



Gwen Howle Watson

November 11, 1923 - February 18, 2018

GWEN HOWLE WATSON

Gwen Howle Watson went to her eternal home February 18, 2018. Born in Andrews, she was the daughter of the Late Vernon W. Howle and Estelle Haselton Howle. She earned a B.S. in Biology at Limestone College and an M.A. in Library Science. During her teaching career, she taught at Andrews High School and served as librarian both at Andrews High School and later at Waccamaw Elementary School.

Gwen was the first woman to serve on the Andrews Town Council and was mayor pro tem. In 1975, she and her husband, Monty, moved to Pawleys Island and very soon thereafter joined Pawleys Island Community Church, where she served in various capacities for 42 years. Gwen had a great relationship with her pastor, Don Williams, and his wife, Ginny, and fondly referred to them as her Pawleys Island children. It was Pastor Don who skydived with her to celebrate her 91st birthday.

Gwen's philosophy was to live each day to the fullest, and she sought adventure. In addition to skydiving, she rode in a glider plane, rode a motorcycle to New York, and rode a camel. She enjoyed water sports and slalom skied, snorkeled, swam with dolphins, and held and fed sting rays in their own environment. In her 60s, she learned to roller blade and snow ski.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Monty Watson, and three brothers: Vernon W. Howle, J. Delbert Howle and Harry Howle. Surviving are her daughters, Mauriette (William) Jordan and Merideth (Richard) Bennett of Pawleys Island. Also surviving are grandchildren Cory (Rachel) Bennett of Santa Clara, CA; Lori (Chris) Rinken and Will (Lauren) Jordan of Bonneau, SC. Five great-grandchildren include Brooke and Ruby Bennett, Jordan Williams, and Noah and Laurel Jordan.

A celebration of life service will be held at the Pawleys Island (small chapel) at the Pawleys Island Community Church, Sunday, March 4, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

The family requests in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Pawleys Island Community Church, PO Box 777, Pawleys Island, SC.

Sign an online guestbook at www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Litchfield/Pawleys Island Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.

Tribute Wall

MM

“ Mrs. Gwen was my teacher at Andrews High School, from 1964 to 1968. She was a wonderful friend. I was also a member at Pawleys Community Church with her for a time in the '90's. She dedicated her life to so many different projects, She always had a smile and would help you in any way she could. I will miss her dearly. LOVE



Mary Ruth Michau - March 04, 2018 at 09:25 AM

DO

“ I have several of her famous recipes from the old days when Pawleys Island Baptist Church had Pot Lucks!! She always had the best dishes, a wonderful cook, beautiful soul!! Pawleys will miss this gem!
-Deena Onufer

Deena Onufer - February 27, 2018 at 04:22 PM

JB

“ Mrs. Watson was always one of my favorite teachers in school. She always had time for her students. Saw her at a class reunion in 2016. First time I saw her since 1964. Had a long conversation with her. Don't want to sound like a stuck record but she was a remarkable person. Maury and Meredith were lucky to have her for so long. I know she will be missed by many.

Johnny Bourne

Johnny Bourne - February 24, 2018 at 10:08 AM

PW

“ One of the best teachers, friend and person. Will miss that precious smile and the wonderful, fun laugh. Thank you for all you gave to so many of your students and to so many that knew you. Love you, Mrs. Watson. Paula Robbe Wilson

Paula Wilson - February 23, 2018 at 02:31 PM

RP

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Russ Peterson - February 22, 2018 at 08:32 PM

JM

We will always remember beautiful Gwen. She was one of His lights in this dark world. She indeed will be missed

Jim & Annie McAbee - February 22, 2018 at 08:50 PM

WB

*Beautiful Mrs. Gwen! All of us at Pawleys Island Baptist used to say we wanted to be Gwen when we grew up - she was the youngest senior citizen I ever met. Can't imagine the church without her.
~Wendy Brzezinski*

Wendy Brzezinski - February 22, 2018 at 11:09 PM

JD

“ Mrs. Gwen was a beautiful, friendly, and kind Christian lady. She and Monty were among the first people Corbey and I met when we attended what was then "Pawleys Island Baptist Church" many years ago. Her warmth and charm helped seal in our hearts that this was the church for us. She was also one of the first to support us in our ministry when God called us to Kids Alive Guatemala. She was a tremendous encourager and prayer warrior. We loved her dearly and will miss her greatly. A visit home will not be the same without her smile and warm hug of greeting in the church foyer. Our condolences to her lovely family.

Janie Dukes

Janie Dukes - February 22, 2018 at 09:49 AM

MB

“ Gwen will always be remembered as the lovely lady who stood each Sunday in the foyer of Pawleys Island Community Church to welcome all, especially first-time visitors. She was an inspiration to all of us who were lucky enough to know her. I'm sure she is in Heaven trying to figure out how she can help. I'll miss you, beautiful lady, and I hope your wings are purple! Love to your family and may God wrap his arms around you and comfort you.

Mary Ann Braunstein

Mary Ann Braunstein - February 21, 2018 at 10:55 AM