



Willma "Nelle" Safley

October 10, 1921 - April 6, 2018

Wilma Nelle Jones Safley, 96, died April 6, 2018 in Raleigh, NC, where she recently lived near her sons at Waltonwood Retirement Community. Mrs. Safley, "Nelle", was born in Hardeman County, TN to the late Dan Aaron Jones and Elma Rebecca Porter Jones.

She was a graduate of Union University in Jackson, TN with degree in Elementary Education and Home Economics. She was elected Homecoming Queen and a member of Chi Omega Fraternity. Professionally, Mrs. Safley spent 28 years in the classroom teaching students in Robertson County, TN. She was active in local and state education organizations. Mrs. Safley expected excellence of herself, and she challenged her students to always do their best by gaining responsibility and maintaining high ideals.

Earlier in her career she served as a Home Demonstration Agent in Lincoln County, TN where she met and married Lawson M. Safley in 1947. They moved to Springfield, TN in 1952 when Mr. Safley became Superintendent of the Highland Rim Experiment Station. Together they served the community and state when Mr. Safley became Brigadier General of the Tennessee National Guard and later in retirement as the District President of Kiwanis International.

Mrs. Safley was President of the 20th Century Club, and she supported the

Community Concert Program, Farm Bureau, Cub Scouts and County elections. She was Supervisor of the Primary Department at Main Street Church of Christ. Mrs. Safley taught Sunday School at the Church, and she actively supported church missions for over 58 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Safley moved to their farm in Barren Plains. In "retirement" they enjoyed sharing the bounty of their land with friends and strangers alike.

Mrs. Safley is survived by her sons, Lawson M. Safley, Jr. (Pamela) of Raleigh, NC and Charles D. Safley (Charyl) of Durham, NC, brother, Allen Jones of Columbia, TN and sister-in-law, Elsie Safley of McMinnville, TN. She is the Grandmother of Jennifer Newton (Steven) of Pittsboro, NC, Timothy Safley (Karen) of Durham, NC, Emily Bradley (Josh) of Cary, NC, C. Christopher Safley (Allison) of Alexandria, VA and Callie McKenzie (Timothy) of Waxhaw, NC. She is survived by twelve great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Foreign Missions at the Main Street Church of Christ, 318 N. Main St., Springfield, TN 37172 or Raleigh Church of Christ, 911 Barringer Dr., Raleigh, NC 27606.

Funeral service will be held on Tuesday, April 10th at 10:30am in the Chapel of Austin and Bell Funeral Home in Springfield with Brother Joe Rushing officiating. Burial will follow at Springfield Memorial Gardens with David Gunn, Josh Gunn, Jonathan Gunn, Joe King, Steven Wisener and Rick Murphy serving as pallbearers.

The family will receive friends on Monday, April 9th from 5pm-8pm and again on Tuesday from 9am until the hour of service at 10:30am.

Austin & Bell Funeral Home in Springfield is in charge of these arrangements.

AUSTIN & BELL FUNERAL HOME-

509 WALNUT STREET, SPRINGFIELD, TN (615) 384-1000

Cemetery

Springfield Memorial Gardens

Springfield TN 37172

US

Visitation

Monday, April 9, 2018

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Austin & Bell Funeral Home Springfield

509 Walnut St.

Springfield TN 37172

US

615-384-1000

615-382-7449

Visitation

Tuesday, April 10, 2018

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Austin & Bell Funeral Home Springfield

509 Walnut St.

Springfield TN 37172

US

615-384-1000

615-382-7449

Funeral

Tuesday, April 10, 2018

10:30 AM -

Austin & Bell Funeral Home Springfield

509 Walnut St.

Springfield TN 37172

US

615-384-1000

615-382-7449

Funeral HomeAustin & Bell Funeral Home Springfield

509 Walnut St.

Springfield TN - 37172

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615-382-7449

Tribute Wall

AH

“ *Willma "Nelle" Safley*

Austin and Bell Funeral Home - August 14, 2018 at 09:59 AM

LL

“ *Linda L. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Willma Nelle Safley.*

Linda L. - April 10, 2018 at 08:48 PM

MG

“ *Lit a candle in memory of Willma Nelle Safley*

Mike Goosetree - April 10, 2018 at 02:56 PM

CC

“ *To the Safley family, so sorry to hear about your mother and grandmother. I'm first cousin to Lawson. You mother was a sweet and dear person. At my parents 60 th wedding they came from Springfield to Van Buren Co. She brought some jelly she had made from her figs trees. My parents (Leslie and Leona Hillis) and I visited their home and your dad showed the farm to my dad. We had a great visit. Sorry we can not be there. Camilla (Hillis) and Michael Carter Joel & Judy Hillis*

Camilla Hillis Carter - April 09, 2018 at 06:01 PM

GU

“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Willma Nelle Safley.*

Guest - April 09, 2018 at 09:38 AM

TM

“ 1 file added to the album *Grandma at our wedding*

Tim McKenzie - April 09, 2018 at 08:51 AM

LR

“ *Lee, Tricia, and Thomas Raines purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Willma Nelle Safley.*

Lee, Tricia, and Thomas Raines - April 08, 2018 at 09:11 PM

GU

“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Willma Nelle Safley.*

Guest - April 08, 2018 at 05:17 PM