



Lucille R. Buttram

September 11, 1932 - August 7, 2023

Lucille Roberts Buttram, age 90, died peacefully at NHC Place Farragut, Cavette Hill, in Knoxville on Monday August 7, 2023. A native of Harriman, Tennessee, Lucille was born on Walnut Hill on September 11, 1932.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 54 years, Claude E. Buttram Jr.; parents H.J. and Grace Roberts; brothers Hobart, Jack, Jessie B., Joe, and Reuben Roberts; and sister Gladys Bell.

Survivors include her son Claude E. Buttram, III and his wife Ann of Lenoir City; granddaughter Heather Buttram of Lenoir City; sister-in-law Jo Roberts of Harriman; niece Shelia Bell of Oak Ridge; plus, many other nieces and nephews.

Lucille took wonderful care of her family. Whenever her family or friends were ill or enduring hardship, she was there with love and support. She attended as many school events in Harriman as she could, and she was also a loyal Vols fan, both football and basketball. She really enjoyed traveling and took many interesting trips in the United States and abroad.

Lucille graduated from Harriman High School as valedictorian in 1950. She earned a B.S. from Berea College, Kentucky, then an M.S. and an E.D.S. from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Her 33-year-long career in education began in 1954 as a 2nd-grade teacher at Walnut Hill Elementary School in Harriman. (Lucille was born in a house that used to stand where the school was built.) Next, she became a supervisor of instruction beginning in 1974. Becoming superintendent of schools in 1985, she was the first woman appointed superintendent in Tennessee.

She retired in 1988. At that time, she received a key to the city of Harriman, and a special “Lucille Buttram Day” was held in her honor. Her parting remarks were “I have thoroughly enjoyed my 33 years in education, and I wouldn’t trade it for anything else. . . . I cannot recall a day I have dreaded coming to work.”

At Roane County’s first Founders Day celebration in 2007, Lucille was honored as a living “Treasure” in the first class of Roane Treasures. This honor is reserved for citizens of Roane County who have significantly contributed to the county through their dedicated service to public, private, and charitable organizations. Lucille was recognized for “a vital role in the betterment of the community.”

Among many community activities, Lucille played an important role in the Kiwanis Club. She served on many levels, from member to various committee chairs to president, the last for three years. She was recognized by Kiwanis International “as an individual showing the dedication, commitment, and talent necessary to serve the children of the world and improve the quality of life worldwide.”

A true pillar of her church, Lucille was considered a “spiritual mother” by her church friends. Always an active member, she taught Sunday school to both children and adults and sang in the choir. She supported many other special activities such as the WMU, Vacation Bible School and various missions. She

was a member of Riverside Baptist Church and a former member of Walnut Hill Baptist Church.

The family will receive friends from 1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. Saturday, August 12, 2023 at the Kyker Funeral Home in Harriman. The funeral will follow at 2:00 p.m. with Reverend Mason Goodman officiating.

The family requests in lieu of flowers that donations may be made for missions or the youth department of Riverside Baptist Church, 629 Clinch St, Harriman, Tennessee 37748. Kyker Funeral Home of Harriman is serving the Buttram Family.

Previous Events

Vistiation

AUG 12. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Kyker Funeral Homes
OUR HARRIMAN CHAPEL
PO Box 232, 430 Morgan St
Harriman, TN 37748
(865) 882-1515
<https://www.kykerfuneralhomes.com/>

Funeral Service

AUG 12. 2:00 PM (ET)

Kyker Funeral Homes
OUR HARRIMAN CHAPEL
PO Box 232, 430 Morgan St
Harriman, TN 37748
(865) 882-1515
<https://www.kykerfuneralhomes.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Kyker Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Lucille R. Buttram*



Kyker Funeral Home - August 10, 2023 at 05:28 PM

SB

Aunt Lucille

Shelia Bell - August 29, 2023 at 05:34 PM

AB

She was just a lovely, kind woman. What a wonderful place the Lord had prepared for her. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Angie Butler - August 30, 2023 at 04:00 AM

TL

“ *Sorry to hear of Mrs. Buttram's passing, she was my second-grade teacher and always my favorite teacher.*

Tommy Lawson



Tommy Lawson - August 16, 2023 at 02:28 PM

RB

“ I’m so sorry to hear about Lucille’s passing. She was such a dear lady. My family and I have know her all our lives. She taught us in Sunday school, GA’s, training union. Anything pertaining to church and she was there eager to help. Lucille always had a smile, hug and a kind word. The community will greatly miss her but Heaven received a beautiful angel. Love and prayers for Eddie and his family and to Shelia. Robin Fritts Bryant and family

Robin Bryant - August 12, 2023 at 12:22 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Lucille R. Buttram.



August 12, 2023 at 12:42 AM



“ Mrs. Buttram was my 2nd grade teacher at Walnut Hill Elementary and was simply the best. She will be remembered fondly by many of us who were fortunate enough to have been her students. Condolences to her family. She will be missed.

Amy Sexton - August 11, 2023 at 12:50 PM

LF

“ Larry & Elizabeth Futrell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lucille R. Buttram.

