

Margaret Ellen Wade Harris

STAUNTON — Margaret Ellen (Wade) Harris peacefully passed away at home to be with God on Friday, March 4, 2011. She was born May 2, 1929, in Brownsburg, the eighth child to Samuel Bell and Mary Annie (Potter) Wade.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by four brothers, Henry Everette Wade, Robert Louis Wade, Wallace McClung Wade and Richard Davidson Wade, and three sisters, Claudia Bell Wade Runkle, Thelma Elizabeth Wade Britt and Edith Virginia Wade Hartsook. She leaves behind her husband of 62 years, Harold Henry Harris. They were married Aug. 7, 1948, in Staunton, at Marquis Memorial Methodist Church. Also surviving are two sons and a daughter-in-law, Michael Wade and Doris (Sensabaugh) Harris and Scott Matthew Harris; three grandchildren, Carmen Lynn Harris Jones and her husband, Joshua Thomas Jones, and William Michael and Benjamin Wade Harris; a great-grandson, Austin Lee Fitzgerald; and two favorite cousins, Faye Wade Burks and Mary Margaret Logan.

Margaret was an extrovert. She was very proud of her heritage, and her favorite thing to do was family research. She has collected volumes of research over the years.

Her family moved to Staunton when she was 12, and she attended and graduated from Robert E. Lee High School in June 1947.

Margaret was active in many organizations, which included selling war bonds, rolling bandages and organizing USO dances during World War II. She was a member of the Col. Thomas Hugart and Beverly Manor chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution, where she served as chaplain for both. She was a member of the Augusta County Genealogy Society and went to the courthouse weekly to transcribe marriage records from the 1700s and 1800s.

She was a true Southern compatriot and faithfully served in the J.E.B. Stuart and Turner Ashby chapters of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. She taught day circle classes at Bethany Presbyterian Church and was a member of the Red Hat Society, Friends of the Library, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Staunton YMCA.

Many thanks for the help and caring of Hospice of the Shenandoah and the many friends who called, sent flowers and cards and visited. Special thanks to her niece, Vicky Beverly, who gave time to spend with Mom. Also Debbie Graham, who was Mom's exceptional caregiver.

A graveside service will be conducted at 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 8, 2011, in Augusta Memorial Park by the Rev. Robert W. Sharp. Active pallbearers will be Michael Wade and Scott Matthew Harris, Carmen Harris Jones, William Michael and Benjamin Wade Harris and William Wade. Honorary pallbearers will be members and auxiliary of VFW Post 2216.

The family will receive friends from 7 until 8:30 p.m. Monday, March 7, 2011, at Henry Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Boy Scouts of America, Stonewall Jackson Area Council, 801 Hopeman Parkway, Waynesboro, VA 22980.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.henryfuneralhome.net

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