



EDNA FORTNER MELVIN

June 3, 1938 - May 23, 2022

PERRY –

Edna Fortner Melvin, passed away peacefully on Monday, May 23, 2022, just days before her 84th birthday. All services will be held on Wednesday, June 1, 2022, at First Baptist Church of Perry. Visitation will be from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. followed by the Funeral at 11:00 a.m. with Reverend Jamie Powell officiating. Burial will be later the same day in Andersonville National Cemetery at 2:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests consideration of memorial donations to Watson-Hunt Funeral Home to help with the funeral expenses or First Baptist Church of Perry, 1101 Main Street, Perry, GA 31069.

Edna was born in Henderson, North Carolina, to the late Paul and Maude Higgins Fortner. Edna married Jewel Monroe “Mel” Melvin, and the couple lived in California where Mel worked at Edwards Air Force Base for a number of years. When his job with Civil Service transferred him in 1981 to Robins Air Force Base, the couple moved to Perry, Georgia. They loved to travel and see the country, so they welcomed an opportunity to live in the South. When they traveled from Savannah to Maine and back by train, Edna was thrilled to visit all of the exciting places they stopped along the way. She went to college later in life and earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Dietary Management from Auburn University. Edna was the Dietary Manager for Summerhill Senior Living Community where she spent twenty years preparing various menus and meals specifically for patients’ various nutritional needs. She also worked at Church Home for the Aged for five years, after which time she finally decided to retire. After her retirement, Edna and Monroe opened and operated Perry Café where they grew to know and love many of the local patrons as well as met many travelers from across the country who stopped off I-75 for a home-cooked meal. She was a member of First Baptist Church of Perry and the Sunday School Class and loved her church family. Edna was an avid golfer and enjoyed golf trips, tournaments, and vacations. She was a long-time active member of the Ladies’ Golf Association at Perry Country Club. The many years of golfing allowed her to make three Holes-in-One; she was so proud of those.

Edna was preceded in death by her parents; her sister, Peggy Burris; her daughter,

Maggie Costello; her son, John Thomas “Tom” Costello; and her beloved husband of thirty-one years, Jewel Monroe “Mel” Melvin.

Left to cherish the memories of Edna are her loving and devoted daughter, Sharon Hoisington (Robin “Rob” Hartley) of Perry; her stepsons, Sean Melvin of San Diego, California, and Kevin Melvin of Phoenix, Arizona; her grandchildren, Matt Hoisington of Warner Robins, Michael Costello of Orlando, Florida, Nathaniel Costello (Crystal) of Byron, R.J. Costello of Jasper, Florida, and Clayton Hartley (Stephanie); and eighteen great-grandchildren.

Condolences for the family may be left in the online guestbook at www.watsonhunt.com. Watson-Hunt Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Andersonville National Cemetery

496 Cemetery Road
Andersonville, GA 31711

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 1. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church - Perry
1105 Main Street
Perry, GA 31069

Funeral

JUN 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church - Perry
1105 Main Street
Perry, GA 31069

Burial

JUN 1. 2:00 PM (ET)

Andersonville National Cemetery
496 Cemetery Road
Andersonville, GA 31711

Tribute Wall

AM

“ *Mrs. Melvin was so gracious when she would allow us to use her water for the flower bed at the entrance of our neighborhood. She lived right across the road from the bed and told me we could use it anytime! We would visit a few minutes many times.*

Ann Moore

Ann Moore - June 14 at 07:40 AM

JC

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Judy Crowe - May 31 at 01:14 PM

GL

“ *I always considered Edna to be a very special friend. We enjoyed phone chats many times and would usually pray together on the phone. There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that Edna is now in the very presence of God and is experiencing fullness of joy. I'm quite certain she heard the Lord say to her, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant!" I will surely miss her. Gretta Long*

Gretta Long - May 30 at 07:38 PM