



Betty Jean Wilson

November 4, 1934 - March 11, 2026

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Betty Jean Wilson, who left us peacefully on March 11, 2026, at the age of 91. Born on November 4, 1934, in Eure, North Carolina, Betty lived a life full of love, hard work, and community service.

At the age of seven, Betty moved with her family to Pasco County, Florida, before later relocating to Palatka, Florida, when she was 15. It was here that her life took a fortuitous turn when she met William Paul "Red" Wilson through mutual friends, Billy and Jeanette. Their blind date blossomed into a beautiful love story that culminated in marriage on October 1, 1954. Together, they raised four children and worked tirelessly on their family farm.

In addition to her dedication to agriculture, Betty made significant contributions to her community. She worked at Flagler Hospital and was a trailblazer as one of Florida's first female EMTs and a volunteer firefighter at Fire Station 13 in Riverdale, where she became the first female Fire Chief in the State of Florida. Betty was well known and loved by her community and was a longtime member of First Baptist Church in Hastings and the Order of the Eastern Star.

Betty cherished her time spent in the mountains of Newland, North Carolina, where she and Red and their family created countless cherished memories

together.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph & Thelma Lang, her husband, William Paul "Red" Wilson, her son, Scott Evan Wilson, sisters, Mary Sanderson, Joyce Chester, Dute Phillips and a brother, Joseph Thomas Lang, Jr. She is survived by sons, Thomas "Tommy" Wilson and his wife Christine, Paul Wilson and his wife Roxanne; daughter, Lynn Harris, all of St. Augustine; 15 grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren and a host of family and friends who will miss her dearly.

A celebration of Betty's life will take place at 10:00 am on Tuesday, on Tuesday, March 17, 2026 at First Baptist Church Hastings with Pasto Ben D'Amico officiating. Those unable to attend can view the live-stream by going to: <https://iframe.dacast.com/live/2a7a09ae1c0559a83ef537e05e6a14a6/0d926f14-3fd3-923f-c556-1f0bb777106f> . Interment will follow at Pellicer Creek Cemetery. A visitation will be held from 5 to 7 pm on Monday, March 16, 2026 at St. Johns Family Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in Betty's memory to First Baptist Church of Hastings.

Betty Jean Wilson will be remembered for her unwavering love for her family, her commitment to her community, and her pioneering spirit. Her legacy will continue to inspire those whose lives she touched.

St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Pellicer Creek Cemetery

CR 204
Hastings, FL

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 16. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

St. Johns Family Funeral Home
385 SR 207
St. Augustine, FL 32084
(904) 824-1625
<https://www.stjohnsfamilyfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

MAR 17. 10:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Hastings
109 N. Main Street
Hastings, FL 32145
<http://firstbaptisthastings.cloversites.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *St. Johns Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Betty Jean Wilson*



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - March 16 at 02:32 PM

JP

“ *I was related to Aunt Betty through marriage. No one could ask for a more gentle, kind, caring lady. Although my marriage ended in divorce, Aunt Betty always treated me as family. With her living in Florida and me in New York State, we were able to be kept updated on "things" through our many telephone conversations. She was a exceptionally amazing lady. She will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her. Jo Ann Pastor-Clement*

Jo Ann Pastor-Clement - April 01 at 12:29 PM

DP

“ *Betty is my aunt. I wish I had known her better but 1500 miles separated us unfortunately. A kinder sweeter person I never knew. She introduced me to grits for which I'm thankful. She has left us but has joined the great cloud of witnesses. Soli Deo Gloria!*

Don pastor - April 01 at 07:42 AM

BW

“ *Brady and Toni Winslow purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Betty Jean Wilson.*



Brady and Toni Winslow - March 17 at 10:05 AM

NS

“ *Ms Betty was a sweet, kind lady. She always greeted everyone with a smile. She will be missed by the many who knew her. Our deep condolences to her family.*
Neil and Pam Stevens

Neil and Pam Stevens - March 17 at 09:59 AM



“ *2 files added to the album Life Tributes*



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - March 16 at 02:02 PM

DC

“ *Daniel, Amy, Ben, and Sara Corey purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Betty Jean Wilson.*



Daniel, Amy, Ben, and Sara Corey - March 16 at 12:43 PM



“ 50 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - March 15 at 09:41 AM

LM

“ *My Aunt Jean was a legend! One of the first female EMT's and THE first female fire chief in the state of Florida! But to me, she was my Gramma's baby sister. And she was always there! I loved running down to her house and farm then back to Gramma's as a kiddo. When my dad and I took a canoe/camping trip down the Suwannee River she bugged my gramma daily to see if dad had called because I wanted to be picked up yet (I made it the whole trip!) When I was leaving for a month long singing tour she and Aunt Mary had to come with Gramma to see me off.*

When my Gramma died almost 22 years ago, she never tried to be a replacement, but she loved my daddy and his brothers and sister like they were her own, and us like we were her granddaughters. She celebrated our weddings, our children and our lives. She was sharp as a tack and would barely let anyone do anything for her. She had a sneaky way about her and a cheeky little grin. She lived a life FULL of purpose, adventure and her Faith was always her cornerstone. I know there was some major dancing in Heaven when she got there, oh how she loved to dance!

My dream of a multi-generational homestead was born in part from seeing and experiencing her property my whole life! My great Granny lived behind her home before she died. She allowed my Gramma to live on her property down the road, and Uncle Tommy was right next door. The community knew and loved her as Ms. Betty, but we were the only ones that got to call her Aunt Jean. She will be missed, loved, and cherished for many years to come!

Leah Phillips Mallace - March 15 at 07:30 AM

JF

“ ..I have known Ms Betty for several years, from the farming when my dad knew Mr Red. Scott & I got close when he came from St Joe to St Augustine High School. Miss Betty will be missed & loved...



Jeannie Fulkerson-Richards - March 14 at 08:03 PM

AF

“ And Betty's COA Bus Family purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Betty Jean Wilson.



And Betty's COA Bus Family - March 14 at 06:22 PM

KG

“ I met Ms Betty when I started at first Baptist Church Hastings every Sunday morning she would bring in the bulletin and always shared a hug with grace she had JESUS light all around her prayers for the family and our church family she will be truly missed

Kim greene - March 14 at 06:17 PM

DW

“ Oh the many happy times we had Thank you Lord for her life and she blessed others Well and faithful servant . Jesus will welcome her and receive the best hug ever . I love you Ms Betty . Condolences to her families that she loved and talked about all the time .

Diane A Ward - March 14 at 12:55 PM

BS

“ I’m so sorry to hear the passing of a beautiful woman ,every time I saw her we had some great talks. Her and I had a lot in common having same middle name and both of us 91 with birthdays in November and both born in 1934.I will miss her. I send my deepest condolences to all the Family.God bless you all.

Beverly Jean Schlemmer - March 13 at 09:22 PM

SR

Tommy & Chris. I’m so sorry to hear of Mrs. Wilson’s passing. I always enjoyed visiting with her at the farm and in the office. She will be missed!!

Steve Register

Steve Register - March 13 at 10:10 PM

GW

I was so sorry to hear that Ms Betty had passed away that morning. I just sat and cried. I think her family and friends felt the same way. She was a remarkable woman and had done so many things in her life. I think her family was what she was most proud of. I know she loved Jesus with all her heart and is now with him. She will definitely be missed by everyone who knew her I know my daughter and I will miss her smile and her hugs (they were always so tight and lasted so long). I always enjoyed talking to her and listening to her tell me things she had done in her life. She accomplished so many things. Prayers for all her family at this time.

Gail Wishard - March 14 at 09:40 AM