



Ethelee Schilling Spears

December 13, 1922 - March 24, 2019

ETHELEE SCHILLING SPEARS, AGE 96

And a resident of Franklinton died Sunday evening March 24, 2019 at her home. She was a longtime member of Bethel Baptist Church where she often helped with Vacation Bible School and other church activities. Ethelee was a Christian inspiration to her family and church family. She worked at Rutter Rex for many years before a career change in 1967 that led her to attend nursing school at Sullivan Vocational School at the age of 45. She proudly became a Licensed Practical Nurse and worked for 20 years at Riverside Medical Center before retiring. Ethelee enjoyed volunteering at the Sylvest Cabin in Mile Branch Settlement each Fair. She loved sewing and was an avid baker, making countless birthday cakes and wedding cakes for people throughout the area. Ethelee took loving care of her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. She always enjoyed watching them play sports or the events they were involved in.

Survived by:

5 Children and Spouses: Margie and Jimmy Busby,
Emma Spears,
Fred, Jr. and Karen Spears,
Loretta Spears Bracey,

Gaylon and Tami Spears

14 Grandchildren and Spouses: Melinda Busby Thompson,
Dianne and Clay Edwards,
Jamie Busby,
Dewaine and Mimi Strickland and Dennis Register,
Jelaine and Donnie Branch,
Johnna and Rusty Creel,
Kelly Spears,
Nikki Spears Jones,
Chesley and Becky Spears,
Hope Blazo and Marco Rico,
Holly and Jeremy Tullos,
Steve and Cindy Collums,
Jenna and Brian Mosby,
Haley Spears

34 Great-grandchildren

18 Great-great-grandchildren

Sister: Irene Schilling Martin, the last surviving member of her family

Also numerous nieces, nephews and other family members.

She was preceded in death by her husband Fred Spears, Sr., infant daughter Freddie Viola Spears, parents Arnold Schilling and Emmerline Corkern Schilling, infant sister Henri Schilling, sisters and brothers in law Vertalee and Brodice Stephens, Thelma Mae and Hollis Spears, Elsie and Arthur Martin, Velma and Shelly Miller, brothers and sisters in law Horace and Lou Schilling, Otha, Sr. and Christine Schilling, Edwin "Preacher" and Nora Mae Schilling,

sons in law Harold Strickland, Sydney Bracey, great-grandson Chase Busby and brother in law Willard Martin.

Visitation will be at Crain Funeral Home Wednesday March 27th from 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm and after 9:00 am on Thursday. A funeral service will be held in the funeral home chapel at 11:00 am Thursday with Rev. Larry Archote, Rev. Mike Stafford and Rev. Joey Miller officiating. Burial will follow in the Nobles Cemetery.

Pallbearers: Jamie Busby, Dewaine Strickland, Chesley Spears, Jeremy Tullos, Rusty Creel, Clay Edwards

Honorary Pallbearers: Jimmy Busby, Earl Spears

In lieu of flowers, the family prefers donations to the Bethel Baptist Church Sewing Circle, P O Box 701, Franklinton, LA 70438, a ministry she participated in that provides lap blankets to area nursing homes and also infant blankets, teddy bears and other items to those in need.

Obituaries can be viewed online at www.crainfh.com

Tribute Wall

MT

“ *Ms. Loretta and family. please know you are in our prayers. There was only one Ms. Ethelee and Mr. Fred. we were so blessed as the Lilly family to be friends with your mom and dad..when we worked the emergency room at riverside all those years ago she treated all of us like her children...I was so blessed. know that our family will be praying. please let us know if is anything that that we can do.*

Sincerely,

Lavenia Lilly, Marilyn, Shelly and Wayne Taylor

Marilyn Taylor - March 30, 2019 at 07:34 PM



“ *Such a ❤️. She is so going to be missed by many. I am so thankful she touched the lives of my precious JoAnn and my family. May God give the strength needed to her precious family at this time.*

Ann Creel - March 27, 2019 at 09:37 PM

MC

“ *Ms C. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Ethelee Schilling Spears.*



Ms C. - March 27, 2019 at 02:24 PM

LD

“ Love you all Rolly and Dawne purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Ethelee Schilling Spears.



Love you all Rolly and Dawne - March 27, 2019 at 11:26 AM

SB

“ Loretta and family ,
So Sorry To HERE Of Your Mothers Passing ,
But You Know Where She Is Now, And Is
Looking At The Face Jesus. We Are All Just
Passing Though This World To Our Forever
Eternal Home. I Know There Were Many At The Hevenly Gates To
Greet Her, One Of Who Was Sydney ❤️
Mike & I Love You, Wish We Would Be Closer .
Lovingly, Sandi & Mike Boutwell



Sandi Boutwell - March 27, 2019 at 08:05 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ethelee Schilling Spears.



March 26, 2019 at 09:24 PM

BK

“ So sorry to hear of your mothers passing. Everyone will be in our prayers.....

brenda kennedy - March 26, 2019 at 05:11 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Ethelee Schilling Spears.*



March 26, 2019 at 02:13 PM



“ *Wayne and I are so very sorry for your loss. Know that Mrs. Spears is at rest with the Lord and just remember the happy memories you shared with her. God Bless.*

Carolyn McElveen - March 26, 2019 at 12:32 PM



“ *Fred and Karen, Loretta and family, my prayers and condolences to each of you and your children. May God give each of you the peace that passes all understanding as you go through your week. God bless each of you.*

Judy Burch - March 26, 2019 at 11:40 AM



“ *Fred, Loretta, and family, sorry for the loss of your Mother.*

Devon Thomas - March 26, 2019 at 10:59 AM



“ *So sorry for the loss of your precious mother! She was a wonderful Christian example and loved her family so! She leaves behind a wonderful legacy in her children and grandchildren! Many prayers for all of you as you adjust to life without her! Praise God for her testimony!!*

Cindy Richards - March 26, 2019 at 09:23 AM

SK

“ So sorry ! Prayers for everyone! Ms. Ethelee was the sweetest and kindest lady! She was an inspiration to all that knew her! Lovely lady❤️

Shannon Knight - March 26, 2019 at 05:55 AM

KL

Sorry to hear about the earthly lost but heaven gain she lived her life was a example for us all as nurses a RMC rest on Mrs Ethel lee and take your rest blessed are the dead that die in the Lord love y'all Keith Long

Keith Long - March 27, 2019 at 01:22 PM

JB

“ So sorry for your loss❤️ no one needs to tell y'all what a wonderful, precious person your mother was! She was so caring and kind. I did love Mrs Ethelee! Was so helpful to me when I started as a new nurse at RMC. I know she'll be greatly missed by so many🙏

Janet Breland - March 25, 2019 at 09:25 PM

DG

She has always been an amazing and loving lady. I first met her in 1965 or '66, when my parents purchased the house directly across the road from her and Mr. Fred. Mr. Fred and Mrs. Ethelee made fast and great friends with my parents and she was my next door "maw maw" because of my friendship with Diane and Melinda. My sister Gayle and Loretta became wonderful friends. I was always treated like family by her and her children and grands that I grew up with. She was my nurse at RMC when I became gravely ill at 16, and I could not have asked for a more loving and compassionate nurse. It was truly her calling. I decided to become a nurse at age t0, after taking care of my uncle. She was an inspiration, to have it be my passion, to give unconditional compassion and care to those in need. She was and will always be an inspiration to others. Her life is testimony to faith and love of God. Rest high on that mountain Ms. Ethelee, you've well earned those wings. I love you.

Dedee Johnson Gibson - March 27, 2019 at 12:01 PM