



Rita Hill

February 15, 1935 - October 29, 2016

LASHMEET – Rita Clarice Anderson Hill, 81, of Lashmeet, died Saturday, October 29, 2016 with her devoted and caring husband by her side. Born February 15, 1935 in Princeton, she was the daughter of the late James M. Anderson and Eulalia I. Sweeney Anderson.

Rita's life story is one of perseverance and compassion for others throughout her life. Rita was raised in Princeton and was a devoted member of the First United Methodist Church. Her father died when she was 16 years old and she went to work at Leggett Department Store while finishing her education and providing for herself and her mother. Rita went to Concord College where she excelled and graduated in the top of her class. She was a member of the Honor Society and other organizations. She decided during a high school date that Willis was the one for her and a wonderful lifelong love affair began to blossom. Rita went to work as an English teacher at Beaver High School from 1957 to 1959 before transferring to Matoaka High School. During this period she completed her Master's Degree from WVU in 1966 with honors. She began the final part of her career at Bluefield State College working as an associate professor and ending as chairperson of the Humanities Division. During this period of time she worked towards her Doctorate Degree at Virginia Tech and was a member of the Graduate Honor Society. During her entire teaching career, she held an unwavering belief that a good education was a key to success and she was always there to help struggling students.

Rita took great pride in her preservation work both at Concord University and Bluefield State College where she worked from 1966 until 2005 well beyond retirement age. Her greatest beliefs that she passed on to her family and others were strength, honesty, non-discrimination, morals, a willingness to listen and standing up for your beliefs.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by an infant brother, James B. Anderson; and a grandson, Sean Jeremy Hill. She was the last surviving member of her immediate family.

Living to cherish her memories include her devoted husband and caretaker, Willis Dean Hill; three sons, James V. Hill and wife Marie of Princeton, Dr. David D. Hill and wife Marcia of Rock and Andrew B. Hill of Rock; three grandchildren, Dr. Amanda "Katie" Hill of Morgantown, Amy Hill and husband Chris of Oceana and Andrew James "Drew" Hill of Atlanta, GA; and a great-granddaughter, the last great joy in her life, Mary Clarice "Claire" Mullens.

Funeral services will be conducted at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, November 3, 2016 at the Rowland H. Bailey Funeral Chapel of the Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home in Princeton with Rev. David Damewood and Rev. Danny Gunnoe officiating. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Mt. Olivet United Methodist Church in Lashmeet.

The family will receive friends Thursday, November 3, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. until service hour at the Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home in Princeton. To view a video tribute to Mrs. Hill, or share condolences with the family, please visit www.bailey-kirk.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 3. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home
1612 Honaker Avenue
Princeton, WV 24740
(304) 425-8176
info@bailey-kirk.com
<https://www.bailey-kirk.com>

Funeral Service

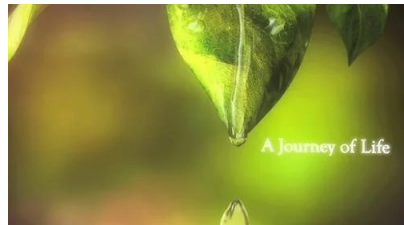
NOV 3. 7:00 PM (ET)

Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home
1612 Honaker Avenue
Princeton, WV 24740
(304) 425-8176
info@bailey-kirk.com
<https://www.bailey-kirk.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Rita Hill*



Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home - November 03, 2016 at 04:14 PM

LW

She was my precious friend and classmate. Surely will be missed. Louise Barrett White

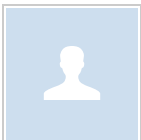
Louise Barrett White - November 05, 2016 at 05:23 PM

ML

James Hill, Marie and family: Was so sorry to hear that your Mom passed away You and your family are in our prayers. God looked around his garden and He found an empty place. He then looked down upon this earth, and saw your tired face. He put his arms around you and lifted yo to rest. God's garden must be beautiful, He always takes the best. He knew that you were suffering. He knew that you were in pain. He knew that you would never get well on earth again. He saw the road was getting rough and the hills were hard to climb So He closed your weary eyelids, and whispered. " Peace be thine." It broke ours hearts to lose you but you didn't go alone. For part of us went with you the day God called you home.

Marshall & Peggy Lytton

Marshall Lytton - November 06, 2016 at 07:01 PM



“ *Rita Hill*

December 27, 2022 at 03:07 PM

DB

“ To Willis and sons, Your wife and mother was very special to me. She taught me in '67, '68, and '69, and I worked with her at BSC for most of my career there. She always accomplished her tasks, taught her students, and cared for them. We did not always agree, but we knew that BSC was the prime interest. You all are in my thoughts and prayers. We have moved to SC, so I cannot be present at the wake and service. But Rita knows that I loved and respected her, and I hope this tribute brings you some comfort. If I can help you, please call me: 304.887.7134.

Dr. Tom Blevins - November 03, 2016 at 09:40 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Rita Hill.



November 02, 2016 at 09:38 PM

MG

“ James, So sorry the hear your Mom has passed on. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers in the days to come.
Mark and Hiromi Gatchell

Mark Gatchell - November 02, 2016 at 08:18 PM

AD

“ I am so sorry to of Rita's passing. She was a special person we cared for. I send sympathy and prayers to the family.
Ann Pendleton Davis

Ann Pendleton Davis - November 02, 2016 at 06:06 PM

JV

“ I am so sorry to hear of Rita's passing, and I hope her retirement years were joyful and care free. As a colleague, I appreciated Rita's sense of humor, her political astuteness, and her constant attempt to draw students into a bigger world of ideas and concerns through her use of current events materials in her English composition classes. I'm sure that many students sharpened their critical thinking skills through their association with Rita. It was an important part of Rita's legacy. Sincerely, Jim Voelker, Kernersville, NC

Jim Voelker - November 01, 2016 at 08:40 AM

PP

Speaking for the Princeton High School class of 1953, we are very saddened to lose Rita, one of our classmates. Our prayers and sincere condolences to her husband and children.

Phyllis Conner Posey,
'53 class member.

Phyllis Conner Posey - November 03, 2016 at 01:30 AM

SA

So sorry to hear about RITA i went to church with her until she could not come any more. peace to the family and Rita will be so missed

SHIRLEY ALFANO
ROCK WV

SHIRLEY ALFANO - November 12, 2016 at 10:37 AM