

Edna Rawls McDowell, of Fuquay-Varina, passed away after a lengthy illness on Sunday, May 25, 2008, at Dunn Rehabilitation and Nursing Center in Dunn.

She was predeceased by her parents, Marshall and Mary Rawls; brothers, Wilson and Kermit; and sisters, Beatrice, Annie, and Christine Rawls Puryear.

She was born in the Rawls community (Fuquay-Varina) and graduated from Lafayette High School.

Edna's loves were her family, home, church, nature and wildlife. She was very spiritual and held leadership roles in children's and women's ministry programs of the United Methodist churches she was a member of throughout her life. She was a member of Fuquay-Varina United Methodist Church.

She leaves to cherish her memory, her husband of 61 years, Frank McDowell Sr., formerly of Macon County; devoted sons, Howard McDowell (Elizabeth) and Phillip McDowell (Jan); grandchildren, Ryan, Sara, Ian, and Sophie; and siblings Henry and Mattie Rawls, and Edie Rawls Isaacs.

Visitation and a memorial service in celebration of her life will be held at 4:30 p.m., on Sunday, June 1, at Fuquay-Varina United Methodist Church, 100 S. Judd Parkway SE, Fuquay-Varina, N.C.

Burial will be held in Otto.

The family wishes to honor her pleasures and special love of birds by requesting that gifts be made to The National Audubon Society, 225 Varick St., 7th Floor Dept W, New York, NY 10014, or online at www.audubon.org.

Williford Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Online condolences are available by visiting www.willifordfuneralhome.com.

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