



Mrs. Nellie Council

March 27, 1930 - February 27, 2024

The family is requesting that all monetary donations be given to: Pruitt Care Foundation, www.pruittcares.org or mail to Pruitt Cares Foundation 1626 Jeurgens Court, Norcross, GA 30093 in care of Nellie Ruth Council.

Nellie Ruth “Nell” Drew Council, oldest daughter of the late Rev. Nathaniel C. & Charity Williams Drew, was born in Newport News, VA on March 27, 1930. She departed this life on Feb 27, 2024.

Nell as she was called by family received her early education in the public schools of Hampton and Newport News, Va. She received her Bachelor of Science Degree from Elizabeth City State Teachers College in 1951, graduating with honors. She did further study at North Carolina Central University of Durham, NC & East Carolina University of Greenville, NC Upon graduating from college she worked in Columbia, SC before coming to Martin County where she taught until retiring in 1987.

In August of 1956, she was united in marriage to Willie J. Council and this union lasted for 67 years. Two wonderful children were born to this union. Early on, Nell was an active member of the N.E.A. and local association serving as Secretary of the Martin County Teachers Association and Martin County Education Association. She was a member of the Volunteer Action Committee of the Edgecombe-Martin County Electric Membership Corporation, serving as Secretary and later as Chairman. She served on the Martin County Board of Social Services and worked as a lay health adviser of

the Lineberger Cancer Center of Chapel Hill, NC in Martin County. This volunteer service remained close to her heart and important in the fight against cancer. She received a commendation from Chapel Hill as an outstanding volunteer. She also loved being a school volunteer at Edna Andrews School, helping at-risk students improve their learning. She received a commendation from the Governor, the Governor's Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service. She served on the Board of Martin Memorial Library. She had a great love of reading which she hoped to pass on to her beloved grandson Andrew. In her 80's, she had an epiphany that told her that she needed "to do something for the children", so she wrote a small book titled "Gran and Drew" telling of her life and love with Andrew.

Nell was a member of Mount Gethsemane Baptist Church and was active in church functions.

Nell was preceded by her younger sister, Fannie DuVal Drew.

Nell leaves behind her husband, Willie J. Council; daughter, Beverly J. Council (Christine) of Durham, NC; son, Wilson C. Council (Wanda) and grandson, Andrew all of Robersonville, NC; brother, Henry R. Drew of Hampton, VA; a daughter of the heart, Demeteria Staton of Williamston, NC; and many relatives and friends.

"I have lived my life and that which I have done, may He within Himself make pure, but thou, if thou shouldst never see my face again; pray for my soul. More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of." -Anonymous-

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Service

MAR 9. 1:00 PM (ET)

Edna Andrews Elementary
306 South Horton Street
Hamilton, NC 27857

Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

Congleton Memorial Mortuary - March 09, 2024 at 02:36 PM

RA

“ *Don't even know where to start, knew her every since I was 3, MY GOD, SHE'S MISSED SO MUCH*

Raymond - April 30, 2024 at 04:41 PM

BC

“ *As I began my teaching career at Edna Andrews in 1974 Mrs. Council took me under her wing. She constantly advised me during my 6 years there. She was my mentor before they made it a part of a beginning teacher's path. I will forever cherish our talks and her guidance. We even communicated after I left Edna Andrews. Because of her I was able to have a wonderful teaching experience. I will forever cherish her memory.
Beverly "Belcher" Clemons*

Beverly Clemons - March 10, 2024 at 09:14 PM



“ *Joseph & Peggy Slade lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council*



Joseph & Peggy Slade - March 09, 2024 at 09:54 PM

JB

“ *Juanita Brown lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council*



Juanita Brown - March 09, 2024 at 01:02 PM

BC

“ *Mom,
Today we remember you in our own personal way. This is the service you planned. But as your daughter you know I had to add a coupla thangs cuz that's what daughters do. Wilson & I have carried out what you wanted to happen today. We hope you are pleased. Your love clearly has reached beyond the confines our home to others in our family and to your beloved community. Thank you for all the lessons. You will always be my favorite teacher. Until the Universe decides when I see you again, I will carry you in that special place in my heart❤️ Always your favorite “nut”.*

Beverly Council - March 09, 2024 at 08:13 AM

DT

“Mrs. Council was a beautiful, kind and gentle angel. She was truly a sweet inspiration who treated me as if I was her very own child. She had her way of making me and others feel so special.



