



Carole Lee Wells

May 9, 1933 - September 28, 2018

Carole Lee Wells (nee Lingle) died at Life Care Center of Sparta on September 28, 2018 in Sparta Tennessee at the age of 85.

Carole is survived by her husband of 65 years George; children, Cheri Shields (Patrick) of Eagle River, WI; Suzi Nelson (Tim) of Robbinsdale, MN; Lori Eyre of Mt. Prospect, IL; and Roger Wells (Cheryl) of Cookeville, TN, her brother Robert Lingle (Barbara) of Metropolis, IL; 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren and nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her parents.

Carole was born on May 9, 1933 in Pulaski, Illinois to Hubert and Birdie Hoopaw Lingle. She graduated from Metropolis Community High School in 1951 (where she was involved in many extra-curricular activities) and went on to attend Southern Illinois University for two years.. She married George Wells in 1953. Over the next 12 years, the couple welcomed four children into their home and Carole taught them to love God, serve Him and be kind to others. Her children remember her as a kind, gentle, and patient mother who encouraged them to pursue their goals. Her words, "if you can't say anything nice, don't say anything at all" were not just platitudes but words she lived by. She would often compliment the waitress, the grocery store clerk, and anyone with whom she came in contact. She volunteered in many activities her children were involved in, including becoming a Camp Fire Girl leader and a Cub Scout den mother.

Carole enjoyed working with children and often taught Sunday School. She also brought a lot of joy to children by entertaining them as either a clown, Mother Goose, Mrs. Claus, or The Easter Bunny. She was passionate about literacy and often volunteered to teach teens and adults to read. She was an active and dedicated member of the Methodist churches within the communities in which they lived and was a trained lay leader. She and George often hosted summer interns who helped with the church youth group. They also enjoyed square dancing.

When all their children had left home, George and Carole lived and worked in Saudi

Arabia, Egypt, and Romania. Even overseas, the presence of Christ was with them. They were part of Bible studies, even in countries where such studies were forbidden. At times they had to smuggle Bibles in. Although their living conditions were often difficult, Carole cheerfully made each of their houses into a home. Carole moved bureaucratic mountains, along with the help of a Romanian friend, Mia, to facilitate the adoption of a Romanian baby (Christina) for her daughter, Suzi. She was always available to come welcome a new grandchild into the family, even if she had to fly in from the other side of the world. Carole loved to cross-stitch and made cross-stitched baby quilts for each of her 10 grandchildren.

After retirement, Carole and George toured the country in an RV, visiting family and friends and as many Presidential libraries as they could. Retirement did not find her idle, though. She continued working on her lay speaking for the Methodist Church and taught English as a second language. She worked with one young man who wanted to become a U.S. citizen. In addition to teaching him English, she attended citizenship classes with him and drove him to the place where he successfully earned his citizenship.

Over the years, Carole filled journal after journal with details of the day; praises to God for His care and petitions to Him on behalf of her family and friends. Her strong faith is evident in these journals. They are a treasure to her family-evidence of a life well lived.

A memorial service is scheduled for 11:00 AM, October 3, 2018 at Friendship United Methodist Church in Cookeville TN, with Rev. Carl Stiglich officiating the ceremony. A reception will follow at the church.

Visitation will begin at 9:30 AM. . All are welcome to attend and celebrate Carole's life.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Friendship United Methodist Church, 5454 S. Jefferson St. Cookeville, TN 38506. Arrangements are being handled by Presley Funeral Home. The family would like to thank wonderful caregivers at Life Care Center of Sparta and Avalon Hospice of Cookeville for their love and care for Carole.

Events

OCT **Visitation** 09:30AM - 11:00AM

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Friendship United Methodist Church

5454 S. Jefferson Ave., Cookeville, TN, US, 38506

OCT **Memorial** 11:00AM - 12:00PM

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Friendship United Methodist Church

5454 S. Jefferson Ave., Cookeville, TN, US, 38506

Comments



“ 34 files added to the album LifeTributes



Presley Funeral Home - October 04, 2018 at 03:53 PM



“ Fall Fantasia was purchased for the family of Carole Lee Wells.



October 02, 2018 at 02:55 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Carole Lee Wells.



October 01, 2018 at 05:04 PM