



## Merle H. Holmes

November 23, 1933 - December 8, 2025

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Merle Hicks Holmes, 92, died on Monday, December 8, at home in Conway.

Born in Cherokee County, Merle was the daughter of the late John Yates Hicks and the late Fray Hammett Hicks. She was predeceased by her husband, Jack C. Holmes, and her sisters, Carolyn Leslie and Bonnie Williams.

Survivors include her daughter, Juan Holmes, and other dearly loved family.

Mrs. Holmes grew up near Cowpens, South Carolina, and attended schools in the area. She graduated from Winthrop College and moved to Conway in 1955. She taught junior high and high school in Florence and Conway. In 1986, she retired from teaching. Merle was a devoted member of First Baptist Conway GracePoint Church.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to FBC GracePoint, 603 Elm Street, Conway, South Carolina 29526.

A celebration of life service will be held Wednesday, December 10, at 3:00 pm at First Baptist Church in Conway with Pastor Brian Hoffman officiating. The

family will receive friends following the service in the sanctuary.

The family would like to thank Home Instead and Patriot Healthcare for their care and expertise.

Please sign the online guest register at [www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com](http://www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com).  
Goldfinch Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

DEC 10. 3:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Conway  
603 Elm Street  
Conway, SC 29526  
<http://www.fbconway.org>

# Tribute Wall

JE

“ Juan, I'm so sorry to hear about your Mother. What a lovely woman she was! She was such an inspiration at the gym. So glad that I was able to see her last Christmas. I'm thinking of you and your family.  
Jennie Ervin, Georgetown SC

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**Jennie Lynn Ervin** - December 16, 2025 at 04:12 PM

EJ

“ Mrs. Holmes was one of my favorite teachers. She was tough but fair & taught us about so much more than just academics. She taught us many life lessons. My sympathies to her family.

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**Elizabeth Jordan** - December 12, 2025 at 03:15 PM

PC

“ Juan, I am so sorry to hear about the loss of your mother. She was a remarkable southern lady.

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**Peggy Chestnut** - December 11, 2025 at 11:13 AM

DW

“ Was not able to make the service today but our prayers were lifted for Juan. Merle and Jack were in a supper club with my parents and such great friends. Merle was always so kind and upbeat. She will be missed here, but rejoiced as she rejoins the supper club in heaven.

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**Dan Winfield** - December 10, 2025 at 08:59 PM

SH

“ Juan, we're so saddened to hear of the loss of your mother. You are in our thoughts and prayers as well as having a special place in our hearts. Sending our love, Steve and Nancy Hucks

Steve Hucks - December 10, 2025 at 06:58 PM

KW

“ Juan, Kevin and I so admired your mother and are in prayer for you. She was an amazing teacher and we both were in awe of her. Kevin and Ruthie Warren

Kevin and Emma Ruth Vaught Warren - December 10, 2025 at 03:11 PM

DL

“ Juan, We are so sorry to hear of the passing of your mother. She was always a ray of sunshine when she walked in the room. We pray your wonderful memories make the coming days brighter. Our thoughts and prayers will be with you and your family in the days ahead. Dawn and Dennie Lewis

Dawn and Dennie Lewis - December 10, 2025 at 11:17 AM

BJ

“ Betty Jordan lit a candle in memory of Merle H. Holmes



Betty Jordan - December 10, 2025 at 10:16 AM

DT

“ Thinking of you Juan, Rilla and family. My sister Dayna and Micky were friends☐

Denise Thomas - December 09, 2025 at 05:55 PM

DW

“ I'm very sorry to hear of your Mother's passing. Merle was my 9th grade science teacher. She was well respected and well liked. Merle was the best dressed teacher in the school. Growing up in First Baptist Church, I remembered she was a very active member.  
With deepest sympathy, Diane R. Williamson

Diane Richardson Williamson - December 09, 2025 at 04:24 PM

VB

“ Juan, so sorry to hear of your mom's passing! She was so fun and I so enjoyed her company! You have always been so dear to me and you were always wonderful to your mom! My prayers are with you and all who loved your mom! Very difficult to say goodbye to those we love under any circumstance! Please know that you are always carried in my memories and my heart! God be with you!!! Much love, Vickie (Russell) Byrd.

Vickie Byrd - December 09, 2025 at 03:55 PM

NP

“ So sorry to hear of Mrs. Merle's passing. She was such an amazing lady and will be missed by everyone. Prayers for Juan and all her wonderful family and friends. Nancy and Jeff Pattinson

Nancy R Pattinson - December 09, 2025 at 03:10 PM

JF

“ Just a beautiful person inside and out. I have loved that family all my life. So sorry Juan. 💕💕



Johanna Floyd - December 09, 2025 at 01:48 PM

MH

“ *Merle was the sweetest lady. When she was able, we would talk at senior lunch or before church. Helen Records and I send heartfelt love and peace to Juan in time of sorrow.*

Martha Heathcote - December 09, 2025 at 12:26 PM

DR

“ *Thoughts and prayers to all. Merle and Jack were great neighbors over the years.*

Dianne Ray - December 09, 2025 at 11:35 AM

PV

“ *Polly Vereen lit a candle in memory of Merle H. Holmes*



Polly Vereen - December 09, 2025 at 10:26 AM

SC

“ *Susan Baiden Chestnut lit a candle in memory of Merle H. Holmes*



Susan Baiden Chestnut - December 09, 2025 at 09:59 AM

LJ

“ *I'm so sorry Juan. Your mother made quite an impact on my life. I think of her every Christmas and pulling taffy. One of my favorite childhood memories. Love to you. Laurie*

Laurie Land Johnson - December 09, 2025 at 09:37 AM

JS

“ *Lovely Lady!!*



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**Judy C Singleton** - December 09, 2025 at 09:15 AM

VS

“ *Vickie Stokes lit a candle in memory of Merle H. Holmes*



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**Vickie Stokes** - December 09, 2025 at 08:16 AM

VS

*Prayers for you Juan amd your family. Always loved seeing your Mom*



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**Vickie Stokes** - December 09, 2025 at 08:18 AM

JJ

“ *Joyce Jenerette lit a candle in memory of Merle H. Holmes*



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**Joyce Jenerette** - December 09, 2025 at 08:14 AM

RS

“ Rhonda Sanders-Butler lit a candle in memory of Merle H. Holmes



Rhonda Sanders-Butler - December 09, 2025 at 08:08 AM

CL

“ Elegant and beautiful. Smart, as well. She was always present at First Baptist. My condolences to the family.



Carol Boggs Lane - December 08, 2025 at 10:59 PM

CS

“ A true southern lady



Charles Sasser - December 08, 2025 at 08:59 PM

SH

“ Steve H. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Merle H. Holmes.

Steve H. - December 08, 2025 at 08:08 PM

TH

“ So sorry for your loss. Praying for peace and comfort during the difficult days ahead.



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**Tammy Howell** - December 08, 2025 at 07:25 PM

SW

“ Juan you were a wonderful daughter to your mother. I know you will miss her forever. She enjoyed her life & family.

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**sara frances way** - December 08, 2025 at 06:45 PM

RD

“ Juan, I am sorry to hear about your mother. She was a fine lady and I remember her fondly.

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**Renee Sparks Defalco** - December 08, 2025 at 05:30 PM