



In Remembrance of

*Nell Myra McLaughlin Meyers*

November 22, 1916 to October 30, 2004



## Nell Meyers Remembered

By Charlie Meyers

I remember Mom taking classes at the University of Maryland in the evening and over several summers to get a master's degree. At the same time, she was working and doing all the things needed to provide for the family.

The first year after we moved to D.C., Larry and I rode with Mom to Maryland where she taught and we attended school. The commute was about an hour each way. Larry and I probably made her miserable on those long commutes, since we had a tendency to fight each other in those days.

One of our first Christmases in the D.C. area, Santa Claus (Mom and Dad) bought us each a wonderful Lionel Model Train Set. I'm sure it was hard for them to scrape up enough money for two train sets, but they knew Larry and I would not be content to share one train set. We still had that fighting tendency. I still have the train sets. They are among my most cherished possessions. These are examples of the great sacrifices that Mom made for her family – the sacrificing never ceased.

One of Mom's favorite stories was about a dastardly deed committed by one of us around the house and nobody would "fess up." She threatened to spank the offender. I finally buckled under the pressure and said "If I tell you who did it will you promise not to spank me?" She was so tickled that I didn't get that spanking.

She continued to amuse her granddaughters with "daddy stories" through the years.

**Nell Myra McLaughlin Meyers**  
**November 22, 1916 to October 30, 2004**

Mother was often described as a gentle, caring, and generous soul, but in addition to that, she had a backbone of steel. This quality came in handy while she raised her two rambunctious sons, Jesse Lawrence Jr. and Charles Thomas. In addition, that backbone carried her to earn two bachelor's degrees from Western Carolina University and a master's degree from the University of Maryland while working full-time and taking care of her family. Her education along with her many accomplishments took her from classroom teacher to school superintendent.

Her most cherished accomplishment though, was her family. She deeply loved and respected her two sons and their wives, Janet and Kay. She was especially devoted to her three granddaughters, Katie Alexander, Heather Doerstling, and Laura Squirlock. She was also very proud that she had the opportunity to get to know her first great-grandson, Joseph Squirlock during this last year. She loved to hold Joey when he took his naps.

Nell was born in High Point North Carolina in 1916 and moved with her family to the Shoal Creek area near Whittier, North Carolina as a child. She attended Shoal Creek Elementary School. She liked to relate the story of how the elementary school students would attend revival services at the Methodist or Baptist Church. During the school day, all the students were marched over to the 11 am service then marched back to school when the service ended. She attended high school in Sylva, NC. Nell, a life-long Methodist, is currently a member of Vonore United Methodist Church.

After her graduation from Western Carolina, her first teaching job was in Murphy, NC where she met her future husband. After their marriage, Lawrence and Nell lived in Asheville, NC and in 1952 relocated to the Washington D. C. area. They lived there until she retired in 1974 from the Prince George's County School System where she had worked for 22 years. Nell was a pioneer in the development of a special reading program in the Prince George's County School System. When Nell retired, she and Lawrence moved back to North Carolina to spend their summers with family and friends. They also had a home in Florida so that in the winters they could live in a warm climate. After Lawrence's death, she stayed in western North Carolina until 1990 when she moved to Maryville, Tennessee. Her final move was in 2003 when she moved into "The Neighborhood at Tellico Village," an assisted living facility in Loudon, Tennessee.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 36 years Jesse Lawrence Meyers, Sr. who died in 1978, her brother Charles who died in an airplane accident in World War II, and her sister Anne Hicks, recently deceased.

The circle of her life is now complete. Nell is to be buried in the Thomas Memorial Cemetery at Shoal Creek, in the Qualla community. The cemetery is directly behind the elementary school she attended and across the road from the Methodist church where she and Lawrence were married.

## **She is Gone**

Author Unknown

You can shed tears but she is gone  
or you can smile because she has lived.

You can close your eyes and pray that she will come back  
or you can open your eyes and see all that she has left.

Your heart can be empty because you can't see her  
or you can be full of the love you shared.

You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday  
or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.

You can remember her and only that she's gone  
or you can cherish her memory and let it live on.

You can cry and close your mind,  
be empty and turn your back,  
or you can do what she'd want:  
smile, open your eyes, love and go on.

Many thanks to all of you who have given your love and support.

*The Meyers Family*

**In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the following:**

Vonore United Methodist Church  
c. o. Mrs. Edie Cantrell  
P.O. Box 400  
346 Campground Road  
Madisonville, TN 37354

Thomas Memorial Cemetery  
c. o. Mrs. Margaret Bradburn  
Route 1, Box 243  
Whittier, NC 28789

## *The Twenty-Third Psalm*

*The Lord is my shepherd: I shall not want:  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:  
He leadeth me beside the still waters.  
He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the  
paths of righteousness for his name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the  
shadow of death, I will fear no evil:  
for thou art with me: thy rod and thy  
staff they comfort me.  
Thou preparest a table before me in the  
presence of mine enemies:  
thou anointest my head with oil:  
my cup runneth over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow  
me all the days of my life: and I will  
dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.*

*IN MEMORY OF*

*NELL MYRA MEYERS*

*DATE OF BIRTH*

*November 22, 1916*

*DATE OF DEATH*

*October 30, 2004*

*PLACE AND TIME OF SERVICE*

*Biereley-Hale Chapel*

*Sunday, October 31, 2004*

*8:00 P.M.*

*CLERGYMEN*

*Rev. Carmel Skeen*

*Rev. Darrell Rasnake*

*TIME AND PLACE OF INTERMENT*

*1:00 P.M. Monday*

*Thomas Memorial Cemetery*

*Whittier, North Carolina*

*ARRANGEMENTS BY*

*Biereley-Hale Funeral Home*

*Madisonville, Tennessee*