



## Ruth G. Martin Norman

February 1, 1934 - February 28, 2024

Ruth Gelane Martin Norman age 90, of Tazewell, Virginia passed away on Wednesday, February 28, 2024, in Roanoke, Virginia.

Ruth was born February 1, 1934, in Richlands, Virginia, and was the daughter of the late Nelson J. Martin and Carrie Crawford Martin.

She graduated from Richlands High School in 1952, where she began the lifelong habit of collecting friends and being involved in as many activities as possible. She married the love of her life, Roy Lee Norman, in 1956 and was his wife for over forty-seven years until his death in 2004. She remained in Tazewell County for her entire life, making the difficult transition from a Tornado to a Bulldog in 1970. She and her husband raised their son and two daughters in Tazewell.

In her early years, she was a member of the Richlands Junior Woman's Club. She belonged to the Eastern Star for over fifty years, serving as an officer many times. She also served her community as a Brownie Leader, a Girl Scout leader, and a PTA president. She took great pride in being a very capable, professional secretary and retired from Southwest Virginia Community College, where she thrived while encouraging and helping many students to navigate their way to a degree.

Ruth was a longtime active member of the Main Street United Methodist Church in Tazewell, Virginia, where she served the church on many committees and in many roles to support its mission and encourage its growth and impact. She made a joyful noise by singing in a church choir for an incredible seventy-five years. She was president of the United Methodist Women for many years and was an active member of the Knight-Phillips Circle. She was a founding member of the devotional group Kindred Spirits, where she had many treasured friends.

She was a wonderful mother, grandmother, sister, and aunt. She was a true friend to many and treasured those friendships until the day she died. She will be remembered for her smile, which could light up a room, her quick laughter, her amazing strength, and her generous, giving spirit.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her loving husband, Roy Lee Norman, her son, Lawrence Guy "Norm" Norman, her sisters, Opal Burgess, Gloria Cardwell, and Elizabeth Stull and her brothers, Nelson J. Martin, Jr., Winfred "Wimpy" Martin and Marvin Wilson.

Those who remain to carry on her loving spirit are:

Her daughters:

Beth Norman of Shelby, NC

Rebecca Whittington of Midlothian, VA

Grandsons, Cameron Williams, and Jordan Williams, and great-grandson, Oliver Williams, and his mother, Tricia Kehoe.

Sister, Virginia "Jenny" Hagy of Richlands, VA

Several nieces, nephews, and a host of friends also survive.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that any desired memorials be given to

Main Street United Methodist Church in Tazewell.

The funeral service for Ruth G. Martin Norman will be at 2:00 PM on Sunday, March 3, 2024, at the Main Street United Methodist Church on Main Street in Tazewell, Virginia with Ministers Anthony Grills and Manny Elswick officiating. Interment will be held privately at the Clinch Valley Memorial Cemetery in Richlands, Virginia. Pallbearers will be Anthony Grills, Manny Elswick, David Havens, Robert White, Gary Nease, and Jeff Hancock. The visitation will begin at 1:00 PM at the church until the time of service.

Hurst-Scott Funeral Home in Richlands oversees arrangements and those wishing to express sympathy online may do so at [www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com](http://www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Clinch Valley Memorial Cemetery

3201 West Front Street/US 460  
Richlands, VA 24641

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 3. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Main Street United Methodist Church  
Main Street  
Tazewell, VA 24651

## Funeral Service

MAR 3. 2:00 PM (ET)

Main Street United Methodist Church  
Main Street  
Tazewell, VA 24651

# Tribute Wall

CS

“ I was saddened to learn of Ruth's death. She was a really nice lady. My mother, who taught school at Cedar Bluff Elementary had her children in her class. I remembered that ht mom liked her a lot and that she was a good "homeroom mother". I also remember her from Cedar Bluff Methodist Church, as she attended and sang in the choir prior to moving toward the Tazewell area. I saw her a few years ago in Tazewell at Main Street United Methodist Church. I was there as part of a program given in memory of the lady who had been the organist at Main Street Church. It was good to see her. She was most gracious and said very kind words about my mom. It was a real gift to have seen her that afternoon and to have a short visit.  
My sympathy is expressed to all the family. May Ruth enjoy eternal rest. Folks like her help to make the world a better place.

*Charlie Steele*

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**Charlie W. Steele** - March 06, 2024 at 08:12 AM

LK

“ Thank you so much for sharing Ruth's funeral with those of us who were unable to attend. Ruth was a very special lady who was constantly in my prayers. Since I moved to Florida I have not had the joy of being with her and will treasure the time I did have. I am sure she is rejoicing being with her Lord and her loved ones. Prayers for her family in this difficult time.  
*Linda and Barnes Kidd*

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**Linda G Kidd** - March 03, 2024 at 05:20 PM

VT

“ Rebecca and family, I'm so sorry for the passing of your wonderful Momma/Grandmother. Though I was unable to attend, you gave her the best gift ever, a celebration of her birthday spent with cherished family and friends. A very special day that all will remember with love, smiles and cherished memories. Cherish every memory, know that she loved you with all of her heart and rest assured in knowing you will one day be reunited. Love and prayers.



