



Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby

September 24, 1929 - April 10, 2026

Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby was called home on April 10, 2026. While her friends and family will miss her deeply, her life warrants great celebration. She leaves a beautiful legacy. Mrs. Saleeby is the widow of Senator Edward Eli Saleeby, Sr., and relished supporting his career. She loved to entertain and found deep joy sitting by the ocean or immersing herself in a good book. Mrs. Saleeby was a gifted storyteller and mesmerized many with her ability to captivate an audience.

Mrs. Saleeby was born on September 24, 1929, in Conway, South Carolina. The love for ocean air was in her blood. She is the daughter of the late William Cleve Calcutt and Meta Jones Calcutt.

Mrs. Saleeby graduated from Conway High in 1946 and graduated from Coker College in 1950 with a major in Sociology and Education. She had a bit of a rebellious streak and enjoyed a year of living on her own before she married her dear "Big Ed" on June 27, 1951. She became a member of Saint Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in 1952 and served that church in many capacities.

Mrs. Saleeby loved a good cause and was always generous with her time and talents. She was active throughout the Hartsville community and state, serving on many boards and committees over the years, but there were a few that

were especially dear to her heart. Mrs. Saleeby served on the Board of Still Hopes Episcopal Retirement Community, the Board of the Thad E. Saleeby Development Center, and the Board of Kalmia Gardens; taught adults how to read with the Laubach Literacy Program; and was appointed by Governor Richard Riley to the State Library Board. Mrs. Saleeby lost her vision at a young age and was a champion for the blind in SC. She served and supported the Library for the Blind.

Aside from her family, Mrs. Saleeby's proudest accomplishment was helping to organize the Darlington County Council on Aging's Food Program, which helped feed the poor and supported the start of Meals on Wheels.

Mrs. Saleeby received an honorary doctorate degree from Coker College and was a supporter and loyal member of its Alumni Association. She also won the Hartsville Citizen of the Year Award in 1991.

Mrs. Saleeby is survived by her daughter, Holly Saleeby Atkins (Buddy) of Columbia, SC; daughter, Mary Kay Saleeby Bouknight (Glen) of Columbia SC; grandson, Edward Eli Saleeby, III (Ashley) of Columbia, SC; grandson, Nathan Saleeby (Crystal) of Hartsville, SC; grandson, Caleb Atkins (Savonna) of Atlanta, GA; six great-grandchildren, Wyatt, Anna, Rita, Colby, Nicholas, and Harper; as well as many special nieces and nephews.

In addition to her loving parents, she was preceded in death by her sister, Mary Catherine Calcutt Hartley; husband Edward Eli Saleeby, Sr.; son Edward Eli Saleeby, Jr; daughter-in-law Donna Stanton Saleeby; and grandson, Caleb Cleveland Stanton Saleeby.

The family is grateful for the loving care provided over the last several years by Melanie, Sandy, Joan, Rachel, Nique, and Denise. They provided love and support for Mrs. Saleeby and the family. Thanks also to Still Hopes Episcopal

Retirement Community for many happy years.

The Directors of Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home & Crematory are caring for the family. A funeral service to honor her life will be held at 2 o'clock on the 18th day of April 2026, at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, 103 Campus Drive, Hartsville, South Carolina. The Reverend William D. "Bill" Oldland will officiate, with burial to follow in Magnolia Cemetery. The family will receive friends at the graveside.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Thad E. Saleeby Scholarship Foundation, University of South Carolina, 208 Osborne Building, Columbia, South Carolina 29208: <https://giving.sc.edu/> (Please designate the gift is for the Thad E Saleeby Scholarship.), or to the Thad E. Saleeby Development Center, 714 Lewellen Avenue, Hartsville, SC 29550.

The family invites you to reflect on one of Ms. Saleeby's favorite quotes by Robert Frost: "Two roads diverged in a wood, and I —I took the one less traveled by, And that has made all the difference."

Cemetery Details

Magnolia Cemetery

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

Previous Events

Funeral Service

APR 18. 2:00 PM (ET)

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
102 Campus Drive
Hartsville, SC 29550

Tribute Wall



“ *Brown - Pennington - Atkins Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home - April 15 at 06:30 PM

MS

A beautiful tribute to a beautiful lady.