Larry & Elizabeth Futrell - August 10, 2023 at 10:33 PM

LF

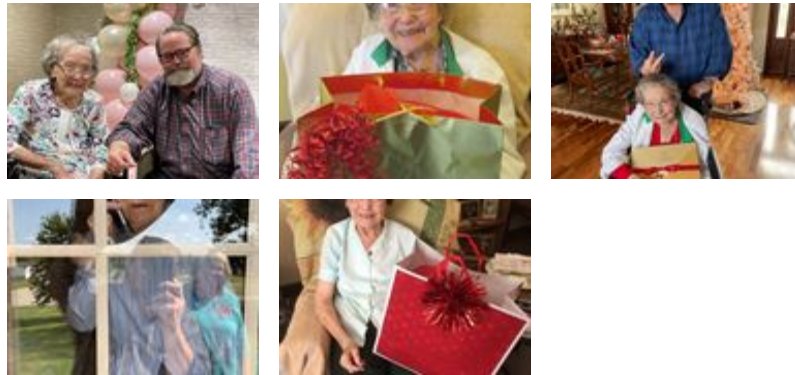
“ Larry & Elizabeth Futrell purchased the "Amazing Grace" garden stone for the family of Lucille R. Buttram.



Larry & Elizabeth Futrell - August 10, 2023 at 10:33 PM



“ 47 files added to the album Life Tributes



Kyker Funeral Home - August 10, 2023 at 05:22 PM

DJ

“ My husband worked for her at Central office and then also did work at her home for her. He always said she was tough but she was always fair. Up until he passed he would ask me if I had seen her lately, we thought a lot of her.

Debbie Johnson - August 09, 2023 at 04:01 PM

PH

“ I did not have the pleasure of meeting Lucille but I have known and had a friendship with her son Claude for many years. She must have been a very special person and raised a great son.



Pat Hopper

Pat Hopper - August 09, 2023 at 03:23 PM

RC

“ Lucille was a shining light to all who knew her....always smiling and willing to assist in any way possible. She and Claude were the perfect couple and both were interested in the community.

Ruth Clabo - August 09, 2023 at 01:37 PM

KP

“ I had the honor of having Mrs. Buttram as my 2nd grade teacher as well and I too got my first paddling from this wonderful woman, I deserved it. After I graduated I was lucky enough to run into her and she remembered me and we had several great conversations every time we would run into each other. Rest in peace sweet lady. You will be missed.

Keith Pelfrey - August 08, 2023 at 08:01 PM

MP

“ I have so many wonderful memories of Mrs. Buttram, she was the sweetest, kindest lady. She always had a smile on her face and something kind to say to everyone. I am honored to call her my friend. She will definitely be missed.

Melnie Pelfrey - August 08, 2023 at 07:42 PM

KK

“ Such a wonderful, sweet person. My Mom, Missy Henley, worked for her as a teacher’s aide. She always spoke highly of Mrs. Buttram and thought she was a thoughtful, caring boss. My condolences to her family. You had a jewel!

Kim Henley Kennedy - August 08, 2023 at 06:57 PM

VW

“ Mrs Buttram was one of the sweetest dearest souls I knew always had a hug for me was certainly a joy to have known her gave so much to her community God has received a jewel prayers for her family

verna webb - August 08, 2023 at 06:50 PM

DP

“ Mrs. Buttram was a dear friend of mine, and I will miss her. We attended church for many years at Walnut Hill...went together on mission trips and sang in the choir together. Our loss is truly heavens gain. Love you my friend!

Darlene Bowers Prewitt - August 08, 2023 at 06:37 PM

LD

“ So very sorry to hear this. A very special lady. She sent my son a Christmas card every year, after she found out he had cancer at three. And we sent her one every year, as well. Used to be our next door neighbor, when we lived in Walnut Hill. Good friends with Eddie/Claude all through school. Love and prayers....

Lance Douglas - August 08, 2023 at 05:59 PM

LB

Mrs Buttram was a very gracious, gentle lady . I worked under her support many years at Central Elementary. Each time I met her about town , she made me feel like I was still a precious friend . She will be greatly missed .

Linda Brown - August 09, 2023 at 10:16 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lucille R. Buttram.*



August 08, 2023 at 05:02 PM

AT

“ *Mrs. Buttram was a wonderful servant of God, an excellent teacher, and a true friend to many. I know when she entered heaven God said Well done good and faithful servant. My prayers are with her family. May they feel the comfort and peace of God. With my deepest sympathies.*

Arlene Bowers Tapp - August 08, 2023 at 04:16 PM

BW

One of my all time favorite teachers and later a dear friend. She never forgot a student, which to me, after hundreds, is remarkable. Ms Lucille will be missed by so many. Well done sweet lady!

Becky Works - August 08, 2023 at 05:24 PM

LF

Lucille was a very good friend and a teacher, but she taught Vacation Bible School and I was saved on June 11, 1966 and she told me how to be saved and I'm an saved to hear of her passing away, but I know that she is

Heaven rejoicing with many of her family and friends that she had, Oh what a wonderful and beautiful lady she was and will be missed by so many 🙏🙏❤️🌹🌸🌸

Larry Futrell - August 10, 2023 at 10:20 PM