Vicki Thompson - March 01, 2024 at 05:18 PM

WK

“ With love, Mari, Aaron and Kevin planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ruth G. Martin Norman.

With love, Mari, Aaron and Kevin - March 01, 2024 at 12:39 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Ruth G. Martin Norman.



March 01, 2024 at 12:39 PM

MW

“ Ruth and I shared some wonderful times together when I lived in Tazewell, Va. I 'm so sorry to hear of her passing. She was a wonderful lady and I know she's with god now. God bless you ,Margaret woods

Margaret Woods - March 01, 2024 at 12:37 PM

CH

*So sorry for your loss. My thoughts are with you.*

**Chris Nease Hughes** - March 02, 2024 at 12:47 AM

BO

“ *With appreciation for all that Ruth did for community and for church, and with sorrow at her passing.*

*Rev. Dr. Bill Olewiler, survivor of the late Mary O. Baugh.*



**Bill Olewiler** - March 01, 2024 at 12:35 PM



“ *Such a beautiful soul ... may she rest in peace with her husband and son!*

**Mari Slater** - March 01, 2024 at 12:31 PM

LR

“ *Love, Kathy and Ken Rossi purchased the Pink P otpourri Bouquet for the family of Ruth G. Martin Norman.*



**Love, Kathy and Ken Rossi** - March 01, 2024 at 11:32 AM

GS

“ *Gregg S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ruth G. Martin Norman.*

**Gregg S.** - March 01, 2024 at 09:35 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Ruth G. Martin Norman.*



March 01, 2024 at 09:35 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruth G. Martin Norman.*



March 01, 2024 at 09:29 AM



“ *Prayers for comfort and peace for all the family*



**Doug&Malinda Cannaday** - March 01, 2024 at 09:10 AM



“ *John And Wendy Reedy lit a candle in memory of Ruth G. Martin Norman*



**John and Wendy Reedy** - March 01, 2024 at 08:21 AM

WD

“ Wanda Deskins lit a candle in memory of Ruth G. Martin Norman



Wanda Deskins - March 01, 2024 at 12:02 AM

GP

“ Greg and Jutta Pering planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ruth G. Martin Norman.

Greg and Jutta Pering - February 29, 2024 at 08:56 PM

GP

“ Greg and Jutta Pering purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Ruth G. Martin Norman.



Greg and Jutta Pering - February 29, 2024 at 08:56 PM

DH

“ I knew Ruth was a sweetheart always the friendliest person around. She will be missed. □

Debbie Hunsaker - February 29, 2024 at 08:01 PM

BL

“ *Brenda And Henry Lawson lit a candle in memory of Ruth G. Martin Norman*



**Brenda and Henry Lawson** - February 29, 2024 at 07:53 PM

RF

“ *Rick Ferrell lit a candle in memory of Ruth G. Martin Norman*



**Rick Ferrell** - February 29, 2024 at 06:22 PM



“ *TonyanEdgar Wicks lit a candle in memory of Ruth G. Martin Norman*



**TonyanEdgar Wicks** - February 29, 2024 at 05:58 PM

BB

“ *Ruth was like a member of our family and we loved her dearly. We have many cherished memories of her kindness towards us. Her beautiful smile and laughter will remain in our memories. Our deepest condolences to Rebecca, Beth, and all the family and friends.*

**Brenda Cruise Boulos and Refaat Boulos** - February 29, 2024 at 05:17 PM

BJ

“ Ruth was a lifelong friend and first cousin. She had the sweetest spirit and the strongest faith of anyone I knew. In our younger years, she shared her beautiful voice for many special occasions. She will be missed by everyone who knew her.

*Bettie Crawford Jessee*

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**Betty Crawford Jessee** - February 29, 2024 at 05:14 PM

SG

“ My last memory of Ruth is the joyous celebration of her 90th birthday, only a few weeks ago. She was thrilled again and again by each friend as they entered the room. I secretly kept my gaze on her, enjoying her laughter and unending smile. Ruth was truly one of a kind. She will be missed.  
My prayers are for Beth, Rebecca and the rest of her family. May God comfort you as only he can. I love all of you.

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**Shelia Cline Gibson** - February 29, 2024 at 04:41 PM

MW

“ I remember Ruth as a lovely, friendly Christian woman. Thoughts and prayers of comfort and peace for all of the family.  
*Martha (Hankins) Worsham*

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**Martha Hankins Worsham** - February 29, 2024 at 04:19 PM

SA

“ Susan Altizer lit a candle in memory of Ruth  
*G. Norman*



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**Susan Altizer** - February 29, 2024 at 04:14 PM

DA

“ *Dickie/ Altizer lit a candle in memory of Ruth G. Norman*



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**Dickie/ Susan Altizer** - February 29, 2024 at 04:13 PM

SD

*Hughie and Shirley are so sorry to hear about Ruth*

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**shirley davis.** - February 29, 2024 at 09:28 PM

RS

*Rebecca, I am so sorry for the loss of your mom. I just learned of her passing. I remember her fondly. I hope you and your family are well.*

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**Russell Shepherd** - December 09, 2025 at 10:25 PM