Maria Saleeby - April 16 at 09:21 PM

LS

What a joy to know Willie Saleeby, someone I admired, respected and enjoyed. My love to Holly, Kay and all the family. Peace to your hearts. Lucinda Shirley

Lucinda Shirley - April 16 at 10:05 PM

MR

“ *Mike Reaves lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



Mike Reaves - April 21 at 06:03 PM

DT

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Donita Todd - April 18 at 09:23 AM

DT

“ We loved Miss Willie like a mother. She was fiercely principled, generous, witty and her intellect shone through it all. We loved spending time with her at her beach house, and she could sit on the shore or on her porch for hours with that blissful smile on her face. Miss Willie lived a long, full, and interesting life, and we were blessed to have her in ours. Our thoughts and love are with her surviving family as they say goodbye to their matriarch, Rest in Peace, Miss Willie. Big love, Donita and Michael Todd

Donita Todd - April 18 at 09:12 AM

HA

“ So many dear friends



holly atkins - April 17 at 03:30 PM

DM

“ *Willie is such a wonderful person, always a kind word to share, what a blessing she was to me and to us -- Peace and love to the family from Daniel, George and Christopher Malone (Concord NC) --*



Daniel Malone - April 15 at 09:46 PM

HA

“ *Another dear friend*



holly atkins - April 15 at 07:40 PM



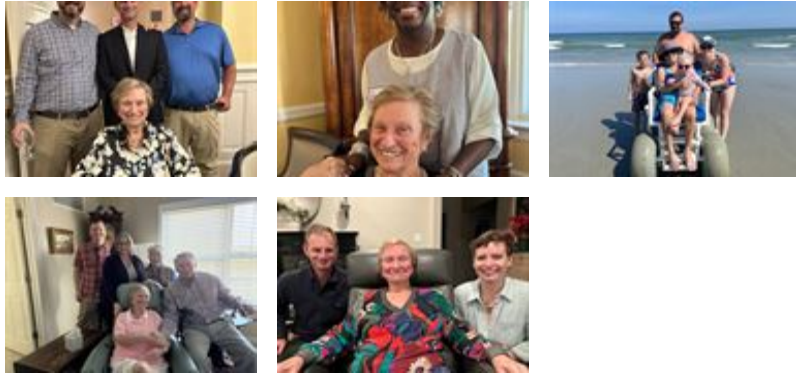
“ *1 file added to the album LifeTributes*



Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home - April 15 at 06:26 PM



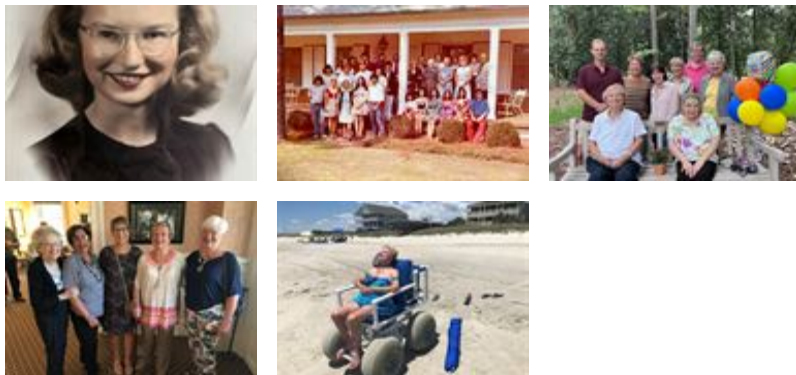
“ 5 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home - April 15 at 03:51 PM



“ 45 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home - April 15 at 02:23 PM



“ Prayers for the fzmily.



Danny and Phoebe Stokes - April 15 at 11:37 AM

CV

“ Claire Howle VB lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby



Claire Howle VB - April 14 at 05:57 PM

LW

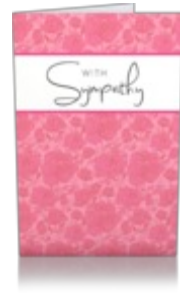
“ Letitia Ward lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby



Letitia Ward - April 14 at 12:15 PM



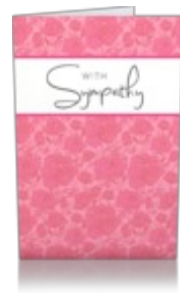
“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby.



April 13 at 10:00 AM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby.



