



Nell Emiline Nixon

October 22, 2018

Nell Nixon was born July 9, 1916 in the mountains of Western North Carolina. Nell Emiline Ramsey, daughter of George Thomas Ramsey, Sr and Pearl F. McCoy Ramsey, was one of eight children. She attended a two room school house in Tellico, moved on to Franklin High School and finished at Central High School in Charlotte, NC. She spent five of her growing up years in Charleston, SC.

She has always had a flare for dancing and seemed to live life marching to a different drum beat. She traveled to New York City to try out with the "George White Scandals", a long running string of Broadway revues modeled after the Ziegfeld Follies. She came back south, met her husband Ed Nixon, married in 1941, and settled in Charlotte.

During World War II, they moved to Fort Belvoir near Washington DC. She was working for the War Department, taking documents to the Pentagon, when the bomb dropped on Japan. Years later, she was introduced to Brigadier General Paul Tibbetts, the pilot of the Enola Gay, which dropped the atom bomb on Hiroshima.

She and Ed spent some years raising their family in Philadelphia, Atlanta and Chicago. Moving back to Philadelphia, in 1961, they attended the Billy Graham Crusade. It was there that they both came to know and follow Christ.

This decision to surrender their hearts and lives to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord changed their lives.

They, together with other couples, started a coffeehouse ministry in Bryn Mawr, PA to reach out to hippies and college students of the 60's. Then in Atlanta, they were asked to help start a ministry called Christian Care with an outreach to the inner-city poor of Atlanta. Both outreaches were team efforts.

At age 80, she began traveling on international mission projects with son Boyd. She made 8 trips to Western Russia, Siberia, Belarus and Ukraine where American adults would minister to Russian young people in schools, orphanages, hospitals and prisons. She did this both winter and summer. Then in 2006 she traveled to Israel. Over the years, including very recently, they made numerous mission trips to Lancaster, PA, assembling humanitarian aid to help open doors for the Gospel overseas.

She has had a heart for the Lord, a heart for people, a heart for ministry and a heart for missions.

She is survived by her son Boyd Nixon, her daughter Sherry Wren and husband Billy, her grandson Christopher Wren and wife Laura Lee with great-granddaughter Libby, and grandson Matthew Wren and fiancé Melissa.

She died October 22, 2018 at age 102. She went home to be with the Lord. She is now with Jesus. A Celebration of Life Memorial Service will be at North Avenue Presbyterian Church on Wednesday, November 7, 2018 at 11:00 am. Donations may be made in Nell Nixon's memory to World Missions at North Avenue Presbyterian Church, 607 Peachtree St NE, Atlanta, GA 30308.

Tribute Wall



“ *Nell Emiline Nixon*

November 08, 2022 at 07:37 PM



“ *Dear Boyd and Sherry,*

We so appreciate your call last evening, Boyd, to tell us of your Mom's final journey Home to be with her precious Lord and Savior, Jesus. The years we spent with your Mom and Dad at NAPC in the 60's and 70's will forever be precious memories. We shared many evenings in the small group home Bible Study that we both were part of. They were great examples to us. And now your Mom is Home in the presence of the Lord, singing, praising and rejoicing. We thanks God for the privilege of knowing her and being loved by her.

*With love and gratitude,
Al and Alice Buxton*

Al and Alice Buxton - December 21, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *Thank you to all who have commented so thoughtfully and sent their love and hugs, etc. Mom was truly loving and one who loved life! I am blessed to have my brother Boyd, always at her side, caring for her so well and together enjoying all they did! She loved her whole family and she loved those she met- always wanting the best for each person. We know she is with the Lord and we are so thankful. We are thankful for all who have loved her too. Mom is missed for sure. But we know she is in a heavenly place now. Thank you all so much! Love, Sherry Wren*

Sherry Wren - November 30, 2018 at 12:00 AM

SW

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Sherry Wren - November 30, 2018 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ Please accept my condolences for the loss of Ms. Nixon. May the God of all comfort help you to bear the burden of your grief at this difficult time. (1 Corinthians 1:3, 4; Psalm 55:22) Warm Regards, Kay

Kay Banks - November 11, 2018 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Boyd
Sorry for the loss of your mother. She sounds like a very loving Christian. She left this world a place. You will see her in Heaven??

Dianne (Wages) Sheppard - November 06, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Boyd,
Thinking of you and your family during this time and sending love and prayers to a very special classmate. Your Mother was precious and your memories will be the same.
Joanne

Joanne Hewatt - November 05, 2018 at 12:00 AM

EW

“ I always enjoyed conversation with Mrs. Nixon. She had the gift of being honestly interested in other people. She made me feel special and important to her. What a wonderful person!
I know she is having the time of her life now!

