



## Alice Marquerite Nelson Saunders

July 10, 1920 - January 15, 2014

Marguerite Nelson Saunders, 93, of Altavista passed away at Autumn Care of Altavista Wednesday, January 15, 2014, surrounded by her loving family. She was the wife of the late Richard James Saunders who died in 1971.

She was born July 10, 1920 in Halifax County, a daughter of the late James Clarence Nelson and Alice Crute Nelson. Marguerite loved her family, church, and community. She lived in the Washington, DC area for approximately thirty years where she and her husband Richard raised their children. After retiring from Sears, she returned to Altavista to care for her mother. Marguerite was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother. She was known by many in the community as the lady who would do sewing and alterations. You could always get a cup of coffee and something sweet when you came to her home. Her family will have many treasured memories of her sweet smile and loving ways.

She is survived by a son, Richard Saunders, Jr. and his wife Jan of Waldorf, MD; four daughters, Carol Willis and her husband Ken of Lynchburg, Diane Kersey of Altavista, Darlene Allegro and her husband Giordano of Oakland, CA, and Catherine Nicholson and her husband Nick of Morrow, GA; a sister, Nancy N. Hicks of Altavista; fourteen grandchildren, Spencer Brown and his wife Karey, Cristy Lecik and her husband Barry, Dustin Mentis, Melissa Martin and her husband Mark, Angela Hinebrick, William Joseph Hinebrick,

Christalynn Duff, Isabella Allegro, Jordan Allegro, Jessica Saunders, Nickie Nicholson, Shelton Nicholson, Jr., Donnalise Nicholson, and Julian Nicholson; eleven great grandchildren and one great-great grandson.

She was preceded in death by three brothers, James, Marvin, and Earle Nelson; and a sister, Frances N. Campbell.

A funeral service will be conducted at 2:00 p.m., Friday, January 17, 2014 at Central Baptist Church by the Rev. Michael Duncan, Jr. with interment to follow in Green Hill Cemetery.

The family will receive friends from 7-8:30 p.m., Thursday at Finch and Finch Funeral and Cremation Service, Altavista and other times at the residence of her sister, Nancy Hicks, 1404 Bedford Ave., Altavista.

The family suggests that those wishing to make memorials consider Central Baptist Church, PO Box 387, Altavista, VA 24517.

# Cemetery Details

## Green Hill Cemetery

300 Westwood Drive  
Altavista, VA 24517

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 16. 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM (ET)

Finch and Finch, Altavista  
809 Main St.  
Altavista, VA 24517

## Funeral Service

JAN 17. 2:00 PM (ET)

Central Baptist Church  
515 7th Street  
Altavista, VA 24517

# Tribute Wall

BW

“ *Bobbie Arthur Wade lit a candle in memory of Alice Marquerite Nelson Saunders*



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**Bobbie Arthur Wade** - January 28, 2014 at 02:00 PM

BE

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



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**Betty** - January 26, 2014 at 03:49 PM

BE

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



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**Betty** - January 26, 2014 at 03:48 PM

LP

“ *Linda Piper sent a virtual gift in memory of Alice  
Marquerite Nelson Saunders*



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**linda piper** - January 17, 2014 at 04:24 PM

LP

“ *Marquerite is still here...*

*When people use to say that about my mom, I use to wonder what that meant and dismissed it as a trite phrase that people uttered mindlessly... when they didn't know what else to say.*

*Now, I think I have a better understanding of why Marquerite (and my mom) are still here and will always be, and I'd like to share that.*

*Seems the tendency of physics is to resolve the whole material universe into two kinds of waves: bottled-up waves, which we call matter, and bottled waves, which we call radiation or light. If annihilation of matter occurs, the process is merely that of unbottling imprisoned wave-energy and setting it free to travel through space.*

