



## Ruth Williams Buck

June 13, 2020

Ruth Elizabeth Williams Buck, the only child of James Lundy Williams and Allie Ruth Daly Williams, died June 13, 2020 at home in Portsmouth with her family after a period of declining health. Ruth was born in New Bern, North Carolina.

She was predeceased by her parents, her husband Donald R. Buck, son-in-law Donald R. Carignan and son-in-law Steve Harrell. She is survived by a son, James Edward Sitterson and his wife, Nancy Pauline Nelson Sitterson, of Portsmouth, and two daughters, Katherine Louise Sitterson Carignan and her husband Jeff Bailey of Henrico, VA, and Amy Ruth Buck Pace and her partner, Henry Lee of Carrsville, VA. She is also survived by three stepchildren, Michael Wayne Buck of Portsmouth, Donna Buck Thompson Byrum, and her husband Ronnie Byrum of Portsmouth, and Sandra Buck Harrell of Archdale, NC. "Nan" leaves behind her adored and adoring grandchildren, John Lundy (Jack) Carignan, Rayedon Leigh Pace, Allison Rose Carignan, Griffin Cooper Pace and Elizabeth McKenna Pace and step-grandchildren, Kara Elizabeth Hayes, Michele Buck Ellis, Amanda Buck Penland, Chase Alexander Pace, Meredith Thompson Edgell and Meagan Lee Kashner, thirteen beloved great-grandchildren as well as Larue Newsome, Luanne Dunn and Marty Cabe, her dearest friends.

Ruth was a 1950 graduate of Cradock High School and a graduate of the

National College for Church Secretaries and attended Tidewater Community College and ODU. She made her career as a church secretary, at Southern Baptist churches in Caroline County and Chesterfield County and finally at Cradock Baptist Church in Portsmouth, where she served for 40 years. She was active in the Portsmouth Church Secretaries, Virginia Church Secretaries and National Church Secretaries associations. She was also an active member of Cradock Baptist, serving as a Sunday School teacher, Sunday School director and Vacation Bible School director.

Ruth was also a teacher, working with kindergarten students in Chesterfield, VA and at Cradock Baptist Church, where she served a term as the Principal of the kindergarten. She was a substitute teacher at Alf J. Mapp Junior High School for several years and greatly enjoyed working with middle-schoolers.

Ruth was a life member of the PTA, serving as PTA President even after her youngest child graduated from high school, because, she said, "I care about all the children, not just my own." She loved the Cradock community and Cradock High School. She was a longtime member, and Past President, of the Woman's Club of Portsmouth, and a proud member of the Cradock Admirals (Retired).

Ruth loved people and never met a stranger. When she met you, she wanted to hear all about you and who and what you loved. Writing was her secret passion; her first job with with the Portsmouth Star newspaper. She loved to write stories about the people she met and what she learned from them and filled notebooks with her writings.

Shortly before her death, Ruth reached out to friends, neighbors, church members and hospice staff to thank everyone for their loving care, prayers, cards and notes. You all were bright spots in her life and she was grateful for you.

Visitation will be held at Loving Funeral Home in Portsmouth on Thursday, June 18th from 10:00 a.m. until 5 p.m. The family will be at the funeral home from 3-5 p.m. on Thursday and will see visitors at the family residence on Thursday as well. Burial will be private. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Donations in memory of Ruth may be made to the H.E.R. Shelter, PO Box 2187, Portsmouth, VA 23702 or online at [hershelter.com](http://hershelter.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 18. 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Loving Funeral Home Churchland Chapel  
3225 Academy Ave  
Portsmouth, VA 23703

# Tribute Wall

RD

“ My condolences to the family. I have fond memories of Ruth from Craddock high school, Craddock Baptist Church and the Craddock Admirals (retired). Til we meet again in heaven old friend. Ray Dunn

Ray Dunn - June 20, 2020 at 02:29 PM

AM

“ I had so many great conservations with Ms Ruth. She always a shine light with her smile in the room. She was always caring, loving and giving warm hugs. She has was always great people to all. I know, I'll miss her so will everyone else who knew her. I'll be praying for her friends and along her family. R.I.P. Ruth Buck



Amy - June 18, 2020 at 08:49 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Ruth Williams Buck.



June 17, 2020 at 06:34 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ruth Williams Buck.



June 16, 2020 at 10:36 PM

SH

“ *Ruth was our mother's best friend. Those two were inseparable when they got together and would talk for hours. She touched our mother's life in many ways, and for that, we are so grateful. She truly was an Angel. Our hearts are with you, Sandra Herron*

sandra herron - June 16, 2020 at 09:24 PM

LF

“ *LaRue Newsome & family purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Ruth Williams Buck.*



LaRue Newsome & family - June 16, 2020 at 08:51 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Ruth Williams Buck.*



June 16, 2020 at 07:05 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Ruth Williams Buck.*



June 16, 2020 at 07:03 PM

DE

“ DEAR NANCY AND JIMMY, I AM SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS. MY THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU.

DIANE ETHERIDGE - June 16, 2020 at 04:21 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruth Williams Buck.



June 16, 2020 at 04:04 PM



“ Our Dearest Ruth,

*We know you are with Jesus now and for that we are eternally grateful. You touched me so personally over my lifetime. Your love for your friends and family were so evident in your daily life here on Earth. We love and miss you! Thank you for always being the hands and feet of Jesus to us all!!! We will see you again on that day that HE calls us home. Much love to all the family.*

Susie Hartung - June 16, 2020 at 03:45 PM

BK

“ I looked forward each year for the past fifteen or so to meeting and sharing a memory and a laugh with Ruth at the Come Back to Cradock celebration in Afton Square. She had a love of Athens community and the people of Cradock that was unmatched. I loved to listen to her talk of the old days in Cradock.

*She was a kind and thoughtful woman who always considered “the other” in her conversations.*

*I will miss her and hold her memories in my heart so that she will remain unforgotten while I still have my senses.*

*May she rest in eternal peace.*

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**Bernie Kirsch** - June 16, 2020 at 03:42 PM

YR

“ Ruth Buck was such a treasure to me. I treasure her being part of my life in multiple ways. As I was leaving Cradock one day I met Ruth sweeping the street in front of a relatives home! She and I talked in the street for about an hour and a half 😊. She knew me almost from birth in the Cradock Nursery! Ruth was such a marvelous roll model for us all! Cradock Baptist Church and anything positive in the Cradock area had a touch of Ruth.

*Love and condolences to all,  
Yolanda Chappell Ringnalda*

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**Yolanda Ringnalda** - June 16, 2020 at 02:08 PM

WP

*She was one of the many special members of Cradock Baptist. She served the Lord and the Church all of her life. She was a wonderful mother wife, friend and was so caring for others! My condolences to the family*

*Wayne Prince*

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**Wayne Prince** - June 16, 2020 at 08:01 PM

MB

*Ruth Buck was a wonderful lady, always with a smile on her face and a loving caring attitude. She always had a place in my heart as my best friends Mom. When I would visit I felt like one of her own. Such a sweet loving lady. My deepest thoughts and prayers to her family. I know she is in the loving arms of Jesus smiling down on her loved ones.*

*Mike Bickley*

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**Michael Bickley** - June 16, 2020 at 11:59 PM

LG

*Ruth was such a special person. We worked together in the PTAs and Little League. Always a smile of welcome to everyone. My prayers go out to all of the family members for comfort and peace. Ruth will be truly missed..*

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**Linda Graves** - June 18, 2020 at 09:42 AM