



## Mrs. Jean Shirley Watkins

December 1, 1944 - January 20, 2023

It is with deep sorrow that Mr. Cecil W. "Bill" Watkins, Jr. announces the death of his beloved mother, Mrs. Jean Shirley Watkins, 78.

Mrs. Watkins entered into rest on Friday, January 20, 2023. The Directors of Hancock-Elmore-Hill Funeral Home are caring for the family.

A funeral service to honor her life will be held at 2 o'clock on Tuesday, January 24, 2023, at Hebron United Methodist Church. The Rev. Jerry McManus will officiate with burial to follow in the church cemetery. The family will receive friends in the Church Fellowship Hall immediately following the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Hebron United Methodist Church, c/o Chip Clanton, 197 Woodham Road, Bishopville, SC 29010.

Born in Hartsville, SC, she was the daughter of the late Alvin Anderson Shirley and the late Helen Dalrymple Shirley. Jean participated in several pageants in her youth and was Miss Bishopville in the Miss South Carolina pageant and Miss Tobacco Festival Queen in Lake City. After graduating from Bishopville High School, she attended Limestone College in Gaffney, SC, where she was named Miss Limestone. She finished her degree in education after only 3 years. She was married for 29 years and taught school for 39 years. She loved her family, students, and friends dearly. She was loyal until the end and

would do anything to help anyone including strangers. She loved her church, riding roller coasters, throwing parties, playing cards, and most of all, she loved to sing. She will always be remembered by everyone for her Patsy Cline performances. She would take her music machine around and perform at various events. Her memory began to fade over the last few years as her disease progressed, but she never forgot the hymns that she faithfully sang her entire life. Most importantly she never forgot her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

She is survived by her loving son, Cecil W. "Bill" (Susan) Watkins, Jr. of Bishopville, SC; grandchildren, Anderson Watkins, and Payne Watkins.

# Cemetery Details

## Hebron United Methodist Church Cemetery

3471 Una Rd.  
Bishopville, SC 29010

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

JAN 24. 2:00 PM (ET)

Hebron United Methodist Church  
3471 Una Road  
Bishopville, SC 29010

## Visitation

JAN 24 (ET)

Following the service.

# Tribute Wall



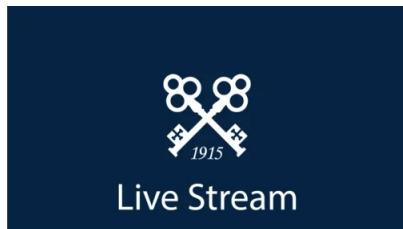
“ Hancock-Elmore-Hill Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Jean Shirley Watkins



Hancock-Elmore-Hill Funeral Home - February 02, 2023 at 05:56 PM



“ Hancock-Elmore-Hill Funeral Home created a Jean Watkins Service Stream in memory of Mrs. Jean Shirley Watkins



Hancock-Elmore-Hill Funeral Home - January 24, 2023 at 10:13 AM



“ Mrs. Watkins was my 5th grade teacher and I absolutely loved her. My favorite memory of her is when she'd sing Love Potion #9 to the class. I saw her years later when I was home from college. She said, "Come here and give me a hug!". I'm 34 now, and I still think of her. One of the most formative teachers of my life. My condolences to her family, she was a sweetheart.

Gabrielle Y McCall - October 15, 2024 at 01:06 PM



“ *Mrs. Jean Shirley Watkins*

October 08, 2023 at 04:16 PM



“ *Mrs. Jean Shirley Watkins*

March 25, 2023 at 11:01 AM



“ *Bill, I was so sorry to hear about your mother. WE enjoyed your mom singing for us at our Pilot Club meeting. Your Mom was a sweet and kind lady. Many thoughts and prayers for you and your family. May God Bless each of you. Love you Nell Beasley*

**Nell Beasley** - February 02, 2023 at 12:55 PM



“ *I am saddened to hear of Jean's passing. I was privileged to get to know her when I served as pastor at Hebron UMC. Jean was always a 'bright spot' anywhere she went. We were spell-bound as she transformed into Patsy Cline or rapped out hymns! But most memorable was her big heart! She loved her family with a fierce love and doted on her dear mother Helen while she was in decline. I'm sure that the Bishopville Community will miss her dearly!*

