



Mrs. Martha W. Pruitt

July 9, 1948 - January 1, 2024

Beloved mother, grandmother, sister and friend, Martha W. Pruitt died on January 1, 2024 in Seneca, South Carolina. Born July 9, 1948 in Wichita, Kansas, daughter of William Lee and Ethel Wilson. Martha is survived by her children: Rhett Pruitt (Valentijn) Hoff, Missoula, MT; Nicole Lopez-Pruitt, Fairfax, VA; Joshua (Alison) Pruitt, Seneca, SC; Sally Pruitt (Nick) Wackym, Charleston, SC; and Tom Pruitt, Charlotte, NC. Martha also had nine grandchildren: Michael, David and Peter Pruitt of Charlotte, NC; Henry and Sietze Hoff of Missoula, MT; Paloma, Maria, and Jim Lopez-Pruitt of Fairfax, VA; and Jack Henry Pruitt of Seneca, SC. She is also survived by her sisters Kathy Wilson (Ian) Leslie and Rosemary Wilson (Peter) Sloggatt.

Martha was predeceased in 2011 by the love of her life, Dr. James R. Pruitt, to whom she was married for forty years. Martha held a Criminal Justice degree from Tri-County Tech, and spent many years in the county justice system working tirelessly for her clients. She was also a Guardian Ad Litem, advocating for the best interests of children involved in court cases. Prior to that, she was the assistant to Dr. Rufus Guthrie, Chair of the Clemson University Biology department.

Though she had rewarding careers, Martha will be remembered most vividly as the center of her family's life and the center of the community that gathered around the Pruitt family. She was warm, witty, kind, beautiful, unflappable and

always welcoming. Jim would sit at the kitchen table telling stories and greeting guests, and Martha would be keeping the conversation going and everybody fed. (And the counters wiped, of course.) Martha's abundant warmth also extended to her large circle of friends, with whom she shared so many happy years and made so many memories.

Martha loved beauty and she loved adventure, without pretense. She was equally as excited by a thrift store, a trip to the Canadian Rockies, or the sight of a Carolina wren--and nothing delighted her heart more than a trip down an unexplored back road with a to-go container of wine.

She loved birds, babies, and unwanted animals; Martha volunteered with the Oconee Humane Society for many years, and no animal was ever too motley to be brought home and loved.

Martha's essential nature was loving and nurturing, and she showered that on everyone who came within her sphere. Many people have called since her passing to share the influence she had on their lives, for which the family is very grateful.

Those of us lucky enough to love and share our lives with Martha will never forget her warmth, her wit, and her bravery, which was especially evident during the last years. She faced her illness with fortitude and courage, never falling into self-pity and never losing hope. We are grateful that she was able to remain in her home for so long thanks to the presence and help of her son Joshua and his wife Alison. The family also extends their thanks to Martha's caregivers and to the staff at Cottingham Hospice House.

Visitation will be from 11am-1pm on Friday, January 5th at Davenport Funeral Home, 311 S. Highway 11, West Union. Memorial donations may be made to organizations close to Martha's heart: The South Carolina Botanical Gardens: 150 Discovery Lane, Clemson, SC 29634, Oconee County Humane Society:

1925 Sandifer Blvd., Seneca, SC 29678-0910, The Chattooga Conservancy:
867 Chattooga Ridge Road, Mt. Rest, SC 29664, The Collins Children's
Home: 110 Collins Home Drive, PO BOX 745, Seneca, SC 29679, or charity
of your choice.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 5. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Davenport Funeral Home
311 S Highway 11
West Union, SC 29696
(864) 638-3611
davenportfhome@gmail.com
<https://www.davenportfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Davenport Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Martha W. Pruitt*



Davenport Funeral Home - January 05, 2024 at 09:22 AM



“ *Martha was a fine lady who loved her family and community. I'm blessed to have known her. Praying for comfort for the family. Elaine Pruitt Herlihy*

Elaine Herlihy - January 10, 2024 at 10:39 AM

DB

“ *Donna Bradley lit a candle in memory of Martha Pruitt*



Donna Sanders Bradley - January 07, 2024 at 09:29 PM

MS

“ Mott as she was known by most will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers are with Rhett, Nikki, Josh, Tommy and Elaine during their time of loss. She is now with the love of her life...Big Jim. My love to each and everyone of you, today and always..
Mandie Stephens



Mandie Stephens - January 06, 2024 at 11:48 PM

GB

“ Jim was a great friend and medical colleague of mine all the way back to my Citadel days. I remember when he and Martha got married.. They were a loving couple who always made you feel welcome. She was a great lady and a great contributor to the community. She will be missed just as Jim was missed when he passed.