I attended Salisbury Elementary School. Many mornings when I was out on the playground at school I would watch her put her daughter, Beverly, into the car and she drove off towards Hassell. I learned that she was a school teacher and was taking her daughter to school. I often imagined what it would be like to be driven to school via car instead of the bus. I grew up and furthered my education at North Carolina Central University in Durham NC. Mrs. Council often drove to NCCU on Friday evening to pick Beverly up and brought her home for the weekend. Beverly often invited me to ride with them since our homes weren't that far apart. On Sunday afternoon Mrs. Council picked me up and drove us back to school in Durham. This was like a dream come true. I never dreamed in a million years that the beautiful teacher who drove her daughter back and forth to school would someday be the same beautiful lady who would drive me back and forth to school. What made it more special is that she never charged me one brown penny. Often times I would call her or send her a card letting her know that I appreciated her and never forgot what she did. I will ALWAYS cherish her memories. Though God has chosen to take her, she will always live in my heart. Family, I pray that God will give you all the strength needed to get through her home going. Be Blessed and Encouraged.

Dianne Taylor - March 09, 2024 at 01:00 AM

BL

“ Mrs. Council was a beautiful lady with a caring and loving soul. We are deeply sadden and pray that the family finds peace in their time of sorrow. Love Donald and Beverly Pierce.



Beverly Little-Pierce - March 08, 2024 at 06:24 PM

PW

“ Phyllis Whitaker sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council



Phyllis Whitaker - March 08, 2024 at 11:19 AM

AB

“ Audrey Burroughs lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council



Audrey Burroughs - March 08, 2024 at 11:18 AM

AB

“ There is no one in this world like Nellie, I loved her like my sister .She was a special and wonderful person to me and she will always forever be in my heart. Nothing I can say will take away the pain you and your family are experiencing. Just want you to know that I love all of you externally. And I share in your sadness. I will always be here for all of you .Love Audrey Burroughs

Audrey Burroughs - March 08, 2024 at 09:53 AM

AB

“ Audrey Burroughs lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council



Audrey Burroughs - March 08, 2024 at 09:12 AM

RB

“ Reva Burnett lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council



Reva Burnett - March 07, 2024 at 10:40 PM

EC

“ Evelyn Robinson Council lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council



Evelyn Robinson Council - March 07, 2024 at 04:11 PM

SJ

“ Shelton And Helen Council James lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council



Shelton and Helen Council James - March 07, 2024 at 03:57 PM

MH

“ Mrs. Nellie Council was such a God sent woman to all. I have fond memories of her being my teacher. Students were happy to have Mrs. Council as a teacher. I really wanted to learn all that she taught me and the others did too. Whenever, I would come home from school my parents would ask what I learned and I was always able to share what Mrs. Council taught me. Even with her homework, I made sure it was completed and turned in. I am so thankful to have known such a jewel. She will truly be missed.
To The family, thank you for sharing Mrs. Council with us.
With love, prayers and blessings,
Marjorie Hill

Marjorie Hill - March 07, 2024 at 05:24 AM

VC

“ Aunt Nellie❤️



Ve-Lecia Council - March 07, 2024 at 03:04 AM

PF

“ Pastor Milton & Delorse Staton Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council



Pastor Milton & Delorse Staton Family - March 07, 2024 at 12:24 AM

DB

“ *Darlene-Miranda Burroughs lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council*



Darlene-Miranda Burroughs - March 06, 2024 at 10:12 PM

NW

“ *Noah/Artis (RB) Willoughby lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council*



Noah/Artis (RB) Willoughby - March 05, 2024 at 01:35 PM

DS

Was my most influential teacher. Mrs Council made you feel seen even when you felt unseen. She was a wonderful teacher and person. We all became better students because of her

Dalton Staton - March 06, 2024 at 06:41 PM

DS

Thank you Mrs Nellie Council

Dalton Staton - March 06, 2024 at 06:43 PM

JJ

“ *Sending my condolences and prayers to the family.*

Judy Jenkins - March 05, 2024 at 10:06 AM

DR

“ Sending my condolences to the immediate family of Nellie who was a beautiful soul and such an inspiration to many. I will always cherish the moments we shared on the Council's Family Reunion committee. You will be missed but never forgotten.

