



Thelma Louise Kirkland Rushton

September 12, 1925 - December 31, 2021

Saluda, SC

Thelma Rushton

Thelma Kirkland Rushton, 96, a lifelong resident of Saluda County passed away peacefully on December 31, 2021 in her home. Thelma was born on September 12, 1925. She was the wife to the late Steve Shaw Rushton and the daughter to the late Henry Louie Kirkland and Cleo Berry Kirkland.

She graduated from Monetta High School, then started working at The Saluda Shirt Plant. She met the love of her life, Shaw Rushton who then went off to WWII. When he returned home they married on December 30, 1945. She had two sons, Wade and Bruce. She started Thelma's Beauty Shop so she could work from home and care for her family. She operated her Beauty Shop for 43 years until her clients had predeceased her. Wade and Bruce remained her clients until about 3 years ago when she became unable to get up the steps.

Thelma was a member of Bethlehem United Methodist Church. She attended regularly and sang in the choir for many years until she was no longer able.

She also loved to cook! She was known for many delicious homemade dishes in the kitchen like Homemade Biscuits, Vegetable Soup and Strawberry Cake just to name a few. Thelma has been a caregiver all of her life. It started early on as her Mother died when she was just 3 years old and she helped take care of her 2 young brothers. Wade, her son, was hurt in a farm accident at the age of 15, and she has taken care of him for all of these years, along with Shaw who after he retired was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease

Thelma was preceded in death by her husband Shaw Rushton, her parents Henry Louie Kirkland and Cleo Berry Kirkland and siblings Edna Welch, Nettie Mae McCarty, H.L.

Kirkland, Valmore Kirkland, Wendell Kirkland and Lewis Kirkland.

Many will carry on Thelma's traditions and spread her love, including her sons Wade Rushton and Bruce Rushton (Karen). Her two Granddaughters Britni Rushton and Kristin Rushton Price (Hunter), 2 Great-Grandchildren, Leigh and Jeb Price. Surviving Sisters Betty Jean Bedenbaugh, Patsy Schumpert and Peggy Derrick.

We will all miss "Grandmother"! She loved her family, her church family and her family loved her. It took all of Us to keep the circus running!

Family and Friends will gather in remembrance of Thelma on Monday, January 3, 2022 at Bethlehem United Methodist Church at 3pm. The family will receive friends Sunday Evening at Ramey Funeral Home in Saluda from 5-7pm.

Memorials may be made Bethlehem United Methodist Church in c/o Lisa Smith, 246 Palmetto Forge Road, Saluda, SC 29138.

Please share your memories and condolences online at www.rameyfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Bethlehem United Methodist Church Cemetery

159 Bethlehem Church Rd
Johnston, SC 29832

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 2. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Ramey Funeral Home
202 N Rudolph St
Saluda, SC 29138
(864) 445-2366

Funeral

JAN 3. 3:00 PM (ET)

Bethlehem United Methodist Church
159 Bethlehem Church Rd.
Johnston, SC 29832

Tribute Wall



“ *Deep condolences to the family. She was a precious lady. Loved visiting the farm when I was a young girl.*



Tina Johnson - May 12, 2023 at 03:31 PM

RS

“ *Sweet Aunt Thelma. Never a unkind word about anybody. Always showed kindness to everyone. My prayers for her family and friends . She lived a long full life.*



Robin Salters - January 04, 2022 at 11:09 PM

TM

“ *The Morses sent a virtual gift in memory of Thelma Louise Kirkland Rushton*



The Morses - January 03, 2022 at 09:53 AM

GW

“ *I grew up attending Bethlehem Church. My memory of Mrs. Thelma was her great smile.*

She was definitely one of the many great women at Bethlehem.

Take care Mrs. Thelma, we will see you later down the road.

*Till we meet again,
Gail Temple Worrell*

Gail Worrell - January 03, 2022 at 08:31 AM

JP

“ PRAYING FOR YOU ALL AND WISHING YOU THE STRENGTH TO FACE THE DAYS AHEAD AND WONDERFUL MEMORIES TO CHERISH FOREVER. MRS. THELMA WAS A BEAUTIFUL SOUL. SHE WILL BE MISSED DEARLY.

JANICE POWELL AND FAMILY

Janice Powell - January 03, 2022 at 02:27 AM



“ Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Thelma Louise Kirkland Rushton.



January 02, 2022 at 04:52 PM

JH

“ Thoughts and prayers with all of you at this time.

Jennifer Hipp - January 02, 2022 at 11:41 AM

BB

“ I loved Mrs Thelma she was a amazing person. She loved her family and every one else. She will be missed. Prayers for Wade, Bruce and family



Betty Turner Butler - January 02, 2022 at 09:36 AM

JE

“ Your Family are in Our Thoughts and Prayers. Brenda, Jerry and your FRIENDS at The Hardware Store.

Jerry - January 02, 2022 at 12:04 AM

KL

“ Saddened to hear about Ms. Thelma. My mother used to go there to get her hair done. Ms. Thelma was a sweet lady. She will be missed.

Keith Lester - January 01, 2022 at 07:36 PM

TS

“ Prayers for everyone Aunt Thelma Life touched. I understand the pain of losing one you love. My thoughts are with you all during these difficult days. Love Thereasa Lynn (Storey) Stevens



Thereasa Steven's - January 01, 2022 at 06:59 PM