



Ella E. Rice Sumrall

March 15, 1938 - February 28, 2025

ELLA E. RICE SUMRALL, AGE 86

And a beloved member of the Lawrence Creek Community since 1953, passed away at Riverside Medical Center at 10:18 am on Friday February 28, 2025. She was a devoted member of Lawrence Creek Missionary Baptist Church for 67 years. Ella worked for 20 years at Rutter Rex Manufacturing Company in Franklinton and was a dedicated partner alongside her husband, Robert, on the Sumrall Dairy Farm for 44 years. Married for 56 years, Ella and Robert built a life rooted in faith, hard work and love for their family.

She found joy in being surrounded by her loved ones, especially while cooking Sunday lunches for them. Ella also had a passion for canning vegetables from the family garden and cherished the companionship of her puppy, Piper. She will be deeply missed by her family, friends and all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Survived by:

Son and Daughter in law: Tim and Beverly Sumrall of Hackley

Daughter: Dawn Sumrall Seal of Hackley

Daughter in law: Judy Sumrall of Hackley

Brother: Robert H. Rice of Hackley

6 Grandchildren and Spouses: Leland and Stephanie Sumrall, Kristen Goings, Shaina and Eddie Gabler, Josh and Jessenia Sumrall, Jaron and Hayden Edwards, Callie Seal

7 Great-grandchildren: Dillon Sumrall, Kori Sumrall, Maddox Goings, Maverick Goings, Emery Gabler, Ellie Gabler, Emma Edwards

Lifelong Friend: Luvenia Jenkins

Also numerous nieces, nephews and friends

She was preceded in death by her husband of 56 years Robert Cleve Sumrall, son Relton Sumrall, daughter Stacy Lynette Sumrall, parents Douglas Rice and Leslie Lee Powell, 3 sisters and 3 brothers.

Visitation will be at Crain Funeral Home Monday March 3rd from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. A funeral service will be held in the funeral home chapel at 2:00 pm Monday with Eld. Don Jacobs and Eld. Duane Ball officiating. Burial will follow in the Nobles Cemetery.

Pallbearers: Charles Burley, Ricky Rice, Clay Sumrall, Greg Seal, Eddie Gabler, Konnor Adams

Honorary Pallbearers: Billy Knight, Matthew Stogner, Jerry Barber, Brandon Workman

Tribute Wall



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Ella E. Rice Sumrall.



March 03, 2025 at 11:04 AM

SP

“ When I think of my sweet Aunt Ella , I think of the words “ sowing seeds”. It’s because of all the seeds she freely sowed in the lives of so many during her journey on this earth. Especially the ones in me. From her small acts of kindness , like picking a fresh tomato out of her garden on a hot summer day and making me my favorite BLT sandwich (cause we all know when it’s homegrown with love , it taste the best) to the bigger challenges , like teaching me to drive her car. It wasn’t easy learning just when to let the clutch out, but she had faith in me that I could do it. Of course, Tim with a smile thought differently. Probably cause I drove the car with a flat tire and didn’t know it, but Tim did. Aunt Ella showed no anger she just laughed. Life in the summer was so much fun on the Sumrall farm. Aunt Ella believed in me and always had encouraging words to share. She truly had a “Christ- like heart “ and unconditional love for others. Most importantly to me was feeling loved when I was with her and knowing she knew Jesus and wanted me to also know Him. She would tell me she was praying for me and my future. She gave me guidance with her encouraging words from childhood to adulthood in this journey called life. For that I’m grateful and thankful for her planting seeds. I’ll miss our talks and hearing her say “ I love you, come see me when ya can.” I know it’s not goodbye for her and I , cause by faith I will see her again. There is no doubt she surely already heard the words “ well done good and faithful servant.” May each of us have peace knowing her legacy lives on through her love she shared and the seeds she planted while on this earth.

Susan Rice Pearson - March 02, 2025 at 08:19 PM

GB

“ We are so sorry for the loss. We are praying for each of you. We love yall.

Love Gladys Faye Breland and Amber Knight



Gladys Breland - March 02, 2025 at 07:23 PM

SB

“ Deepest sympathy for the family during this time. Prayers for all!

Sharon and JL Beckett - March 02, 2025 at 05:56 PM

JL

“ Juanita Luper lit a candle in memory of Ella E. Rice Sumrall



juanita luper - March 02, 2025 at 04:46 PM

JM

“ Such a wonderful lady. I know she will be greatly missed by family and friends 🙏🙏🙏🙏

Jennifer Mizell - March 02, 2025 at 01:51 PM

CH

“ It honestly was a privilege to know her. Always a smile and kind word. I am so very sorry for such a great loss but I know Mr Robert was waiting to greet her.

Charlotte Hornsby - March 02, 2025 at 01:23 PM