



## Valeda Bush Wilson

April 20, 1928 - August 8, 2021

It is said that a teacher, “takes a hand, opens a mind and touches a heart.” And Mrs. Valeda Wilson did just that for over forty-three years, touching thousands in the process. Sadly, Mrs. Valeda died early Sunday morning, August 8, 2021 in Lenoir City at the home of her daughter. She was born to the late Valous and Elaine Laws Bush on April the 20th, 1928 in Henderson County where she spent almost her entire life.

Mrs. Wilson’s purpose in life was to teach and she began that journey at the age of nineteen teaching at a one room schoolhouse. She continued her education during this time, beginning at David Lipscomb in Nashville and finishing her Bachelor’s degree at Bethel University and later receiving her Master’s at Memphis State. She was also honored to serve as a State President of the Omicron Chapter of the Delta Kappa Gamma. Almost her entire teaching career of forty-three years was as a 1st grade teacher at Caywood Elementary in Lexington. She had many loves of course: her family and especially the grand and great grandchildren, her love of reading and her love of travel. Books were her outlet, always reading, immersing herself in the subject. Her late husband of sixty years, James, was a fifty-nine year TSSAA basketball official. During many of the games she attended, you would find Mrs. Valeda sitting quietly reading, oblivious to the crowd, turning page after page as she was reading. Reading also transitioned to her being a faithful

member of the Broad Street Church of Christ and she read the Bible many times, with the book of Psalms being her favorite. In Lexington she a member of the Book Club that still exists today.

She leaves behind her daughters: Jacqueline (Jay) Langston of Lewisburg, Jill (David) Montgomery of Knoxville and Joy Lowrance of Lenoir City; and sons: Jim (Susan) Wilson of Lewisburg and Mickey Wilson of Murray, Kentucky; and a brother, Denton (Murel) Bush of Cedar Grove. The eleven grandchildren that brought her so many great memories are: Jay (Rene), Matt (April). Rob (Amy) and Casey (Susie) Lowrance, Luke and Wil Langston, Maddie (Andy) Johnson, Katie (Harley) Miller, Emily (Rob) Smithson, Hallie (Eric) Mossack and Becca (Kevin) Warner. Also surviving Mrs. Valeda are twenty-two great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents and husband, she is preceded in death by her sister, Danny Joy Bush McKee, one grandchild, Wilson Langston, two great grandchildren, Betsy and Parker Lowrance, and two nieces, Bonita McKee and Pam McKee Rosenbury.

Graveside services for Mrs. Valeda Wilson will be 1:00 PM Wednesday, August the 11th at Henderson County Memory Gardens in Lexington with Pafford Funeral Home in charge of the arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Henderson County Memory Gardens

10712 Highway 412 West  
Lexington, TN

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

AUG 11. 1:00 PM (CT)

Henderson County Memory Gardens  
10712 Highway 412 West  
Lexington, TN

# Tribute Wall

DD

“ Donna Ross Darrough lit a candle in memory of Valeda Bush Wilson



Donna Ross Darrough - August 12, 2021 at 01:39 PM

AS

“ Angie Betzler Scott sent a virtual gift in memory of Valeda Bush Wilson



Angie Betzler Scott - August 11, 2021 at 02:48 PM

DH

“ Darlene H. lit a candle in memory of Valeda Bush Wilson



Darlene H. - August 10, 2021 at 11:09 AM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Valeda Bush Wilson.



August 10, 2021 at 10:51 AM

CP

“ *Charlotte Pruett lit a candle in memory of Valeda Bush Wilson*



---

**Charlotte Pruett** - August 10, 2021 at 10:41 AM

KR

“ *Kathy Holmes Renfroe lit a candle in memory of Valeda Bush Wilson*



---

**Kathy Holmes Renfroe** - August 10, 2021 at 08:39 AM

SH

“ *Mrs Wilson was my 1st grade teacher. Such a loving and caring teacher. One of my favorites of all. ❤️*

---

**Sheila Kelley Hayes** - August 10, 2021 at 02:53 AM

LA

“ *Lori And Eddie Akins lit a candle in memory of Valeda Bush Wilson*



---

**Lori and Eddie Akins** - August 10, 2021 at 01:50 AM

RS

“ Rhonda Bradfield Sanders sent a virtual gift in memory of Valeda Bush Wilson



Rhonda Bradfield Sanders - August 09, 2021 at 09:31 PM

LL

“ Lisa LewisEvans lit a candle in memory of Valeda Bush Wilson



Lisa LewisEvans - August 09, 2021 at 07:41 PM

FB

“ I loved Mrs. Valeda, not only as a child, but also in my adult years. I was sad when she decided to move to Jill's, but it was necessary. I still occasionally look over my right shoulder to where she sat at church and think about her. She was special.

Fran Burton - August 09, 2021 at 05:50 PM

SK

I have a lot of memories of Valeda and the entire Wilson family. I am so sorry to hear of her passing, she was a wonderful person. Prayers for all of you.

Sherrie Wyatt Kizer - August 09, 2021 at 08:57 PM

PB

Valeda was a good friend and fellow Caywood teacher.

Pat Brooks - August 11, 2021 at 09:15 PM