



Laurel Jewel Brown Ellis

August 7, 1915 - August 18, 2018

Laurel Jewel Brown Ellis, died August 18, 2018, having celebrated her 103rd birthday on August 7. She was born August 7, 1915, the third of nine children of William Paul Brown and Georgia Holt Brown. She graduated Wynne High School at age 15, earned a teaching license from Arkansas State College at Jonesboro, and taught in a one-room school in the Jolly-Ellis Community and was a substitute for Wynne Public Schools for over 30 years. In 1935, she married her late husband, Berger Rivers Ellis, and they raised their three children, Riley Paul Ellis, Ira Berger Ellis, and Gloria Jewel Ellis Thomas on their rice and soybean farm. She has been blessed with nine grandchildren, twenty great-grandchildren, and seven great-great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Ellis excelled as a homemaker, excellent cook, seamstress, and role model. She and her husband Berger were instrumental in building the Ellis Chapel Church, where she taught the adult Sunday School class into her 90's. She was active in the local Home Demonstration Club, and served as a District Director for Arkansas. Later she worked in a children's nutrition program through the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service for fourteen years.

Mrs. Ellis loved to keep journals and read. Every day she wrote about her events of the day, studied her bible and read three to four books a week from the library.

A five-time cancer survivor, Mrs. Ellis remained an inspiration to others with her strong faith and positive attitude, and was a very special blessing to all her family, friends and community.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband of fifty-six years Berger, her son Ira and her daughter-in-law, Barbara Ann Davis Ellis and her siblings Carson Lee Brown, William Paul Brown, Doyl E. Brown, Beryl Thomas, Mildred Bostic and Doris Kerksieck.

She is survived by son, Riley Paul Ellis; daughter, Gloria Jewel Ellis Thomas; daughter-in-law, Diana Ellis; grandchildren Donna (Pete IV) Imboden; Robin Ellis; Lori (Alan) Taggart; Merikay (Watty) Campbell; Paul (Dallas) Ellis; Stephanie (Michael) Stevens; Phil (Donna) Ellis; Chris (Lisa) Ellis; and Tony (Amanda) Ellis; great-grandchildren Pete (Cara), Ali, Harrell, Lyle, Beau, Kade, Tori, Hayden, Clinen, Riley, Parker, Tucker, Tyler, Zachary, Aundrea, Madelyn, Caleb, Chelsea, Cole and Sydney; great-great-grandchildren Ava, Jayden, Monroe, Addlee, Ellis, Aubrey, Wheeler and Whitley; and siblings Richard (Imogene) Brown and Nina Spencer.

Visitation will be held on Monday, August 20, 2018 from 6 to 8 PM at Kernodle Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, August 21, 2018 at 10 AM with burial in Ellis Chapel Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to Ellis Chapel Methodist Church, Ellis Chapel Cemetery or Cross County Library.

Cemetery Details

Ellis Chapel Cemetery

Ar-193 & Ar-284
Wynne, AR

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 20. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Kernodle Funeral Home
315-325 E. Union Avenue
Wynne, AR 72396
(870) 238-2323
kernodlefuneralhome@gmail.com
<https://www.kernodlefh.com/>

Funeral service

AUG 21. 10:00 AM (CT)

Kernodle Funeral Home
315-325 E. Union Avenue
Wynne, AR 72396
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Tribute Wall

GS

“ I just wanted to express our family's condolences on the passing of Ms Laurel. She was truly a remarkable lady whose long life wife as testament to her faith and her love of family, friends, and her community. I enjoyed many stories and remembrances she had shared with her family and they shared with others. I have grown up knowing all of the extended Brown and Ellis families as far back as I remember and Ms Laurel held a special place as an elder of the family and a beacon of her faith to both family and the Jolly Ellis community. I regret not communicating our family's condolences sooner but I know you have all had a great many people expressing their thoughts and condolences because she had touched many lives through out Cross County. Our family's prayers are with you all as you remember and celebrate the extraordinary life of a very special lady. Grace and peace to you all.