Dorothy "Dot" Roberson - March 05, 2024 at 09:03 AM

RC

“ sincere sympathy ; to the family praying for you all

rev dora cox and dec william cox



reverend dora cox & dec william cox - March 04, 2024 at 10:07 PM

VT

Sincerest condolences to BJ Council and the family of the late Mrs. Nell Council. May the sweet presence of the Holy Spirit comfort and guide you through this difficult time. To BJ, your love, respect and admiration for your mother was evident whenever you talked about her. She was blessed to have you as a dutiful and loving daughter. May the memories you shared bring you peace and great joy. All my love. ❤️
Valarie Thomas

Valarie Thomas - March 05, 2024 at 11:41 AM

CW

“ Mrs. Council was my 5th grade teacher at Edna Andrews. I loved her teaching credential and she was phenomenal. I made it a point when I came home to visit her and to let her know how she inspired me to further my education. She will be missed by all and especially her 5th grade class of 1965.

Calvin Worsley

calvin Worsley - March 04, 2024 at 08:00 AM

VG

“ *My deepest condolences and prayers to the Council family.*



Valerie Green - March 03, 2024 at 07:18 PM

MF

“ *Marjorie Hill And Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council*



Marjorie Hill and Family - March 03, 2024 at 06:53 PM

NC

“ *Nancy & Thomas Chavis lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council*



Nancy & Thomas Chavis - March 02, 2024 at 08:45 PM

LJ

“ *Lorraine Jones lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council*



Lorraine Jones - March 02, 2024 at 06:09 PM

NC

“ My first memory of Mrs. Council was when I was a young new teacher at Edna Andrews Elementary School. She took me under her wing which was a great help in adjusting to the new school. Although, she told me to call her Nellie when we retired, I still called her Mrs. Council (habit, respect). Over the 47 years there were many more memories - many hours on the phone - taking Drew, her pride and joy, and my granddaughter, Jo'neeka to the beach - her supporting me in mission work or any work I was assigned to do, - helping to run my Bargain Shoppe (without a salary) and many, many more memories. Nancy Chavis

N. Chavis - March 02, 2024 at 02:33 PM

BJ

“ Barbara Jean lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council



Barbara Jean - March 02, 2024 at 02:03 PM

HD

“ Mr. Council, on behalf of Mr. Ulric(George)Bowman,he sends condolences and prayers to you and your family.He remembered how you and Mrs. Council stopped by his house after Mrs.Bowman passed. Not only that,he said the calls meant so much to him, and he will never forget. At this time he will be unable to attend Mrs.Council's funeral service, but know his heart will be with you all.



Hazel Brown Davis - March 02, 2024 at 01:50 PM

HD

“ Hazel Brown Davis sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council



Hazel Brown Davis - March 02, 2024 at 01:42 PM

NW

“ Willie J sending love to you and the family with lots of Prayer love you Artis (RB)&Noah Willoughby

Noah/Artis (RB) Willoughby - March 02, 2024 at 10:16 AM

WC

“ Water And Mildred Council lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council



Water and Mildred Council - March 02, 2024 at 10:12 AM

NW

“ Noah/Artis (RB) Willoughby lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council



Noah/Artis (RB) Willoughby - March 02, 2024 at 10:10 AM

DR

I would like to send my condolences to the immediate family of Nellie who was not only a beautiful soul but the type of person you could depend on for valuable advice. She was also one of the go to people during the planning of The Council Family Reunion. She will be forever missed but never forgotten....

