



# **Mrs. Mary Watts**

FEB 21, 2015



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## **Mrs. Mary Watts**

FEB 21, 2015

**M**rs. Mary Watts (nee Mims) passed away peacefully on Saturday, February 21, 2015, at the age of 98. She is survived by her son, Talmage Mims Watts, and daughter-in-law, Debbie Greenspan Watts, who were at her side when she passed. She also is survived by two sisters Margaret Elizabeth (DeGeorge) and Kathleen (Signaigo), and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Mrs. Watts was preceded in death by her husband, Henry Oscar Watts, her parents, Talmage and Virgie Elizabeth Mims (nee Graham), two sisters, Hazel (Halcomb) and Esta Graham (Lehman), and her brother James Rodney Mims.

Born in Hustburg, Tennessee in 1917, Mrs. Watts had a long and well-lived life serving her family, community, and church. She was a resident of Inglewood and a sustaining member of Eastminster United Presbyterian Church (previously Russell Street Presbyterian Church) for more than 70 years. After graduating from Central High School in Nashville, she further educated herself with courses at Watkins Institute, UT Nashville, and Travecca Nazarene College. She was proud of her work as a secretary, having worked at Fort Belvoir during WWII and subsequently in Nashville for Judge Swiggert and businesses including the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway, where she met her husband-to-be. For many years she served as the secretary for Eastminster church. After the death of her husband in 1969, she earned certification as a professional secretary and in 1972 became a member of The National Secretaries Association (International). Thereafter, until her retirement in 1988, she worked as the executive secretary for Thomas Potter at the United Methodist Publishing House.

Mary had a great love for natural beauty, trees in particular. After her retirement she became a bonsai enthusiast, amassing more than 50 bonsai, which she nurtured daily. She always devoted herself to helping others, especially her husband and mother during extended periods of illness and incapacity. Even during the final year of her life at Lakeshore the Meadows nursing facility she was always asking if she could be of help to the staff and other residents. In addition to the nursing and activities staffs at the Meadows, Talmage and Debbie are most grateful to the many



## Obituary

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friends, neighbors, and family members who afforded to their mother countless generous acts of kindness over the years and in her time of need. She is now at peace.

The family will receive visitors at Spring Hill Funeral Home, 5110 Gallatin Road, Nashville, TN, on Tuesday, February 24, 2015, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. and immediately preceding the funeral service, which will be at Spring Hill Funeral Home at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 25, 2015. A graveside service will follow immediately thereafter at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, 1101 Lebanon Pike, Nashville, TN.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that contributions be made in Mary's memory to the Ebenezer Cemetery Association, c/o Eddie Breeden, 496 Hickman Road, New Johnsonville, TN 37134, which maintains the cemetery at Ebenezer United Methodist Church where her beloved Papa and Mama, Talmage and Virgie Mims, are interred. In the alternative please make a contribution to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or another charity of your choice.

Arrangements entrusted to Spring Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery, 5110 Gallatin Road, Nashville, Tennessee, 37216. (615) 865-1101 [www.springhillfh.com](http://www.springhillfh.com)



## Tribute Wall

**Mrs. Mary Watts**



**Clint** posted:

Loving, kind, hardworking, caring and giving. All these things and much more is how I will always remember my Aunt Mary. She loved me and my brother like grandchildren and taught us many valuable life lessons. I know you're in heaven watching over our family. I love you and will miss you. Uncle Tammy and Aunt Debbie, our thoughts and prayers your way, I'm there with you in spirit.

February 25 at 3:35 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Love's Tapestry to the Watts family.



February 24 at 5:38 AM



**Kathy Carter Puckett** posted:

Dear Tammy and family – I wanted to express my family's condolences and to let you know that we are lifting prayers for comfort and peace. Our family's paths have been intertwined for many years it seems. I was one of your band students at Hillsboro and my cousin, Jean Moyers, was lifelong friends with your mom. Jean's 98th birthday would have been today and her passing last month left a big void in this world, as did your mom. I never had the honor of meeting Mary, but heard many wonderful stories from Jean. They are both watching over all of us now. Blessings, Kathy Carter Puckett (Dallas, TX).

February 23 at 3:04 PM



**Anonymous** sent an Arrive in Style to the Watts family.



February 23 at 6:35 AM



**John R McIntosh** posted:

Mrs. Mary's love and compassion towards people, especially our father, George McIntosh, means more than one knows. She was a sweet and caring person and will be greatly missed by our family. From the family of George R McIntosh

February 23 at 6:28 AM



## Tribute Wall

**Mrs. Mary Watts**



**Wendy C. Wilson** posted:

Mary was one of the most God loving, kind-hearted, and compassionate ladies that our family has ever had the privilege of knowing. She always cared about others and we never knew her not to be able to bring a smile and laugh to everyone. Although we live in South Carolina and did not have the opportunity to spend time with her she was always in our thoughts and prayers. Mary was much more than an aunt and great-aunt to us and we know that she is at peace and with those loved ones that have gone before her in Heaven. Tammy and Debbie please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. We love you. Dale and Jerry, Jack and Wendy, Chuck and Fran, Dennis and Amy, Joey and Mary Ann, Jonathan and Tracy, and our families.

February 22 at 2:33 PM



**Vince DeGeorge** posted:

Aunt Mary's annual Christmas letter inspired me to begin our own letter using her conversational style. Her love of Bonsai trees guided us to enjoy their intricacies and shapes. She was a strong willed and focused person and I will miss her wit and wisdom.

February 22 at 11:39 AM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Mary by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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