



Ellen Earlene Wise

June 23, 2010

Ellen Earlene Wise age 68 went to be with her Heavenly Father on Wednesday June 23, 2010. Mrs. Wise was born in Portsmouth the daughter of the late Catherine Jeanette Lilienthal and Elmer E. Ricks. Mrs. Wise was a member of Western Branch Community Church where she was a worship leader and member of the choir. Mrs. Wise attained her Associate degree in nutrition and took courses in sign language so she could communicate with all the children in her school. She was a member of the Virginia School Food Service Association. She worked over 30 years as a cafeteria manager for the Portsmouth Public Schools where she was an organizer and strong supporter of implementing the breakfast and summer feeding programs. Mrs. Wise was predeceased by her parents and her husband of 50 years Steve Wise, Sr. she is survived by her children, son Steve Wise, Jr. and Sachi, daughter, Catherine Wise, grandchildren Paula, Trevor, Tyron, Steve III and Craig and two great-grandchildren Sasha and Jah. Also surviving Mrs. Wise are her sister Julia Sugg and a brother E.E. "Butch" Ricks. The family would also like to extend a special thanks to her caregiver and good friend Maria Brooks. A Funeral Service to celebrate her life will be held on Saturday at 3:00 p.m. at Western Branch Community Church with Dr. Jim Wall officiating. The family will receive friends at the church for an hour prior to the service. Interment will follow in Greenlawn Memorial Gardens, Chesapeake. Memorial Donations in Mrs. Wise name may be made to your local food bank. It was her goal to never see a child go hungry.

Tribute Wall



“ Dear family,
Peggy, myself and our sons all send up our thoughts and prayers for you all on our dear cousin Earlene's passing. After being with her during so much suffering over these past months, we rejoice in knowing that there is no more pain and discomfort for her. May she finally rest in peace, and may you all look back lovingly on both her and Steve's lives with you and relive the many joys of those days.##imported-begin##Jack & Peggy Lilienthal##imported-end##

June 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ I first got to know Earlene when I joined the skit writing team. She was so welcoming and soon became our "Historian" of past skits, someone we could always depend on. She was greatly appreciated and will surely be missed. I wish I had gotten to know her on a more personal level, but what I did know of her was that she was a wonderful, memorable individual.##imported-begin##Joyce Alderman##imported-end##

June 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ To the Family and friends of Mrs. Wise, we certainly enjoyed working as PTA officers with Earlene when she was at Parkview Elem as cafeteria manager. And later with my BS in nutrition and her education in computers, we worked together in the Food and Nutrition Office. I remember her birthday as April 24th and will always have pleasant memories when I think of her.
Edward Sr. & Ovella Fortson##imported-begin##Ovella Fortson##imported-end##

June 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ I have missed you so much in choir but you are in the Heavenly Choir now, singing with the angels. Save a place for me.##imported-begin##Debbie Marsh##imported-end##

June 25, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Sis, You know we love you but are so happy for you to finally be at peace. You struggled for a long time and I know you are now resting in our Heavenly Father's arms and singing with the Angels. We will miss you until the time we join you one day but the time will be like the blink of an eye when we spend eternity with you in Heaven. You're my favorite and I love you the most.##imported-begin##Judy & Bill Sugg##imported-end##

June 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Julia & family,
Our heartfelt thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. Praise the Lord, there is no more pain & suffering and dear Earlene rests in the arms of Jesus.
With Love,
Lawrence & Barbara Bates##imported-begin##Lawrence & Barbara Bates##imported-end##

June 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Despite her 'tough as nails' pretense, Earlene was a gentle caring person with a heart of gold. Her passion was music. She just loved her music. I am so honored to have been a part of her life. I know she's in heaven now and having a wonderful time...probably leading the angels in Worship! I will miss her so much but her chains are gone! She's been set free...to rest safely in the arms of Jesus. PLease know that you all are in my thoughts and prayers. May the love of God surround you during this difficult time.##imported-begin##Barbara Moody##imported-end##

June 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ My heartfelt sympathy goes out to Earlene's family. I had the pleasure of meeting Earlene through the Drama Team at WBCC. She was an asset to the team, always adding laughter through her own special humor. We will miss her greatly. I know she is now resting comfortably in the arms of Jesus.##imported-begin##Sheri Neuhofer##imported-end##

June 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ I had the privilege of working with Earlene on the WBCC Drama Writing Team. She kept us on track and added greatly to our team. Her absence was greatly felt, but I take comfort in knowing she is no longer in pain and enjoying the music of the Lord that she loved.##imported-begin##Callie Edlich##imported-end##

June 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ May Aunt Earlene rest in peace and may the family know how strong of a person in faith she was. She walked with God very faithfully even in times of struggle. Through struggle she still overcame and gave God all the honor and glory. I thank God for letting me be apart of her life and witness her faith firsthand at Western Branch Community Church.##imported-begin##William D. Sugg##imported-end##

June 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ I will truly miss my singing buddy. She was such a blessing in my life.##imported-begin##Debbie Mosciano##imported-end##

June 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Deb and I will be praying for your family.##imported-begin##Joe and Deb Sugg##imported-end##

June 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ Many prayers and thoughts are with your family as you remember your dear sister, mother, aunt, friend and everything that Earlene was to you. May God bless you by knowing she's dancing and singing with the Lord who she served for many years. God bless!##imported-begin##Beckie Harrison##imported-end##

June 24, 2010 at 12:00 AM