Boyd and Sherry have been amazing children. No one expects a child-parent relationship to last this many years! You all took wonderful care of her. What a blessing.

ellen t wren - October 30, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ I will miss Nell, her beautiful smile, her colorful outfits, her singing, her joy of the Lord, her heart for others. I know she is keeping our Lord entertained and has been put to work in heaven preparing for Jesus return. Thank you Boyd for your faithful care of Nell allowing her to be with Christ Church members.

Love, Jane

Jane U Strickler - October 29, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ Marcos and I moved from Brazil to Atlanta end of 2001. North Avenue was our church of choice, and there we met Nell and Boyd. Nell immediately took us "in her arms": she would come up to us every time and introduce us around, make us feel welcomed and at home. Not until we became closer friends, I would realize that's how she was to everyone even to strangers. She had an open mind and heart active 24/7 and reaching out to those she could. She would remember every single name of an old or new friend. She knew each of our parent's name even without knowing them. From many meals together at home or at Brio's (and at the Swan House!), we watched her reach her 102th with grace and joy. God would use her in so many different ways, as shared by Boyd, when coming back from his mission trips. Marcos and I would call her our "American mother", because yes, we felt like family around her. We will miss her, and her dancing, and her stories, and her unique way of loving people and making them feel like they matter. Nell has been received by her Lord: my faithful servant! There is celebration in Heaven!

To Boyd, who never left her side, and all the loving family, we pray for the true comfort of the Holy Spirit upon you, as you miss her warm presence now and until you see her again. We also give praises to God for her life - which has touched so many in near and far places of this world.

Marcos and Luciane Albertini - October 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MA

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Marcos and Luciane Albertini - October 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

CD

“ Nell was so amazing. She would go anywhere and do anything with Boyd to his ministries and make little ribbons to give to everyone signifying Christ's love for them. We all wondered how she could keep up the pace. Christ extended her life to be an image of someone who loves the Lord, even when she could no longer get around. All of us at Christ Church will miss her

camille and Tom Davis - October 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ We knew Nell for many years. She was such a blessing. We remember the good times we had at Gain. She was always so happy and had a great sense of humor . She wil be missed. We know she is with the Lord and we will meet again. Our prayers & thoughts are with Boyd and the family.

Ada & Bill Banfield - October 27, 2018 at 12:00 AM

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CL

“ Nell was a true angel. Always had a smile on her face no matter what the situation. She will be missed here but know that she has joined that wonderful chorus in heaven singing away like she would in church :) Love you guys.

Chuck LeCraw

Chuck LeCraw - October 26, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ Julie and I rejoice that Nell is with Jesus where there is no more suffering but only joy in His presence. Nell brought tremendous joy to everyone she met at Christ Church Atlanta, where we came to know her in the last few years. Her love of God and her joy in singing were such a testimony to us-- as well as her faithfulness every Sunday. We extend our heartfelt love and prayers to Boyd and the whole family on your loss of such a saint and wonderful mother.

J Philip Ashe - October 26, 2018 at 12:00 AM

EP

“ It was our privilege and honor to briefly know this serving loving lady and a true witness for our Lord. She was such a wonderful testimony to our Lord to so many. She is receiving her rewards for a good and faithful servant. This world is a better place because of Nell. Sincerely, Buster and Edith Puckett

EDITH PUCKETT - October 26, 2018 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ What an amazing life! Nell had such a profound impact on so many people. She always had a smile that lit up the room. Her love, spirit and passion will live on forever. Rest in peace.

Sheree Slaughter - October 26, 2018 at 12:00 AM

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DS

“ *Nell was truly one of the most special people I have every had the privilege of knowing. She just amazed me with how she remembered everyone's names, even brand new members to NAPC. When I first joined the church, she made me feel so welcomed and part of a family. A truly wonderful woman who will be missed.*

Debra Slaughter - October 26, 2018 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ *PLEASE KNOW THAT GOD'S LOVE SURROUNDS YOU AT YOUR TIME OF PAIN.MY HEART GOES OUT TO YOU AT THIS TIME OF SADNESS.
WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHY*

SARA CLEMONS - October 25, 2018 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ *MAY GOD,WHO SEES YOUR GRIEVING HEART AND HEARS EACH TENDER PRAYER BE EVER NEAR TO GIVE YOU PEACE AND KEEP YOU IN HIS LOVING CAR.WISHING YOU THE COMFORT OF KNOWING YOUR LOVED ONE WILL BE A PART OF YOU FOREVER IN MEMORIES.*

SARA CLEMONS - October 25, 2018 at 12:00 AM