Dorothy "Dot" Roberson

Dorothy Dot Roberson - March 03, 2024 at 07:39 PM

PW

“prayers are with the family.



pat watlington - March 02, 2024 at 08:23 AM

HS

“A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning"...Brad Henry
My 5th grade teacher, Mrs. Nellie Drew Council did all of this and so much more!



Hortense Hyman Swepson - March 01, 2024 at 07:04 PM

PW

“prayers are with the family.

pat watlington - March 01, 2024 at 04:34 PM

WC

“ *Water And Mildred Council lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council*



Water and Mildred Council - March 01, 2024 at 01:05 PM

RR

“ *Ruth Randolph lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council*



Ruth Randolph - February 29, 2024 at 10:06 PM

AC

“ *Mrs. Council, or “Gran”, as I called her loved her only grandchild with her whole heart and soul. I have so many memories, but the fondest one lives in the years she spent babysitting me as a young child. She taught me how to play the piano, to writing, and most importantly, how to love God. Her smiles and bubbly laughter will forever reside in my soul. She was an educator at heart, and gave her all to every endeavor.*



I love you, Gran.

AC - February 29, 2024 at 07:43 PM

BB

She was my 5th grade teacher when we were still segregated. She was strict when she had to be, especially for a knucklehead like me.

Bobby Burns - March 01, 2024 at 09:03 PM

PB

“ *Perry & Sybil Best lit a candle in memory of
Nellie Council*



Perry and Sybil Best - February 29, 2024 at 05:27 PM

PN

“ Those of us who worked at or went to school at Edna Andrews School in Hamilton, lost another former teacher this week. Mrs. Nellie Council went to be with her Lord. I am sure she was greeted by her co-workers and former students who went before her. And I am also sure that She heard from her Lord, " Well done thy good and faithful servant."

I admired her way of teaching students not only academics, but life. She demanded respect, and she received it.

I respected her and loved her. She was kind and caring. She was fair and strong. She had a presence as a true Southern Lady. She had a beautiful smile that glowed. You knew when you chatted with her that she listened and took interest in you as a person.

She loved her students and they loved her. Students learned from her many life lessons.

Mrs Council was at Edna Andrews during the Art Festival last fall. I was so blessed to have seen her and many others I had the pleasure to work with as we toured the school that day. I talked to her for a while. I could tell that she was frail, but she came anyway. I was so glad we had that time together.

Angela Freeman called me this morning to tell me the news. Tears came to my eyes, not for Mrs. Council, but for those left behind. She will be missed. I told Angela just how blessed we at Edna Andrews were to have worked together with such good Christian people over the years. It was a special place indeed.

*Rest in Peace Nellie. A life well lived has moved on to eternity.
Love you.*

Pat Nelson - February 29, 2024 at 05:03 PM

EH

“ *May Jesus Christ Continues To Comfort And Strengthen The Family*



Evangelist Gwen Hudson - February 29, 2024 at 04:52 PM

EC

“ *Our sincere sympathy on the loss of your love one. We are praying that God will strengthen you during this transition....Eddie and Janie Chance*



Eddie Chance - February 29, 2024 at 03:46 PM

MT

“ *Mack And Ann Teel lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council*



Mack and Ann Teel - February 29, 2024 at 10:09 AM

HD

“ *Hazel Brown Davis lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Nellie Council*



Hazel Brown Davis - February 28, 2024 at 09:00 PM

JC

“ So sorry to hear of your loss. She was a beautiful person inside and out. Praying for the Council’s family 🙏



Johnny & Bernadette Chance - February 28, 2024 at 02:27 PM

CS

“ Congleton Funeral Home and Staff wishes to express our sincere condolences on the passing of your love one. We light this candle in their memory.



Congleton Funeral Home and Staff - February 28, 2024 at 10:34 AM

RD

Sending my condolences to the entire Council family, and my prayers up to God for them/ during this time of their bereavement!!!

Ronald Dolberry - March 04, 2024 at 03:03 AM