April 13 at 09:55 AM

DT

“ *Debbie Talbery lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



Debbie Talbery - April 13 at 05:20 AM

JS

“ *Jerry Sumner lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



Jerry Sumner - April 12 at 10:56 PM

KL

“ *Praying for this precious family. Love and hugs, Kathy Lawhon*

Kathy Lawhon - April 12 at 08:05 PM

RT

“ *Roberta Driskell Timmons sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



Roberta Driskell Timmons - April 12 at 03:56 PM

MN

“ Mrs. Willie was one the sweetest ladies I have ever had the pleasure of knowing. She was a true genuine soul that cared for others beyond measure. Deepest condolences for the Saleeby family during this time. May God bless and bring comfort, Melissa Norton

Melissa Norton - April 12 at 01:07 PM

MS

“ Mike And Pat Sparrow lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby



Mike and Pat Sparrow - April 12 at 12:48 PM

TP

“ Terry & Lisa Pait lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby



Terry & Lisa Pait - April 12 at 08:47 AM

DE

“ What a wonderful life she lived! Aunt Willie you made such a positive impact on so many peoples life's and will be truly missed! Prayers for everyone during this time 🙏

Danielle Saleeby Edwards - April 11 at 07:24 PM

BS

“ *Bill & Melissa Sherrill lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



Bill & Melissa Sherrill - April 11 at 03:28 PM

BW

“ *Bess Watkins lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



Bess Watkins - April 11 at 02:54 PM

EB

“ *Eric Bradshaw lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



Eric Bradshaw - April 11 at 01:49 PM

CT

“ *Cheryl Cromer Taylor lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



Cheryl Cromer Taylor - April 11 at 01:37 PM

CT

Prayers for the family,my parents were friends with Mrs Saleeby and M.Saleeby,she was such a sweet lady.

Cheryl Cromer Taylor - April 11 at 01:39 PM

BD

“ *Beverley (Pennington) Dodson*



Beverley Dodson - April 11 at 01:00 PM

PC

“ *Pressly Coker lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



Pressly Coker - April 11 at 11:10 AM

HA

“ *Sweet Willie,
You are one of a kind!
There is just a little more joy in the Church Triumphant today. Jude
24:25*

Hamp Atkins - April 11 at 11:03 AM

BR

“ *Betty Sue Millsaps Ralley lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



Betty Sue Millsaps Ralley - April 11 at 10:53 AM

TL

“ *Tru And Ed Lawton lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



Tru and Ed Lawton - April 11 at 09:48 AM

BB

“ *Thanks to Mrs Saleeby we have the Darlington County Council on Aging. She will be remembered by many,*



Beth Byerly - April 11 at 09:45 AM

HA



Holly Atkins - April 11 at 03:22 PM

PS

“ *Paul Cannarella, Sr. lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



Paul Cannarella, Sr. - April 11 at 09:33 AM

TS

“ *My condolences to Mrs Saleeby's family. She was the sweetest lady. I'll never forget Stephen going to her house at times to fix her grandfather clock. She will be missed.*

Tania Shields - April 11 at 09:05 AM

AF

“ *Ann Fulcher lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



Ann Fulcher - April 11 at 08:21 AM

DK

“ *David King lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



David King - April 10 at 07:05 PM

NM

“ Holly and Kay, your mom was one of the sweetest women I have ever known. I know you will miss her. The world needs more Willie Saleebys.

Nancy McGee - April 10 at 06:09 PM

GO

“ Grady O'Neal lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby



Grady O'Neal - April 10 at 05:34 PM

VJ

“ Ms. Willie you will be missed. Rest well. you will live forever in our heats.



Veda Jones - April 10 at 03:39 PM

RS

“ Rebecca Skinner lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby



Rebecca Skinner - April 10 at 03:37 PM

CG

“ *Connee Gamble Grantham lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



Connee Gamble Grantham - April 10 at 02:18 PM

VB

“ *Violet Bragdon lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



Violet Bragdon - April 10 at 01:10 PM

SA

“ *I enjoyed getting to know and talking with Ms. Willie when she visited and served on committees at Saleeby Center. She was an extraordinarily nice person. Sorry for your loss.*



Sara Robbins Alexander - April 10 at 12:03 PM

JE

“ *Jonnie Thomas Newsome Estermyer lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



jonnie thomas newsome estermyer - April 10 at 12:03 PM

AW

“ *Anna Williams lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



Anna Williams - April 10 at 11:29 AM

KN

“ *Kathy Norris lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



Kathy Norris - April 10 at 11:25 AM

JC

“ *John Crawford lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Willie Meta Calcutt Saleeby*



John Crawford - April 10 at 09:55 AM

SB

“ *My deepest condolences to the family!*



Suzanne Skinner Beasley - April 10 at 09:33 AM