



Elsie Lankford Ellington

January 29, 1927 - May 30, 2026

Elsie Lankford Ellington, age 99, of Conyers, Georgia, went home to be with her Lord and Savior on Saturday, May 30, 2026. She was the widow of Ovid Ross Ellington who passed away in 2006. In addition to her late husband, Elsie was preceded in death by her parents, Charlie Lankford and Mollie Lankford; stepmother, Heddie Craig Lankford; and siblings that included brothers, Jessie, Jake, Cramer, George and Gus; and sisters, Parma, Mary, Daisy, Tennie, Lilly, Love, Blanche, Jewel, Audrey and Margaret; and step siblings, Hardie, Wayne, Eugene and Virginia Craig. She is survived by son, Ronnie Nelson Ellington (Debbie) of Lula, GA; daughter, Debbie Ann Mason (Buddy) of Loganville, GA; four grandsons, Jamey Mason (Merry), Charlie Mason (Lucy), Scott Mason, and Ross Ellington (Deborah); one granddaughter, Holly Kemp (Bill); nine great grandchildren, Sophie Mason, Alex Mason, Ella Mason, Logan Mason, London Mason, Monroe Mason, Ethan Ellington, Avery Ellington, and Emily Kemp; and many nephews, nieces, cousins and a host of friends.

Elsie was born January 29, 1927, in Eatonton, Georgia. Sadly, her mother passed away upon giving birth to her. Elsie grew up on a dairy farm where she learned the value of hard work. When she reached the age of 10, she was responsible for milking four cows in the early morning hours prior to going to school. She also performed labor intensive tasks such as picking cotton. Elsie and her niece Nellie, of about the same age as her, formed a close bond of

kinsman-ship. Oftentimes Elsie would sneak away from home and go across the road to spend the night with Nellie. They attended school together in a one-room schoolhouse off Bethel Church Road in Eatonton. Elsie often shared her meager lunch with Nellie, a simple act that demonstrated the characteristics of kindness and selflessness she would carry on for a lifetime. And she sometimes said, "If you want to make me mad, just call me stingy because I'm not stingy!"

Elsie met the man she would marry on a blind date arranged by his cousin, Fletcher Alexander. After that first date, Ovid was smitten. He made the long drive from Conyers to Eatonton every weekend for almost 7 years to see Elsie and often commented that his biggest regret was time wasted by not marrying Elsie much sooner. They were married for 56 years until his death in 2006.

After graduating from high school in Eatonton, Elsie worked at an aluminum plant. Soon after marrying Ovid she worked at a clothing store. Commenting on that job she said she exchanged her paycheck for the clothing she bought. Elsie was a talented seamstress who was often called upon to make clothing for special occasions such as costumes for Christmas programs. She made lovely, frilly dresses for her daughter and years later fashioned dresses for her great granddaughters that have become treasured possessions in the family. She even made a suit of clothes for her grandson, Jamey. She retired from Walton Clothes after 17 years of service as a seamstress.

Elsie was a great cook of Southern style meals. Her dishes included either fatback, or lard or lots of butter. And you missed out on something if you were never privileged to eat a slice of Elsie's scrumptious pecan pie. Her red velvet cake was a dessert desired by many with its tasty creamy icing and moist layers and her seven up cake was even better. A specialty of hers was frying hush puppies at the annual lake house fish fry for the Church. No one could match the crisp texture and tasty blend of the hush puppies she prepared.

Elsie was a good-hearted soul who devoted herself to the service of others. Every day for over two years she prepared daily meals for an elderly gentleman who had become a widower and was stricken with cancer. She and Ovid made sure the man was well fed and provided whatever assistance he needed. She was very kind and sweet hearted. If she ever thought that an action of hers might have unintentionally offended someone, she would worry herself sick until she could issue a heartfelt tearful apology and ask forgiveness.

Grandchildren knew her as “Granny Elsie” and she became “GG” to her great grandchildren. “GG” is an affectionate moniker originated by her first great grandchild, Sophie. In her later years, GG derived enormous pleasure from spending time with her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Next to God, her family was the most important thing in her life. And she often said, “I love my family, and I love to work!”

Elsie was a long-time member of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church. Until age took its toll on her mind and body, she attended Sunday School and worship services regularly. Her lovely voice blended well with the choir and with Catherine Moon and Mack Swann as they sang hymns together as a trio, and her solo rendition of “The Son of God” touched all who heard it. She left behind a life well lived, with great love and devotion to God and family, and a reputation of a being a genuinely sweet, servant minded and kind-hearted loving soul to all. And she left behind an adoring family and many friends who dearly loved her and will sorely miss her.

Elsie spent the last five years of life at Magnolia Assisted Living and Memory Care in Conyers, GA. The staff of the facility gave much loving care to Elsie and devoted themselves to make her as comfortable as possible. Abbey

Hospice arranged weekly nursing care visits as well as weekly visits by a local pastor who spoke with her and prayed with her. Ronnie and Debbie wish to extend their heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation to each caregiver of Magnolia and Abbey during their mother's final years.

