



Evalyn K. Rule

September 3, 2008

Evalyn Kerby Rule, 89, a loving and devoted mother and wife passed away on Wednesday September 3, 2008 in Roanoke, VA. Her highest priorities were serving her family, friends, and community, and educating. She was a consummate teacher until the end, educating in many diverse ways. Her life's focus was on helping others.

She gave everything her best efforts, and inspired the best in others. Evalyn was born in Lexington, KY and following the loss of her parents, she moved to Clifton Forge, VA. She lost her father at the age of 8 and her mother at the age of 16 she went to live with her aunt, and ultimately met and married James A. Rule, also from Clifton Forge.

She graduated from Mary Washington College with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1942, and went on to take graduate courses in teaching, counseling, and education. This was unusual for a woman at that time.

She taught, primarily 5th grade at Westhaven Elementary School in Portsmouth from 1943 through 1952, then taught students one-on-one in the home environment.

She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Portsmouth, the American Association of University Women and volunteered for Portsmouth Social Services until her health would not allow her to do so.

Evalyn was the widow of the late James A. Rule. She is survived by her son, James A. Jay Rule, Jr. and his wife, Jeanne M. Welch of Roanoke, VA; cousins, Francis Killpatrick Fresh and her husband, David of Lexington, VA;

nieces, Anne Kerby Wright and her husband, Roy, Dimmitt Kerby Houff and her husband, Jimmie all of Clifton Forge, VA

A funeral service will be held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday in Greenlawn Memorial Gardens Mausoleum by Dr. George L. Oehler. The family will receive friends in Loving Funeral Home, Churchland Chapel Friday from 6-7:30p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family suggest donations to: James A. Rule, Sr. Engineering Scholarship Fund Virginia Tech Foundation c/o Mr. Bob Bailey, Regional Director of Major Gifts, VPI & SU, University Development 0336, Blacksburg, VA 24061 or to First Presbyterian Church, 515 Court Street. Portsmouth, VA 23704.

Tribute Wall



“ Dear Jay,

Please accept my sincere sympathy at the passing of your mother. I remember how devoted she was to you during our days in high school, especially with the Wilson High School Band parents. She and your father worked closely with my parents in the band parents association when my father became president. They were very helpful at the time Wilson was going through a lot of transition. It has been awhile since we have seen each other, but I do remember what a gentleman you were and I know that your mother and father had a great deal to do with making you the person that you are. I hope that you will always keep the memory of your mother alive and well.##imported-begin##Keith Bailey##imported-end##

September 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Jay ,

Sorry to hear about the passing of your mother, I am sure she will be missed, If you need anything, don't hesitate to give me a call or email. Thoughts are with you and your family at this time. Jeremy##imported-begin##Jeremy Thomas##imported-end##

September 08, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Jay and Jeanne,
I will remember Evalyn for her caring ways and the kindness that she showed Betty after Mark's death and the consideration she gave me while Betty and I were together. She was a true "gentle woman" with much love in her heart. She was truly one of a kind. I will long remember her for the fine person she was. God bless both of you.

Sincerely,
Les##imported-begin##Les Abbott##imported-end##

September 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Jay -
I met your dear Mother a couple of times when she visited with you. She was a neat Lady. I know you will miss her. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and Jeanne as you adjust to her passing.

Margaret and Bob Leonard##imported-begin##Bob Leonard##imported-end##

September 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Our sympathy to you and yours. We went to high school with your mother and Faie was in Mary Washington with her. God be with you.##imported-begin##Donald & Faie Livermon Hobday##imported-end##

September 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Jay,
My deepest sympathy to you and your wife. I shall always remember what a lovely and kind person your mother was.
Sincerely,
Marie Insley Nicolò###imported-begin###Marie Insley Nicolò###imported-end###

September 05, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Jay and Jeanne,

I am most saddened to hear of the death of your Mother. I heard about it from Les Abbott immediatiely following your call to him, My late husband and I always enjoyed our times with your parents whenever we were in Portsmouth.

Pleae allow me to introduce myself. I am Betty Davis' sister, Michael Davis' Aunt Caree and the daughter of Mrs Weber. My Mother made regular long visits from Manitowoc WI to the Davis' home.

It was during these visits that my Mom and Mrs Rule became such good friends, spending afternoons together and indulging themselves with chocolate cake and ice cream. When my Mother would return to the midwest, she was always full of news about her times with the Rules.

Your dear, kind parents were favorites of our family and no trip to Portsmouth was complete without a visit with them.

I will remember them always.

Caroline Walsworth###imported-begin###Caroline Walsworth###imported-end###

September 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Jay:

So sorry to hear of the passing of your mom. She truly fought the good fight all of the long days that God gave her on this Earth. Our thoughts and prayers will continue to be with you and Jeanne in the days of transition to come. Sincerely,##imported-begin##Pat and Dave Hrtman##imported-end##

September 04, 2008 at 12:00 AM