



Mr. Rhea Rivers Farthing

February 24, 1928 - February 4, 2015

Mr. Rhea Rivers Farthing, born February 24, 1928 and a native of Boone, NC passed away at 5am on February 4, 2015 at Halcyon Hospice in Atlanta, GA. Mr. Farthing and Florence, his wife of 62 years, spent over 30 years as educators in Dade County Schools in Miami, FL. He earned his undergraduate and graduate degree at Appalachian State University and was a proud Alumnus. His great joy was returning to Boone each summer. After retirement, he and his wife lived in Boone most of the time and spent the winter in Deerfield Beach, FL. He and Florence moved to Roswell, GA in December 2014 to be close to their daughter, Beckie.

Mr. Farthing was the epitome of a true southern gentleman and a WWII veteran. He was a peacemaker and was always thinking of the comfort and convenience of everyone he encountered. He maintained a keen sense of humor all his days. His two daughters and 9 grandchildren fondly remember the family get-togethers with classical music playing in the background, picture taking, bird watching, nature walks in the Boone area and stopping to listen to Paul Harvey on the radio. He was an avid football fan of ASU and the Carolina Panthers.

Mr. Farthing was the son of Edward Grey Farthing and Ora Pennell Farthing and was predeceased by his siblings Edward Grey Farthing Jr., Cecil Farthing, Louise Farthing Miller, Mildred Farthing Wright and Bruce Farthing. He is survived by his wife, Florence Messick Farthing, daughters and sons-in-law Beth Rogers (Michael) of Cherryville and Calabash, NC; Beckie Parker

(Danny) of Roswell, GA; grandchildren Jennifer Rogers Philbeck (Michael) of Cherryville, NC; Meredith Rogers Edmister (Matt) of Raleigh, NC; Laura Rogers and fiancé Adam Massey of Lutz, FL; Dillon Rogers of Charlotte, NC; Joel Parker (Ifat) of Tel Aviv, Israel; Sharon Parker and fiancé Andrew Nackashi of Lewisburg, WV; Brian Parker of Washington, D.C.; Neal Parker (Deborah) of Marietta, GA; David Parker (Caroline) of Athens, GA, and sister-in-law Carolyn Farthing of Boone, NC. His great grandchildren are Gracie Jackson, Hunter Jackson, Madison Philbeck, Lani Philbeck, Kinslee Philbeck, Mara Edmister, Ari Wald Parker, Eitan Wald Parker, Elianna Wald Parker, Amelia Parker, Claire Parker, Emma Parker, Dmitri Parker, Damon Parker, Eleanor Parker and Emmanuelle Parker. Numerous nieces and nephews also survive him.

A Memorial Service will be held at the First Baptist Church of Boone on Saturday February 7th at 3pm. The family will receive friends at the church prior to the service 2:00 - 2:45. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the "Rise Up" campaign at the First Baptist Church of Boone.

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Rhea Rivers Farthing*

October 08, 2022 at 11:37 AM



“ *I will never forget the excellent teacher I had for the 4th and 6th grades at Old Town School. Mr. Farthing was without equal.*

Charlie M. White

Charlie M. White - August 30, 2020 at 03:58 PM



“ *We all share great memories of you, rest in peace Mr Farthing*

Dr Raul Monzon - April 24, 2015 at 04:33 PM



“ *My prayers to Mr. farthing and his family. He was a well known figure at SMSH. Thank God I was never sent to his office.*

Rudy Gil - March 18, 2015 at 05:01 PM



“ *Mr Farthing was the school leader that could be counted on....period,
He was available and kind even to a kooky musician kid like me. He was always supportive. He will be remembered.*

AI Muzaurieta SMSH 1975 - February 12, 2015 at 09:42 PM

MV

“ May you rest in peace, thank you for the hard work, the 70's were tough years.

maria del rosario vicente - February 12, 2015 at 06:03 PM

 Julia
Newell

“ I (luckily) never had to be sent to Mr, Farthing for any issue, and I know that a lot of students gave him a hard time most of the time in the 70's...but I have great memories of my high school years and he was a big part of that time in my life. R.I.P. Mr. Farthing

Julia Newell - February 11, 2015 at 12:53 AM

JH

“ Rest in Peace Mr. Farthing. Thank you for the memories in my High School years. One of the BEST. Prayers and condolences to your Family and Friends. Cobra Family will always remember you. Janice Herndon. '75

Janice Herndon - February 10, 2015 at 05:35 PM

CR

“ Mr. Farthing was our Asst Principal at South Miami High in the mid 1970's.
We gave him a hard time then. As I got older I had the utmost respect for him and the role he played in my development as an adult. So Sorry to hear of his passing. My Prayers to His Family and Friends for your loss. Mr.Rhea Fathing, I sincerely apologize for being a jerky teenager you and Dr. Burchell had to deal with. "RIP" old Friend!

Cobra's Rule

Chris Rutherford, LMT Cobra 1976

Chris Rutherford - February 10, 2015 at 05:05 PM

DO

“ My condolences to the Farthing family. I had the privilege of working with Mr. Farthing at South Miami Sr. High. He was always very professional and supportive of the teacher. May he rest in peace.

Dee Oakley - February 09, 2015 at 09:11 AM

PW

“ I would like to offer my condolences to the Farthing family and also share a comforting scriptural promise that GOD is a refuge and strength in times of distress.(Psalms 46:1)

P. Watts - February 07, 2015 at 12:32 PM

JF

“ Rhea was a Good Uncle --My Father Bruce Farthing would drop me off in Boone NC at summer time , so he could have a vacation from me --LOL Rhea and All the Family took me in and I remember a lot of hard work on the farm and Great Times . The Best times was when the Family would break out the Croquet Kit and Play --There was no mercy given among the Brothers , Sisters , Husbands , Wife's and kids . I can still see Rhea and Family laughing as balls where hit and chase down the hill . He will be Miss , but His Loving Spirit will Always be there .

Jim Farthing - February 06, 2015 at 11:17 AM

LN

Yes, we all in the 70's gave him a hard time. We were kids and foolish. He was a great Asst Principal at South Miami High. My sincere condolences to the Farthing family. As a mother of 4 and grandmother of 15 I have learned to trust God and know we will meet in heaven one day ! Rest in eternal peace until we meet again !

Lourdes Baez Nance - February 12, 2015 at 02:42 PM

LH

RIP in Mr. Farthing you will be missed. Peace to your family and friends. I agree he was a great asset to South Miami High. Never had to be sent to him, but he was always friendly to the students. Many will miss you.

Lucy Miraya Hage - February 12, 2015 at 03:10 PM

EL

Mr Farthing was a great figure at South Miami Senior High. I remember seeing him riding his bike to work each day. Looking back, I see a very kind man. Rest in Peace Mr Farthing <3

elizabeth - February 26, 2015 at 07:32 PM