**Christine Wechsler** - February 01, 2023 at 09:40 PM



“ *Susan O Thrasher lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Jean Shirley Watkins*



**Susan O Thrasher** - January 31, 2023 at 06:07 PM

MB

“ Had her as a teacher!!! She was always smiling and new how to make a student feel important . Love and prayers to the family 🙏❤️

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**Michelle Beasley** - January 24, 2023 at 07:45 PM

BB

“ I so enjoyed working with sweet Jean at North Hartsville Elementary School. She was a wonderful teacher who built great relationships with her students. Ms. Watkins was loved by all! Much love and prayers, Beth Blum

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**Beth Blum** - January 24, 2023 at 01:33 PM

CC

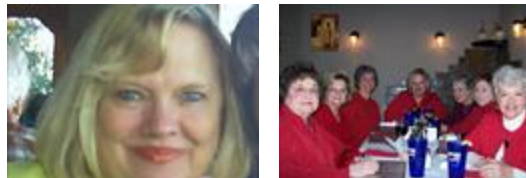
“ Carolyn Childress sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Jean Shirley Watkins



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**Carolyn Childress** - January 24, 2023 at 01:29 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Jean



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**Lynda Martin** - January 23, 2023 at 11:27 AM

AA

“ Archie And Kay Amerson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Jean Shirley Watkins



Archie and Kay Amerson - January 22, 2023 at 09:30 PM

BR

“ So sorry to hear of her passing. When I was a little girl, I couldn't pronounce Watkins, so I called her Mrs. Wappykins. She would just laugh and give me such the sweetest smile. I loved her smile so much. She will be dearly missed. Bless you all and we are praying for your family.



Brooke Raley - January 22, 2023 at 01:55 PM

BF

“ Birt Fraser lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Jean Shirley Watkins



Birt Fraser - January 22, 2023 at 12:47 PM

HT

“ Hugh Tindal lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Jean Shirley Watkins



hugh tindal - January 22, 2023 at 11:44 AM

HT

*Jean, thank you for being so nice to me.*

**hugh tindal** - January 22, 2023 at 11:46 AM

GS

“ *Bill, I am so sorry to learn of your loss. May God bless you with many wonderful and loving memories.*

**Gay Stephens** - January 22, 2023 at 11:32 AM

JS

“ *Judy Scurry lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Jean Shirley Watkins*



**Judy scurry** - January 21, 2023 at 09:11 PM

AB

“ *Artie Broadway sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Jean Shirley Watkins*



**Artie Broadway** - January 21, 2023 at 08:42 PM



“ *BillandAnnette Hopkins lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Jean Shirley Watkins*



**BillandAnnette Hopkins** - January 21, 2023 at 07:17 PM

RS

“ Rhonda Rollins Smith lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Jean Shirley Watkins



Rhonda Rollins Smith - January 21, 2023 at 06:01 PM

MB

“ Matt And Betsy Bramlett lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Jean Shirley Watkins



Matt and Betsy Bramlett - January 21, 2023 at 04:35 PM

CM

“ Clara McElveen lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Jean Shirley Watkins



Clara McElveen - January 21, 2023 at 02:15 PM

CM

*So sorry to hear of the death of sweet Jean. She was loved by all who had the pleasure to know her and hear her sing. Sending love and prayers to her son, daughter-in-law and 2 grandson in your loss. Remembering you in love and prayers. Clara McElveen*

Clara McElveen - January 21, 2023 at 02:19 PM

RH

“ *Rosalie Logan Hyatt lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Jean Shirley Watkins*

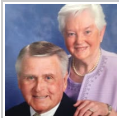


**Rosalie Logan Hyatt** - January 21, 2023 at 11:52 AM

RH

*Sympathy and prayers for Jean's family and friends! She was always such a beautiful , sweet and compassionate lady!*

**Rosalie Logan Hyatt** - January 21, 2023 at 11:53 AM



*Jean was such a caring, Loving and thoughtful person She will be missed Love, prayers and sympathy to the family and loved ones*

**BillandAnnette Hopkins** - January 21, 2023 at 07:20 PM