



Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams

August 31, 1931 - August 22, 2024

Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams, passed away on Thursday, August 22, 2024, at Pine Shadows Retirement Center in Sylvester, Georgia. She was 92 years old.

The graveside service will be held at 10:00 AM on Saturday, August 31, 2024, at the Hillcrest Cemetery in Sylvester, with the Reverend Donnie Duncan officiating.

Mrs. Sams was born on August 31, 1931 in Sylvester, Georgia, to the late Jesse Robert Nelms, Sr. and Velma Bell Nelms. She was a 1948 graduate of Sylvester High School. She earned her Registered Nurse degree from Georgia Baptist Hospital School of Nursing (Atlanta) in 1951. She married William Earl Sams, Sr. (Bill) on August 31, 1952.

Mrs. Sams experienced an active career in Nursing for fifty-one years. Her career included Private Duty, Hospital, Public Health, and School Nursing. She was a member of and active in the Georgia State Nursing, National American Nursing, School Health Nursing, and the American Red Cross Organizations. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Sylvester, the Local Barnard Trail Chapter of the Nation Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), and the Worth County Historical Society. Her great love for her family prompted frequent family gatherings and reunions including extended family.

Survivors include her children, William Earl Sams, Jr. of Sylvester, Lila Sams Paramore of Americus, and Walter Jesse Sams (Pamela Bible Sams) of

Greensboro; grandchildren, Haley Carol Sams Harvell, Laura Catherine Sams Wood (Grant), Staci Marie Paramore Israel (Josh), Justin Sams Paramore (Rebecca), Jessica Marie Sams Schuman (Max) and Victoria Lynn Sams Ewell (Nathan); great grandchildren, Alan Wright Kimbro, Jr., William Worth Kimbro, Charlotte Grace Wood, Mary Ellison Wood, Josie Marie Goodwin Israel, Maddie Hinton Sams Israel, William Robert Paramore, and a host of beloved nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents Mrs. Sams was preceded in death by her loving husband, William Earl Sams, Sr. (Bill) on April 30, 2011; siblings, John Eddie Nelms (Elaine), Dorothy Helen Nelms Gray (John), Jesse Robert Nelms, Jr. (Billie); nephew, Robert Crawford Nelms and a daughter-in-law, Gail James Sams; grandson-in-law, Gregg Stefan Harvell.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the American Red Cross.

Please sign our online guest registry at www.banksfh.com.

Banks Funeral Home in Sylvester is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Hillcrest Cemetery

701 S. Isabella Street
Sylvester, GA 31791

Previous Events

Graveside Service

AUG 31. 10:00 AM (ET)

Hillcrest Cemetery
701 S. Isabella Street
Sylvester, GA 31791

Tribute Wall

TL

“ Prayers for Mrs Sam’s family during this sad time.



Tammy & Jeff Lawhorn - September 17, 2024 at 05:44 AM

RL

“ Rita Leggett lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams



Rita Leggett - September 03, 2024 at 09:24 AM

DB

“ Ms. Sam’s and I worked together at the Health Dept when it was in the old hospital on Hwy 82 for 10 years. She was such a Sweet person. She loved her Family dearly.

Donna Herren Bozeman - August 30, 2024 at 06:12 PM

RH

“ Ronald Hudson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams



Ronald Hudson - August 30, 2024 at 03:27 PM

CT

“ *Culmer Tanner lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams*



Culmer Tanner - August 30, 2024 at 01:46 PM

DS

“ *We are so very sadden of the loss of sweet Carolyn. We have shared many special moments with her over the 16+ years our son, Grant, has been married to Laura. We will miss her greatly and loved her very much. Dianne & Kent Shalibo*

Dianne & Kent Shalibo - August 30, 2024 at 10:41 AM



“ *We are so sorry to hear about Carolyn. Such a lovely person. I have fond memories of going to her house as a child when we visited Sylvester. We are sending our love and prayers to the family. Melba Moree McCord and Julie McCord Carkeet*

Julie Carkeet - August 27, 2024 at 09:05 PM

BM

“ *Brenda Thornhill Mimbs sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams*



Brenda Thornhill Mimbs - August 27, 2024 at 07:13 PM

CO

“ *Connie Thirnhill Old lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams*



Connie Thirnhill Old - August 26, 2024 at 10:31 PM

JD

“ *Janice Dent lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams*



Janice Dent - August 26, 2024 at 07:18 PM

LP

“ *Lamar Potts sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams*



Lamar Potts - August 26, 2024 at 11:09 AM

DL

“ *Donna Lewis lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams*



Donna Lewis - August 24, 2024 at 10:01 PM

CS

“ Words cannot begin to describe the love and kindness you shared with us boys through our childhood years growing up in Sylvester. I lost count long ago the number of meals you fed Walter, me, Tuck and Don Monk at that kitchen table. I am a better person in this life having experienced those wonderful times. God bless you Ms. Carolyn.

Chuck Spurlin - August 24, 2024 at 05:55 PM

CF

“ Carolyn was such a lovely, loving and beautiful lady. It was a pleasure to share meals with her while I went through rehab at Pine Shadows.

