



Ruth Elaine Samples

March 26, 1945 - December 9, 2023

Ruth Elaine Samples, 78, of St. Albans, W.Va., passed peacefully with the love of her life and family by her side on December 9, 2023 after a short illness.

Ruth loved her people and animals like a saint. She had a heart of gold and dedicated her life to helping others. Even through illness and pain, she always put the needs of others before her own.

Ruth was born on March 26, 1945, in Kanawha County, W.Va., to William “Bill” and Blanche Womack. She was a farm girl, born and raised, harvesting tobacco, canning vegetables and venison, and nurturing back to life any living thing. Throughout her life, she worked as a veterinarian assistant, medical secretary, and mortgage loan officer. When she was a little girl, her dream was to have an orphanage. She married her high school sweetheart, William “Bill” Samples on October 23, 1962. Together they bought a farm, and opened their home and hearts to more than 100 foster children and too many animals to count over the years. They had 3 children and adopted 5 more. She modeled the definition of unconditional love. Her nurturing spirit touched the lives of many. Her kindness and compassion extended beyond her immediate family, making a lasting impact on all those who knew her.

Ruth is preceded in death by her parents, Bill and Blanche Womack, her

sister, Trena Green, her daughter Tricia Easter, and her grandson Nathaniel Easter.

She is survived by her husband and love of her life, Bill Samples; children, Mark Samples, Deborah Bauer (Nick), Thomas Samples (Julie), Nichol Roberts (Anna), Christina Samples (John Gaines), Jessica Syx-Dunlap (Craig), and Dakota Samples (Samantha); sisters, Judy Goodwin (Foster), Patsy Samples (Steve), and Shelly Clark (Daniel); grandchildren, Dustin (Celeste), Cearra, Isaac (Celestia), Levi, Christopher, Will, Nora, Austin, Shianah, Evan, Neveah, Harlen, and Lyric ; great-grandchildren, Hunter, Brynlee, Gracelyn, Hazeleigh, Carter, and Henry.

A celebration of life will be held at Highlawn Baptist Church in St. Albans, W.Va. on Saturday, December 16th at 1:00 p.m. Friends and family may visit from 12:00-1:00 p.m. Burial will follow in Adkins Family Cemetery, St. Albans.

Ruth will be dearly missed by all, but her legacy of love and selflessness will be forever cherished and live on through the countless number of lives that she touched.

You may visit Ruth's tribute page by visiting bartlettnicholsfuneralhome.com to share condolences or memories with the family.

Bartlett-Nichols Funeral Home, family owned and located at 409 Sixth Avenue is honored to serve the Samples family.

Cemetery Details

Adkins Family Cemetery

Browns Creek Road
St. Albans, WV 25177

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 16. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Highlawn Baptist Church
2304 Jefferson Ave
St. Albans, WV 25177

Funeral Service

DEC 16. 1:00 PM (ET)

Highlawn Baptist Church
2304 Jefferson Ave
St. Albans, WV 25177

Tribute Wall



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Ruth Elaine Samples.*



December 15, 2023 at 09:23 AM



“ *Union Baptist Kids Choir purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Ruth Elaine Samples.*



Union Baptist Kids Choir - December 15, 2023 at 07:10 AM



“ *Union Baptist Kids Choir planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ruth Elaine Samples.*

Union Baptist Kids Choir - December 15, 2023 at 07:10 AM



“ *Lisa P. purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Ruth Elaine Samples.*



Lisa P. - December 15, 2023 at 02:32 AM

TH

“ Bill this is Terry Hicks. Even though we now live to the south of Beckley we get the Charleston paper. I was very sadden to find that you have lost your wife and best friend. You will be in my prayers Brother to help you get through the trying days and months ahead. May GOD be with you and your family.

Terry Hicks - December 14, 2023 at 01:40 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ruth Elaine Samples.



December 13, 2023 at 04:22 PM

JF

“ Judy Foster Julia Keith Amy & familiy purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Ruth Elaine Samples.



Judy Foster Julia Keith Amy & familiy - December 13, 2023 at 12:55 PM



“ Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray was purchased for the family of Ruth Elaine Samples.



December 12, 2023 at 09:21 AM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Ruth Elaine Samples.*



December 12, 2023 at 08:36 AM



“ *Wetterlind Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ruth Elaine Samples.*

Wetterlind Family - December 12, 2023 at 08:36 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Ruth Elaine Samples.*



December 11, 2023 at 10:39 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ruth Elaine Samples.*



December 11, 2023 at 07:42 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Ruth Elaine Samples.*



December 11, 2023 at 07:19 PM