*Greg & Alisa Spence and family
Sharon Spence Langley and family*

Greg Spence - September 09, 2018 at 02:29 PM

VB

“ I did not know about this until today. i am praying for all of you. I have so many memories of Mrs Laurel as a kid. She was such a strong christain woman whos influence brought so many people to the Lord including me.

vickie frazier bryant - August 23, 2018 at 11:03 PM

TB

“ *Laurel was always strong in her faith and encouraged me to continue in the ministry. She was a very broadminded woman who stayed current in thinking and attitude. Her family is blessed.* ”



terrie bunnell - August 22, 2018 at 04:11 PM

SS

“ *So sorry we can't attend the service. We are on a 23 day Riverboat trip. Mrs. Ellis was one of my favorite people in the world and memories of her will always be with me. Love, Sandra and Donald* ”

sandra smith - August 21, 2018 at 10:20 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Laurel Jewel Brown Ellis.* ”



August 21, 2018 at 08:27 AM

BL

“ *Barbara Lawrence lit a candle in memory of Laurel Jewel Brown Ellis* ”



Barbara Lawrence - August 20, 2018 at 03:04 PM

BL

“ To the Family of Laurel Ellis, I have known Mrs. Ellis for at least 35 years, she was such a nice lady and helped myself and my family out a lot. I love her and will miss her as I know you will too, She was so very proud of her family, and talked about you often. My children and I know there are no words to ease your pain, so we are offering a silent prayer that the Lord will draw you close to Him and comfort you the the tender way that only He can do at this time. With Sincere Sympathy and Loving concern, Barbara Lawrence & Family, Ray, Kathy, Larry & Tracie, my grandchildren & also my 6 great-grandchildren

Barbara Lawrence - August 20, 2018 at 03:02 PM

JC

“ What a blessing to have had this wonderful lady standing with your family all these years. She touched so many and each life was better because of her. Uncle Hugh and I send our love and prayers for your family. What a beautiful, beautiful witness for our Lord, Jesus. Love,
Aunt Judi, Uncle Hugh

Judi Campbell - August 20, 2018 at 01:11 PM

CM

“ Gloria, your Mom was one of the kindest, warmest people on the planet—and those chocolate pies were the bomb!!
My children and I send our prayers and hugs to you and your family.

Love you, sweetie!

Counts ❤️❤️❤️

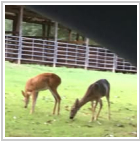
counts morton - August 20, 2018 at 12:59 PM

CH

“ I will miss Aunt Laurel. She was like my second mom to me. Memories of church,, 4-H, community trips together. Family reunions, and yes I remember she was there when i needed a shoulder to cry on. I am so sorry that I can not be there today to say good by.



Charlie - August 20, 2018 at 08:02 AM



“ I have a lot of fond memories of growing up around Mrs. Laurel, she was grandmother to all of that was raised up in Jolly Ellis. She will be greatly missed by all that had the honor of knowing her

Charles Owens - August 20, 2018 at 07:25 AM

SO

“ So sorry to hear of her passing. She will be SO missed. I believe her mother was the sister of my grandfather, Floyd Sullenger Holt.

Susan Holt Oguin - August 20, 2018 at 01:28 AM

MB

“ Marice Clayton Brown Boardman lit a candle in memory of Laurel Jewel Brown Ellis



Marice Clayton Brown Boardman - August 20, 2018 at 12:38 AM

EB

“ *Eldridge Brawner lit a candle in memory of Laurel Jewel Brown Ellis*



Eldridge Brawner - August 19, 2018 at 10:24 PM

SE

“ *Sorry to hear about your mother. She will be greatly missed by everyone. She was a sweet, special lady.*

Sandra Ellis - August 19, 2018 at 08:00 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Laurel Jewel Brown Ellis.*



August 19, 2018 at 04:36 PM