



Doris Spradlin Rushton

November 7, 2010

Doris Spradlin Rushton

Portsmouth-

Doris Spradlin Rushton Mrs. Edward D. Rushton

passed away in the comfort of her home early Sunday morning, November 7th, 2010. She had lived a remarkable life, and had reached the age of 85. Born Doris Mabel Spradlin on March 10, 1925 in Madison Heights, Virginia, she loved walking on the beach and Broadway shows, Clark Gable and writing in her diary. She had a beautiful, caring spirit and dedicated her life to helping others.

She attended elementary, middle and high school in Madison Heights before graduating from E.C. Glass high school in 1943. That same year, she began her studies at the University of Virginia and thus embarked on a 52 year career in nursing. In between was a stint with the US Cadet Nurses Corps during World War II, and a BS Degree in Nursing from her beloved University of Virginia. After graduation from UVA, she became Head Nurse in the Pediatric Department of the University of Virginia Hospital and was then made Night Supervisor, a position she occupied until 1954.

From 1954 until 1959, she held the position of Educational Director at Lynchburg General Hospital and upon moving to the Tidewater area, accepted a position of Instructor of Nursing at Obici Hospital in Suffolk, Virginia. She was also Clinical Instructor for the Norfolk General School of Practical Nursing before moving to Chesapeake Center for Science and Technology in 1973 as

a nursing instructor. In the end, she had dedicated more than 50 years to the joy of the nursing profession and in 1996 was inducted into the prestigious Thomas Jefferson Society of the University of Virginia, recognizing her 50 years of service to that hallowed institution.

She was a member of The Woman's Club of Portsmouth, Virginia, the Emblem Club of the Supreme Order of Elks, the National League of Nursing, the Virginia, Norfolk and Chesapeake Educational Associations and was a Charter Member of St. Andrew Lutheran Church.

She is survived by many who will miss her dearly. Among them is her husband, Edward D. Rushton, sons Donald Edward Rushton and wife, Pat, of Lorain, Ohio and John Spradlin Rushton, and wife, Joy of Lewisville, NC and a daughter, Mary Katherine Rushton Dewing, and husband, Andrew of Suffolk, Virginia. She is also survived by her brother, Thomas Robert "Bob" Spradlin and sister-in-laws Lillian Spradlin of Virginia Beach, and Helen M. Spradlin of Richmond, Virginia. Surviving grandchildren are Nicole Rushton Shinsky of Sheffield Lake, OH, Casey Rushton Lehner of Boca Raton, FL, Kendall Marianne Rushton of Virginia Beach, Va, Bronwyn Kennedy Rushton and Braedon Kidd Rushton of Lewisville, NC and Edward Hunter Pleasant Dewing, Hannah Doris Potter Dewing and Katherine Drew Virginia Dewing of Suffolk, Virginia. Doris is also survived by two great-grandchildren, Holly Rushton and Lexi Beasley of Sheffield Lake, Ohio and many beloved nieces and nephews.

She is predeceased by her loving and supportive parents, James William Spradlin and Mabel Christine Kidd Spradlin and her older brother, James William "Jay" Spradlin, Jr. A Funeral Service to Celebrate Doris' Life will be held on Friday at 2:30 p.m. at Loving Funeral Home Churchland Chapel. Entombment will follow in Meadowbrook Memorial Gardens, Suffolk. The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Thursday evening from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Memorial donations may be made in Doris' name to St. Andrew's Lutheran Church or to the University of Virginia.

Tribute Wall



“ I was so sorry to read of Doris' passing. She was such a sweet lady. I am so sorry I could not pay my respects in person. My prayers are with you all. ##imported-begin##Robin Pasternak-Seggelke##imported-end##

November 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Donnie, I am so sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. As always, Emily##imported-begin##Emily Conover Lemoine##imported-end##

November 14, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Doris is love, with her warm smile and hug. She lives in all she touched and cared for. We are better for knowing her. Our prayers are with you all. ##imported-begin##Barthe van Doorn##imported-end##

November 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ We miss you so much...keeping you in my heart..I love you Mom forever!##imported-begin##Mary Dewing##imported-end##

November 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ I cherish the times I got to spend with you and grandpa. I am sorry I didn't get to see you more....I love you,,,,
Nicole##imported-begin##Nicole Shinsky##imported-end##

November 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Mary, please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you all at this very sad time. Your Mom was such a sweet, gentle, and lovely woman. I know your heart must be breaking. It was truly a pleasure to know your Mom -- she was a remarkable lady.##imported-begin##Shirley McGehee Darden##imported-end##

November 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ I first knew Doris as a friend of Moms in the Emblem Club, she was always cheerful, kind and sweet. Then I grew up and went to Nursing school, it was as my instructor that truly showed me what an amazing person she was. She had a gift and she shared that gift in a most amazing way. I learned so much from her because she was a true teacher who was able to not only impart knowledge but create a drive to learn that went far beyond the facts. She was always kind and caring and she was able to teach not only the lessons and skills needed to care for patients but to teach the ability to look beyond the medical symptoms such as the emaciated body of a terminally patient and see the person he/she was so that respect and compassion was easy.
I may have rambled a bit but I needed to show that she made a difference, a wonderful difference in this world. My thoughts and prayers are with her family. May your memories give you comfort and peace.##imported-begin##Rita Derleth, Cerda Simmerman##imported-end##

November 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM