



Freda Hudnall

March 2, 1933 - September 15, 2025

PRINCETON - Freda June Hodge Hudnall was born March 2, 1933 to William Henry Hodge and Sylvia Perry Hodge in Cabin Creek, WV. She had four brothers, William Benjamin, Oliver Ray, Kermit Douglas and Larry Houston, and one sister, Shirley Ann Hodge Bailey, all deceased. She grew up in a happy home, full of music, and had great memories of Christmas with baby dolls, toy trains and tricycles for the boys. At a young age her mother taught her the notes on the piano and how to play Rock of Ages. It turned out she had a natural gift for music and was soon playing piano by ear and became the pianist at Decota Methodist Church.

Her brother, Oliver, affectionately known as Tody, had joined the Airforce and a chance walk by his locker by a handsome young M.P. led to a fairy tale romance. The Officer saw her picture and inquired if she was a girlfriend. When Tody replied with my sister, a letter was sent and a relationship bloomed. They met officially in December of 1954 and were married February 5, 1955.

Ed Hudnall had signed a contract to play professional baseball with the Baltimore Orioles organization. After the wedding, they took off to Florida for Spring Training and then to Canada where Ed played minor league baseball.

Baseball did not work out for Ed, so they returned to West Virginia where their daughter was born. After that came a series of jobs and many moves across

multiple states including Ohio, Kentucky, Maryland, Arkansas, North Carolina, and Alabama. For a long time, they called Kettering, Ohio, home and were deeply involved with Marshall Road Church of God. Everywhere they lived, they were involved with a church where Freda directed choirs and played piano. Her gospel choirs were famous and sang across the country. The members loved singing in her choirs and tremendously enjoyed her annual Christmas parties. Every time they got together with their friends, there was singing involved and they both took great delight in praising their Lord and Savior with music.

Eventually Ed went to work for Walmart where his career took off in a big way. Through all this Freda supported him and followed wherever the job led. Her favorite Walmart story was the time she met Joe Namath in person, and he threw her over his shoulder and carried her around. They had many more adventures before retiring in their dream house in Princeton, West Virginia. They were married for fifty-six wonderful years before he passed.

Freda spent her final years living close to her daughter in Winston Salem, North Carolina. She passed away on Monday, September 15, 2025. She is survived by her daughter, Cindy Holby, son-in-law Rob, grandsons, Josh and Drew, Drew's wife Laura, and great-grandsons Hayes and Beau. She is also survived by her sisters-in-law Thelma Hodge and Faye Hodge, a special niece, Debi Hodge Betsill, along with numerous other nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life including lots of wonderful music will be held on Friday, September 26 at Landmark Church of God, 290 Sackett Rd. Princeton, WV 24739. The family will receive friends at 11:00 with the service at 12:00 led by Pastor Scott Hodge. Burial at Roselawn Memorial Gardens will be at 2:00 and then fellowship after. Donations in her memory may be made to Landmark Church of God. Donations can also be sent to Friends of Stokes Shelter, 1111 Dodgetown Road. Walnut Cove, NC 27052.

As blue was her favorite color, the family requests that blue be worn in celebration of a life well lived. The family would also like to express their appreciation to Arbor Ridge of Stanleyville, the Palliative Care Unit of Novant Health Forsyth Medical Center, and Mountain Valley Hospice.

Arrangements by Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home in Princeton. Online condolences may be shared with the family at www.bailey-kirk.com.

Cemetery Details

Roselawn Memorial Gardens

450 Courthouse Road
Princeton, WV 24740

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 26. 11:00 AM (ET)

Landmark Church of God
290 Sackett Road
Princeton, WV 24739

Celebration of Life

SEP 26. 12:00 PM (ET)

Landmark Church of God
290 Sackett Road
Princeton, WV 24739

Tribute Wall



“ *Celestial Love was purchased for the family of Freda Hudnall.*



September 26, 2025 at 11:47 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Freda Hudnall.

September 26, 2025 at 11:47 AM



“ *Your Friends at StoCo Provision purchased the S erene Retreat for the family of Freda Hudnall.*



Your Friends at StoCo Provision - September 24, 2025 at 04:30 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Freda Hudnall.*



September 24, 2025 at 02:15 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Freda Hudnall.

September 24, 2025 at 02:15 PM



“ Freda and Ed have been such a blessing to me and my family ever sent we meet. If we weren't at church she always called to check on us and would always tell me to make sure I told Jacob and Jared that she loved and missed them. She will truly be missed here on earth but is finally by Ed's side directing that heavenly choir.

Sharon Porter - September 19, 2025 at 09:32 PM



“ Aunt Freda was so very special to me in so many ways...my father Oliver Ray Hodge affectionately know as Tody was her brother they were extremely close. My mother and her were best friends. Losing my father when I was 13 months old and then my mother when I was 15 was challenging. Aunt Freda brought to life for me a father I never got to know with memories and stories, and the love story he shared with my mother that I never got to witness. There is not enough time to describe all the things that Aunt Freda was to me, special does not begin to describe it. I'll never forget when she told me I could sing...she just laughed said it was “born in me”. My heart is sad that she is no longer here with us but my spirit is rejoicing that she has entered the gates with “Well done my good and faithful servant “! We raise a hallelujah for you Aunt Freda as you join your mom, dad, husband and siblings. What a day that had to be. I love you so big.

Debi Hodge-Betsill - September 18, 2025 at 01:02 PM

BB

“*Freda was so special to me. Growing up, I was always excited for the weekends and holidays when she and Uncle Ed would come to visit. I can still picture myself staring out the window, waiting for that Oldsmobile to pull into the driveway. Freda treated me like her own grandchild. She always made me feel like I was the center of the room, putting on a magic show just for me and surprising me with the most wonderful toys. But it was never just about the gifts—it was the way she made me feel loved and cherished in those moments.*

Some of my fondest memories are of our family gatherings filled with music. I loved listening to Freda play the piano while all the cousins gathered around to sing. Our annual beach trips, vacations together, and even those early school pickups for trips to Ohio all hold such a special place in my heart. When Freda and Ed lived in Cincinnati, we were treated to unforgettable adventures—Cincinnati Reds games and trips to Kings Island—that made those visits magical.

Freda created a lifetime of memories for me, and I am so blessed that she was a part of my life. I love her deeply, and I will miss her dearly. It brings me comfort and even a smile to picture her heavenly reunion this week with Ed, Bob and Shirley, Uncle Larry and Uncle Kermit, Mammaw and Pappaw Hodge—and most of all, resting in the presence of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Rest in peace, Aunt Freda. I love you so, so much.

Brandon Bailey - September 18, 2025 at 08:48 AM