Christine Feltus - August 24, 2024 at 01:55 PM

PT

“ I had the privilege of meeting Mrs. Carolyn several yrs ago. I was working with her Husband Mr. Sam's @ a job in Albany. He trained me for my routes. A very lovely lady who wanted to know everyone. She is REUNITED WITH Mr. Sam's.

Pamela Torrence - August 23, 2024 at 09:38 PM

MC

“ Very nice lady. Enjoyed visits with her. Each time seemed to be a good visit.

Mike Carter - August 23, 2024 at 06:52 PM

GC

“ George and I are so sorry to hear of the loss of this beautiful sweet lady. She will be missed by so many. Prayers for all of this wonderful family.

George and Kay McDonald Coker - August 23, 2024 at 06:35 PM

DM

“ Prayers of comfort for family and friends 🙏🙏



Deborah Smith Mainor - August 23, 2024 at 06:10 PM

MM

“ Martha McMickin lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams



Martha McMickin - August 23, 2024 at 04:50 PM

RS

“ Rhonda Saylor lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams



Rhonda Saylor - August 23, 2024 at 03:28 PM

BE

“ Mrs. Sams was one of my mother's oldest and dearest friends. They were the same age and went to school together. She will be remembered fondly!

Beth Riddle Everett - August 23, 2024 at 02:47 PM

LM

“ *Linda Mclean lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams*



Linda Mclean - August 23, 2024 at 01:00 PM

JC

“ *Joe Carter lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams*



Joe Carter - August 23, 2024 at 12:45 PM

MK

“ *Loved Mrs. Sams and her Family very much. Love, Prayers and Condolences to all. Love, Melanie Golden Kirkbride*

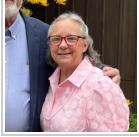
Melanie Golden Kirkbride - August 23, 2024 at 12:03 PM

SL

“ *With Love and Prayers*



sharon Lunsford - August 23, 2024 at 11:46 AM



“ Mrs. Sams was a wonderful, sweet lady and one of the best nurses ever. She took good care of a lot of us through the years. Will always hold a special place in my heart for her and Mr. Sams and their whole family.

Kathy Jones - August 23, 2024 at 11:39 AM



“ Sandra Watson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams



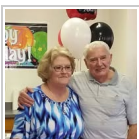
Sandra Watson - August 23, 2024 at 11:38 AM



“ Janice Carter lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams



Janice Carter - August 23, 2024 at 10:51 AM



“ Loveta Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams



Loveta Johnson - August 23, 2024 at 10:26 AM

HH

“ Harret Haskins lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams



Harret Haskins - August 23, 2024 at 08:13 AM

PD

“ Phyllis Diamond lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams



Phyllis Diamond - August 23, 2024 at 07:21 AM

BP

“ Bonnie Potts lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams



Bonnie Potts - August 23, 2024 at 06:17 AM

JC

“ June Coker lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams



June Coker - August 22, 2024 at 11:45 PM

JO

“ So sorry to hear of your loss. She will be missed
June Cross Odom

June Cross Odom - August 22, 2024 at 11:33 PM

HS

“ *Prayers for all*

Hubert & Pam Souter - August 22, 2024 at 11:00 PM

BG

“ *Such a sweet lady.
Prayers for William, Lila, and Walter as well as her grandchildren.
Tommy and Bobbie Gay*

Bobbie Gay - August 22, 2024 at 10:01 PM

MF

“ *Mary Jane Fraley lit a candle in memory of
Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams*



Mary Jane Fraley - August 22, 2024 at 08:30 PM

MH

“ *Mack And Mary Houston lit a candle in
memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams*



Mack and Mary Houston - August 22, 2024 at 08:05 PM

EC

“ Evelyn Fletcher Castleberry lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams



Evelyn Fletcher Castleberry - August 22, 2024 at 07:50 PM

JC

“ Jacky Clayton lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams



Jacky Clayton - August 22, 2024 at 06:29 PM

JC

“ Janie Sellers Crowe lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams



Janie Sellers Crowe - August 22, 2024 at 06:17 PM

DL

“ Donna Lewis lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams



Donna Lewis - August 22, 2024 at 04:33 PM

DB

“ *Debbie Banks lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Josie Carolyn Nelms Sams*



Debbie Banks - August 22, 2024 at 03:24 PM

SM

Carolyn was my mentor when I started my career as a Public Health nurse. She was so kind and supportive of me in so many ways. I will never forget her and her influence in my life and my early career in public health. My condolences to her family.

Sandy Sadler Milleman - August 23, 2024 at 10:05 AM

LJ

My family lived 2 blocks from the Nelms family many years ago. We loved and appreciated all of them, especially Mrs. Velma and Mr. Jesse. I admired the calmness that Carolyn always exuded, which was a valuable trait for her in her nursing profession, I imagine. She had such a pleasant demeanor. Her family was blessed to have her live as long as she did. Thanking God for a life well served and well loved.

Louise McCord Jones - August 24, 2024 at 01:25 PM