie Watkins, both of Lexington, S.C. and Mia Kilpatrick of Hartsville; sisters Doris Lillard of Huntsville, AL and Era Martin of Bryan, Ohio; brother-in-law Gip Kilpatrick of Haleyville, Ala., and sister-in-law Patsy Rayfield of Mobile, Ala.; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her son Andy, her parents, and siblings Eldon DeFoor, LV Cagle, Kermit DeFoor, and Verna Jacks.

The family extends their deepest appreciation and admiration to the numerous caregivers who showered Nettie with care and compassion during her final days, including the nurses and doctors at McLeod Hospice House.

Cemetery Details

Magnolia Cemetery

140 South Cedar Lane
Hartsville, SC 29550
(843) 383-3004

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 28. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home Chapel
306 W Home Ave
Hartsville, SC

Celebration of Life

JUN 28. 11:00 AM (ET)

Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home Chapel
306 W Home Ave
Hartsville, SC

Tribute Wall



“ *Brown - Pennington - Atkins Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Nettie Faye DeFoor Kilpatrick*



Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home - June 26, 2021 at 12:58 AM

RP

I am so sorry to hear of Nettie's passing. This was such a beautiful video of a life well Loved! Such a beautiful lady and family. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you! Jessie and Robin Privette, Hartsville Church of Christ.

Robin Privette - June 26, 2021 at 11:52 AM

TG

“ *Teresa Gainey lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie Faye DeFoor Kilpatrick*



Teresa Gainey - July 14, 2021 at 03:09 PM

DR

“ *Dennis Richards lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie Faye DeFoor Kilpatrick*



Dennis Richards - July 06, 2021 at 12:05 AM

DR

So sorry Ben

Dennis Richards - July 06, 2021 at 12:06 AM

JL

“ *Ben So sorry to hear of Nettie's passing. I enjoyed my conversations with her. She was always full of energy. I know she will be missed by you, Tammy and her family. She certainly made her presence known in Hartsville, helping everyone, and sharing her time and talents. My thoughts and prayers will be with you all during this time.*

Judy Lane - July 02, 2021 at 08:52 PM

KG

“ *Karen And Savannah Gainey lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie Faye DeFoor Kilpatrick*



Karen and Savannah Gainey - June 28, 2021 at 06:26 PM

KT

“ *Godspeed Mrs. Nettie as you enter heaven's gate and reunite with Andy. Mr. Ben, Tammy (Jeff), and g-kids, our prays on the passing of a wonderful lady.*

Kathy and Tyford - June 27, 2021 at 11:44 PM

RS

“ We sat together at many Community Concerts at Coker and Hartsville Community Chorus Concerts at West Hartsville Baptist Church. My thoughts and prayers are with her family ~



Rebecca Skinner - June 27, 2021 at 01:11 PM

TW

“ So sorry to hear of Nettie’s passing... I first met her on the tennis courts.. she was fun, but very competitive... and would tell me, “RUN, Go get it.”
Sending most sincere condolences to all.
Terri woodham

terri northcutt woodham - June 27, 2021 at 11:28 AM

RC

“ So sorry to hear of Nettie’s passing. She was one of my first tennis partners when I started playing. Nettie and I had some fun times on the court together. And I know she loved Ben, her children, and grandchildren dearly.

Rhonda Cottingham - June 26, 2021 at 09:54 PM

LC

“ Nettie was a good friend and Sister in Christ. She will be greatly missed. My heart and prayers are with her family.



Linda Carter - June 26, 2021 at 08:59 PM

AB

“ *Amy Blackburn lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie Faye DeFoor Kilpatrick*



Amy Blackburn - June 26, 2021 at 02:51 PM

AB

“ *Mr K and Tammy, I will so miss Mrs K and her wonderful smile. She was always so genuinely glad to see me as I was with her. I honestly cannot remember any part of my life without Mrs K in it some way or another. So full of life and joy which she shared always. I love you and praying you feel God's Grace upon you. Mrs K is rejoicing with Jesus and I bet she is already talking with mom.*

Anne Chaplin Braddock - June 26, 2021 at 09:33 AM

BM

“ *Ben, I was so sorry to learn of Nettie's passing. She was always a delight to talk with whenever our paths crossed. My thoughts and prayers for you and all your family.*



Billie McManus - June 26, 2021 at 09:07 AM

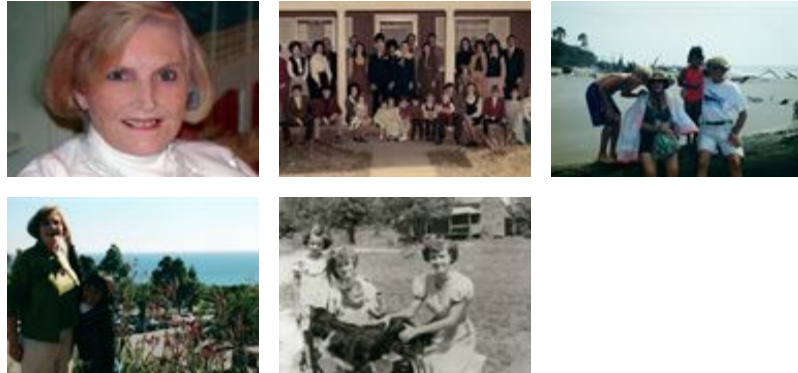
KJ

“ *I was fond of Nettie and always enjoyed talking with her at the pool or when seeing her around town.*