*This does not mean that matter, radiation and light are the same thing, only that the transformation of matter into radiation or wave energy means something. The atoms that compose our bodies are indestructible and they never die; they only regenerate...for ever solid matter melts into insubstantial radiation: for ever the tangible changes into the intangible. They don't just decompose; they recombine into potent forms of energy... So her being is no longer confined to her shell.*

*And forever, Marquerite's presence surrounds us.*

*Blessing always to a truly Great Human Being.*

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**Linda Piper** - January 17, 2014 at 01:30 PM

DS

“ *Dr. Clark and Staff purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Alice Marquerite Nelson Saunders.*



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**Dr. Clark and Staff** - January 17, 2014 at 09:47 AM

WG

“ *I will never forget her beautiful smiles everytime my Mother Lorene Gibson and I met her in the halls of Autumn Care, I know she was a precious person and will be greatly missed by her family and friends, God bless.*

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**Wanda Gibson-Amos** - January 17, 2014 at 04:59 AM

WG

“ *Wanda Gibson-Amos lit a candle in memory of Alice Marquerite Nelson Saunders*



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**Wanda Gibson-Amos** - January 17, 2014 at 04:57 AM

IA

“ My grandma came and visited us for a few weeks every summer. I have so many wonderful memories of her. I can remember sitting on the couch with her watching her "stories." She would tell me about all the different characters and their lives. She would say things like "now you see that girl right there? I watched her grow up, get married and have children. That's how long I've been watching this show." Everyday we would go together on her walks around the neighborhood. Everyone would say hi and she would stop and talk with all the people as we passed. After she would leave to go back east all my neighbors would ask about her and would want me to tell her hi on the phone. She taught me how to sew and I still use the quilts she made us on my bed. She taught me how to cook delicious southern food. When ever I would try to write down a recipe I would ask her how much flour to use or how much sugar. It was always a "handful" or a "pinch" never a cup or a teaspoon. And her Crisco! Grandma loved cooking with her Crisco :) One of my favorite memories was one time when my mom Darlene came home she looked in the fridge and found that grandma had taken fresh strawberries and had cut them up and covered them in sugar. My mom was upset that grandma had "ruined" the fresh strawberries. Grandma just looked at her and said she was "fixing em!" That's how I will always remember my grandma.... Sweet, like sugar and always trying to make everything sweeter. We miss you grandma and we love you.

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Isabella and Jordan Allegro - January 17, 2014 at 01:34 AM

LP

Sweet is a very accurate description of your grandma.. And me & Darlene grew up with crisco!

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linda piper - January 17, 2014 at 04:22 PM

PM

*I certainly remembered she was a mom who liked to hang out in the kitchen (thank goodness someone still knew how to cook back then). I know that's where Darlene got her southern roots!*

*And she was able to spread her culinary influences all the way out to San Fran!*

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**Patty Z Means** - January 18, 2014 at 03:15 PM

LI

“ *Linda lit a candle in memory of Alice  
Marquerite Nelson Saunders*



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**linda** - January 16, 2014 at 11:12 PM

LI

“ *All apples must eventually let go from the tree. Some apples let go prematurely, and others never make it to the state maturity.. Such produce is soon forgotten.*

*Still others ripen and evolve, and I will recall Marquerite as having reached that state of fullness-- well ripened and READY to release into another state... Her produce runs deep and will thus be remembered. Her fruits are plentiful, as evidenced by the family she nurtured and raised.*

*I will remember looking into her eyes and that beautiful smile... her warmth and kindness... and most of all, how she supported the growth of my friendship with my forever friend & sou mate, Darlene.*

*May Blessings be upon her and the family she raised always.*

*Love,*

*Linda*

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**Linda** - January 16, 2014 at 10:54 PM

DA

*This is beautiful linda*

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**darlene** - January 18, 2014 at 07:18 AM

CW

“ *Carroll And Gwenda Willard lit a candle in memory of Alice Marquerite Nelson Saunders*



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**Carroll and Gwenda Willard** - January 16, 2014 at 07:27 PM