George Bruce - January 05, 2024 at 07:12 PM

RM

“ Rhonda Morgan lit a candle in memory of Martha Pruitt



Rhonda Morgan - January 05, 2024 at 04:16 PM

HM

“ Martha was a dear friend of mine and so was Dr Pruitt. He and my Dad were such good friends, he even flew me and Betty Pinion to Columbia for medical meeting. Martha will surely be missed. Helen Martin



Helen Martin - January 05, 2024 at 08:31 AM

CB

“ Dr Pruitt will be screaming for joy when they see eachother i loved him and her so much. I remember playing at the house in clemson with the kids and always seeing Jim and Martha smiling and being affectionate. Im so happy they are together again. Praise Jesus. Her soul is The Lords.

Chip Bruce - January 05, 2024 at 07:14 AM

ET

“ A toast to your flavored coffees you introduced me to when we worked together,
to our mutual love of birds and to all the hot water we got into in our attempts to
“Save the Males”!

Evelyn Teague - January 05, 2024 at 01:27 AM

PH

“ I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this sad time.



Patricia Holcombe - January 04, 2024 at 06:15 PM

KH

“ *Karen Harmon lit a candle in memory of Martha Pruitt*



Karen Harmon - January 04, 2024 at 05:26 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Martha W. Pruitt.*



January 04, 2024 at 05:14 PM

AR

“ *While it is sad to know that we will not see Martha's happy face around our community, it has to make us smile to know she is with the love of her life, her beloved Jim. Martha has left a great legacy of love for her beloved family and friends. She and Jim were a special friends and volunteers to Collins Children's Home. We are grateful for her kindnesses. Martha loved many other children as a dedicated guardian ad litem. A life well lived. Sending prayers for he family as they celebrate her life.*

Anne Rackley - January 04, 2024 at 03:49 PM



“ *A Full Life was purchased for the family of Mrs. Martha W. Pruitt.*



January 04, 2024 at 02:14 PM



“ *Sue Bosworth and Karan Kyzer planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Martha W. Pruitt.*

Sue Bosworth and Karan Kyzer - January 04, 2024 at 02:14 PM



“ *Steve Debbie Morehead lit a candle in memory of Martha Pruitt*



Steve and Debbie Morehead - January 04, 2024 at 01:19 PM



“ *Tom Pruitt, & Kimmie, Mike, David, Peter planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Martha W. Pruitt.*

Tom Pruitt, & Kimmie, Mike, David, Peter - January 04, 2024 at 12:40 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Martha W. Pruitt.*



January 04, 2024 at 12:40 PM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Mrs. Martha W. Pruitt.*



January 04, 2024 at 11:25 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mrs. Martha W. Pruitt.*



January 04, 2024 at 10:59 AM



“ Martha will be so missed! I was always so excited when she could find the time to join Mary Bowman and me on a hike to one of Oconee County's many waterfalls. She always had her binoculars so she could bird watch. One of our funniest hikes was on the Blue Ridge Tunnel Trail. As we approached the middle tunnel entrance, a turkey flew up from a nest and scared us to death!!! After we recovered, of course, Martha had those binoculars up tracking the bird. Never a dull moment with Martha!!!! Dear Martha, thanks for the memories. You will me missed greatly!



Debbie Davis - January 04, 2024 at 10:57 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mrs. Martha W. Pruitt.



January 04, 2024 at 10:42 AM



“ A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mrs. Martha W. Pruitt.

January 04, 2024 at 10:36 AM

SA

“ *Sherry Abbott lit a candle in memory of Martha Pruitt* ”



Sherry Abbott - January 04, 2024 at 10:10 AM