Karen Jeffords - June 26, 2021 at 06:32 AM



“ 52 files added to the album Life Tributes



Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home - June 26, 2021 at 12:51 AM



“ Ben and Family~
Please know that we are keeping you in our
thoughts and prayers during this difficult time~
With deepest sympathy~💖
Pete and Lucy McCoy



Pete and Lucy McCoy - June 25, 2021 at 10:41 PM



“ Ben, I am so sorry for your loss of Nettie. I
always enjoyed talking with her. Please know
that you and your family are in my thoughts
and prayers.



Linda Thompson - June 25, 2021 at 10:28 PM

GM

“ *Gsil & Goode Mobley lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie Faye DeFoor Kilpatrick*



Gsil & Goode Mobley - June 25, 2021 at 08:41 PM

MC

“ *Thoughts and prayers from Becky and Bob McWatty*

McWatty - June 25, 2021 at 07:26 PM

WM

“ *Ben, Tammy, Jeff, Conner, Julie, and Mia,*

We are so sorry. Nettie was such a kind and fun person and you all were so blessed by having her. She is in a better place.

Wayne and Julie Martin

Wayne Martin - June 25, 2021 at 05:43 PM

JK

“ *Ben my deepest sympathy to you and family.*

JoFrieda Kelley - June 25, 2021 at 04:31 PM

CG

“ *Connee Grantham lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie Faye DeFoor Kilpatrick*



Connee Grantham - June 25, 2021 at 04:20 PM

TB

“ My prayers are with all of you. Ms. Kilpatrick was my Girl Scout leader 50 years ago and Tammy was a good friend of mine.



Tonda Jacobs Bunch - June 25, 2021 at 04:06 PM

KC

“ Mr. Kilpatrick, so sorry to hear about Ms. Nettie, Karen Currin

Karen Currin - June 25, 2021 at 03:57 PM

RM

“ We are so sorry to hear about Nettie. Our prayers are with you.



Rodney & Kathy McFarland - June 25, 2021 at 03:27 PM

SH

“ Mr. Kilpatrick, I am so sorry to hear about Nettie. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Shannon Hutson - June 25, 2021 at 12:34 PM

BG

“ Don and I send our condolences to your family. Prayers for comfort.



Bess Gore - June 25, 2021 at 11:34 AM

CB

“ Tom & I are so very sorry for your loss. You have our deepest sympathy.

Cecelia Brown - June 25, 2021 at 11:23 AM

HS

“ Ben: I am so sorry for your loss. My heart goes out to you.



Helen Sherrill - June 25, 2021 at 10:36 AM

LL

“ Lori And Randy Lowe lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie Faye DeFoor Kilpatrick



Lori and Randy Lowe - June 25, 2021 at 10:30 AM

JD

“ Jennie DeWitt lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie Faye DeFoor Kilpatrick



Jennie DeWitt - June 25, 2021 at 10:24 AM

LG

“ *Lou Gardner lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie Faye DeFoor Kilpatrick*



Lou Gardner - June 25, 2021 at 10:02 AM

RM

“ *Thinking of you with heartfelt sympathy...Rachel Adams Doyle Medlin*



Rachel Medlin - June 25, 2021 at 09:25 AM

RA

“ *Ronnie and I are so sad to learn of the passing of Nettie. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and Tammy.*

Ronnie and Beth Amerson - June 25, 2021 at 09:17 AM

KE

“ *Kaye Ewing lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie Faye DeFoor Kilpatrick*



kaye ewing - June 25, 2021 at 08:01 AM

RD

“ Ben and Tammy, so very sorry for your loss. Nettie was very special to our family and we loved her so much. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Rosemary Turner Dixon - June 25, 2021 at 08:00 AM

BC

“ Ben, so sorry to read about Nettie. I always enjoyed our talks when we would see each other about town. Please know that you, Tammy and the rest of your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Beulah Chapman - June 25, 2021 at 07:50 AM

JG

“ Jimmy And Judy Gainey lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nettie Faye DeFoor Kilpatrick



Jimmy and Judy Gainey - June 25, 2021 at 07:40 AM

PA

“ So sorry to hear of Nettie's loss.. I have such fond Tennis memories.. prayers for the family!



patsy Auman - June 25, 2021 at 07:39 AM

RA

“ We are so sad to hear this. You are in our prayers.
Robin and George Atkins

Robin and George Atkins - June 25, 2021 at 07:20 AM

EH

“ Ben, we’re so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. 💕🙏🙏💕

Eric & Kay Hayes - June 25, 2021 at 06:30 AM

SH

“ Ben, I'm sorry for your loss. I will keep you and your family in my prayers.



Sandra and Larry Huggins - June 25, 2021 at 12:16 AM

AT

“ We are so sorry Mr. Ben! Prayers for you and your family. You are in our thoughts during this difficult time.

Abby and Allen Tyner - June 24, 2021 at 10:36 PM