RC

“ Ray And Kay Caldwell lit a candle in memory of Alice Marquerite Nelson Saunders



Ray and Kay Caldwell - January 16, 2014 at 06:11 PM

RC

*Marquerite was one of the most caring, loving and respected ladies I know. She was a very strong lady who wanted to do things her self and she took pride in what she did. Marquerite was proud of her family and spoke of them so often. A wonderful friend who always had time for you and would end your visit with a big hug. Heaven has gained a angel and for us sweet memories. We're so very sorry for your loss and will keep you all in our prayers.*

Ray and Kay Caldwell - January 16, 2014 at 06:22 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Alice Marquerite Nelson Saunders.



January 16, 2014 at 03:55 PM

SB

“ To Nancy, the only one of Marguerite's survivors who would probably remember me: I am so sorry for your loss, and ask God's blessings on you and her family as you face the future without this treasured member of your family. In Christian love, Shirley Mayhew Bailey, Burke, VA.

Shirley Mayhew Bailey - January 16, 2014 at 02:34 PM

SP

“ Sharon Peake lit a candle in memory of Alice  
Marquerite Nelson Saunders



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**Sharon Peake** - January 16, 2014 at 02:19 PM

CH

“ Marquerite was such a sweet and lovely lady. I always loved  
bringing Grandma Carlton to visit her and Aunt Alice. My Mom Ella  
loved Her. I want you to know I am thinking of you all at this very  
difficult time. To Your Family with Deepest Sympathy. Cathy Cathy  
Jones Hamlet

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**Cathy J. Hamlet** - January 16, 2014 at 11:30 AM

RJ

“ Robin Jacobs lit a candle in memory of Alice  
Marquerite Nelson Saunders



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**Robin Jacobs** - January 16, 2014 at 09:57 AM

DL

“ Doris Lukin lit a candle in memory of Alice  
Marquerite Nelson Saunders



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**Doris Lukin** - January 16, 2014 at 09:25 AM

JN

“ *Jessiah Nicholson lit a candle in memory of Alice Marquerite Nelson Saunders*



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**Jessiah Nicholson** - January 16, 2014 at 08:45 AM

SD

“ *Shemika Davidson lit a candle in memory of Alice Marquerite Nelson Saunders*



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**Shemika Davidson** - January 16, 2014 at 08:44 AM

NS

“ *I will always remember her walking through the door, coming in from work, while "Dahlene" , as she called her were hanging out and making big plans. She projected strength and love and goodness. A great woman and a great mom. Her love and strength live on in "Dahlene", she would be proud. I'm sorry for your loss, Darlene and family, my thoughts are with you as you go through this difficult time*



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**nancy swenton** - January 16, 2014 at 08:40 AM

KJ

“ *Kenda Jacobs lit a candle in memory of Alice Marquerite Nelson Saunders*



**Kenda Jacobs** - January 16, 2014 at 08:30 AM



“ *She helped me get through my hardest times and always believed in me; even when I didnt. She will always be loved and will always be in my heart*

**William Hinebrick** - January 15, 2014 at 09:29 PM

GH

“ *Gayle Harlow lit a candle in memory of Alice Marquerite Nelson Saunders*



**Gayle Harlow** - January 15, 2014 at 08:39 PM

GH

*Heaven gained an angel! She will truly be missed! Sorry for your loss.*

**Gayle Harlow** - January 15, 2014 at 08:41 PM

MH

“ *Marlo Henderson lit a candle in memory of Alice Marquerite Nelson Saunders*



**Marlo Henderson** - January 15, 2014 at 07:28 PM



“ *She did a lot of alterations for me,,,,enjoyed talking with her when I went there,,lovely lady..*



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**Dot Brooks** - January 15, 2014 at 03:43 PM



“ *Robert Finch lit a candle in memory of Alice Marquerite Nelson Saunders*



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**Robert Finch** - January 15, 2014 at 03:11 PM