A Funeral Service will be held Saturday, June 6, at 3:00 p.m. at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, 1233 Pleasant Hill Road in Conyers, GA with the Rev. Scott Richardson and Rev. John Cheek officiating. A visitation will be held prior to the funeral from 1:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m. at the Church. Interment will follow at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church cemetery. Flowers in Elsie's memory are welcomed and may be sent to the funeral home. Contributions in her memory are appreciated and can be made to Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, c/o Bryan Broadnax, 1409 Knollwood Drive, Monroe, GA 30655.

Arrangements by Tim Stewart Funeral Home, 670 Tom Brewer Road, Loganville, GA 30052. 770-466-1544. Please sign the online guest registry at www.stewartfh.com.

Cemetery Details

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church Cemetery

1233 Pleasant Hill Road
Conyers, GA 30012

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 6. 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church
1233 Pleasant Hill Road
Conyers, GA 30012

Funeral Service

JUN 6. 3:00 PM (ET)

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church
1233 Pleasant Hill Road
Conyers, GA 30012

Tribute Wall



“ *Tim Stewart Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Elsie Lankford Ellington*



Tim Stewart Funeral Home - June 03 at 10:33 AM

SP

So sorry to hear Aunt Elsie passed away, but I know the Lankford sisters are all rejoicing together in heaven and singing.

Steve Presley - June 03 at 03:10 PM

KC

We are so sorry to hear of Aunt Elsies passing sending love ❤️ and prayers. From Betty Crabtree, Frank Murphy and Kathleen Chauncey

Kathleen Chauncey - June 05 at 03:33 PM

MB

“ *Many fond memories of the Ellingtons as great across Pleasant Hill road neighbors. Elsie was a special lady. Sending lots of love to the family.*

Love, Little Doss & Martha

Martha Brodnax - June 07 at 09:19 PM

JS

“ *Elsie was a sweet lady, always had a smile and a kind word. I have so many wonderful memories of her and her family at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church. May God grant you peace with your loss of your wonderful mother.*

Joyce Slaughter - June 06 at 11:34 AM

WC

“ *William C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Elsie Lankford Ellington.*

William C. - June 05 at 09:20 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Elsie Lankford Ellington.*



June 05 at 09:19 AM

LF

“ *Love Lena, Jerry and family purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Elsie Lankford Ellington.*



Love Lena, Jerry and family - June 05 at 05:40 AM

EF

“ Evelyn Holloway & Family purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Elsie Lankford Ellington.



Evelyn Holloway & Family - June 04 at 07:58 PM

SP

“ Steve & Barbara Presley purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Elsie Lankford Ellington.



Steve & Barbara Presley - June 03 at 03:03 PM

TM

“ I am sad to say I didn't know Miss Elise until this morning. I was looking at the names of those that had past away listed on Tim Stewart's website when I saw Miss Elise's obituary. I read that her last name was Ellington. I grew up in Loganville all my life and knew a Ellington family very well, so I read her obituary to see if they were related in someway. I didn't notice if Miss Elsie had been related to a Leon Ellington from Loganville, of course they could be in someway.



But after reading about Miss Elsie, I can tell that the love of Christ was in her and that all who knew her realized this and was blessed by knowing her. So I just had to comment on what an amazing life this dear child of God lived. From the hard beginning she had by losing her mother upon birth to the value she learned at an early age of hard work to knowing the love of family; I am sure that the love and wisdom that she passed along to others throughout her life will continue to bless and impact generations to come. Then most importantly her faith and love of Jesus should be a testament to us all. I must say that I am blessed to have known her even if it was just by reading about her this morning.

I pray for all her family in this time of sadness and grief. Praise God that we can find comfort in the fact that Miss Elsie is with our Savior at this very moment and all who have put their trust in Jesus will be able to see her again. And I am looking forward to that glorious day when I will be able to meet her face-to-face for the first time.

Thank you dear family for sharing about your precious mother, grandmother, aunt, cousin, and friend. For in your pain, you have introduced such a sweet lady to those who would have never gotten to meet her.

God Bless you.

Todd Milligan - June 03 at 10:59 AM

GE

I was so Blessed to have Elsie & Ovid & their grown children as my 3 closest neighbors across the street when I first moved to Conyers. My Dad's middle name was Otha and he & Ovid got to meet & know each other before God took our Dad's. Elsie & my Mother got to visit more as they both lived long & active lives - instilling in their daughters the love of garden flowers & leaving us some great family recipes. We will forever Love and Miss our dear Mothers!

Gloria English - June 03 at 06:47 PM



“ 85 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Tim Stewart Funeral Home - June 03 at 10:28 AM

CP

“ *Cleven and Randy Presley purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Elsie Lankford Ellington.*



Cleven and Randy Presley - June 02 at 07:20 PM

BE

“ Bonna, Orlando, Cynthia & Emily purchased the Love's Journey for the family of Elsie Lankford Ellington.



Bonna, Orlando, Cynthia & Emily - June 02 at 03:39 PM

BE

“ Bonna, Orlando, Cynthia & Emily planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Elsie Lankford Ellington.

Bonna, Orlando, Cynthia & Emily - June 02 at 03:39 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Elsie Lankford Ellington.



June 01 at 05:01 PM