



Rachel Lefler Whittington

DEC 16, 1944 - APR 19, 2025



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Rachel Lefler Whittington

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Rachel Lefler Whittington, aged 80, passed away peacefully while held by her family on April 19, 2025. She was born December 16, 1944, the only child of Ulysses and Zona Lefler in Albemarle NC.

Rachel graduated from Lenoir-Rhyne College (now University) in 1967. While there she met her special love, Howard Whittington, whom she married following his graduation in 1968. Howard and Rachel enjoyed a wonderful and fulfilling marriage of over 53 years prior to his passing in 2021.

Rachel taught all levels of mathematics at South Stanly High School for 30 years. While she loved teaching different areas of mathematics, her favorite was always geometry. One of her favorite activities each year was teaching students how to make Moravian Stars. Former students were always coming up to her telling her how they had loved her class.

They shared how they continued to display their Moravian Star years later. After being taught how to cross-stitch by a cousin, Rachel continued to stitch for over 50 years learning various forms of cross-stitch. Beautiful pieces of art she created continue to be displayed in the homes of family and friends. She gifted pieces to churches where she was a member.

As a long-time member of regional and national stitching guilds, she enjoyed traveling to various stitching events to both share her knowledge and learn from others. Rachel did not always need a pattern, often creating her own. She became a designer and created her own project winning two first place ribbons in a competition at one of the national events.

One blue ribbon was for the design and another for the quality of the stitching of the same piece. Rachel was a long-time member of First Lutheran Church in Albemarle, where she served as a Sunday school teacher and a member of Lutheran Women's Group. After moving to be closer to family, she then became a member of First Lutheran Church in Greensboro.



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While there, she became active in Face Out. In addition to her parents, Rachel was preceded in death by her son Chad Whittington, and husband Howard Whittington. She is survived by her son Russell Whittington of Greensboro, NC and daughter Kendra Whittington of Greensboro, NC.

Graveside service will be held at 11 am Saturday, May 3, 2025 at Stanly Gardens of Memory in Albemarle, NC followed by Memorial service at 3 pm at First Lutheran Church in Greensboro, NC with Rev. Michael Dickson presiding. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting memorials be made to Out of the Garden Project at www.outofthegardenproject.org who provides food and other assistance for children in need.

Stanly Funeral Home in Albemarle, NC is assisting the family.




Events

Rachel Lefler Whittington

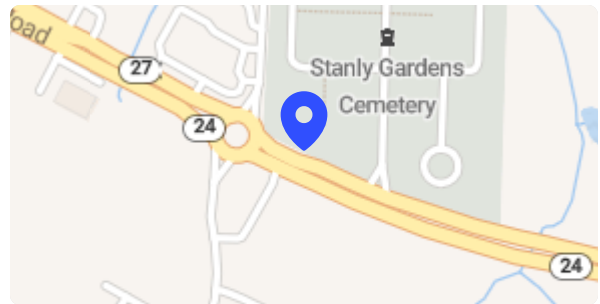
DEC 16, 1944 - APR 19, 2025

Graveside Service

 **Saturday**, May 3, 2025


 11:00 AM ET

 **Stanly Gardens of Memory**
2001 E Main St., Albemarle NC 28001

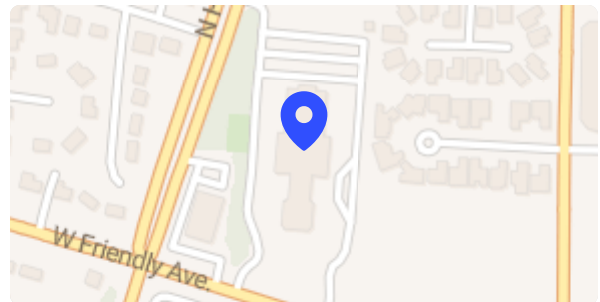


Memorial Service

 **Saturday**, May 3, 2025

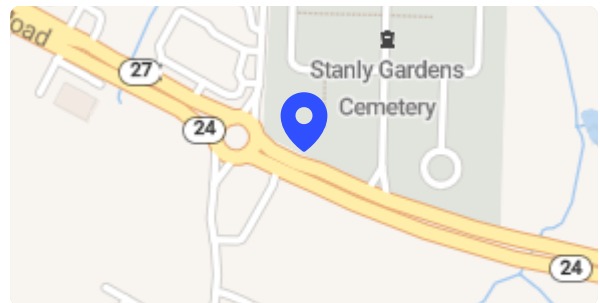
 3:00 PM ET

 **First Lutheran Church Greensboro**
3600 W Friendly Ave., Greensboro NC 27410



Cemetery Details

 **Stanly Gardens of Memory**
2001 E Main St., Albemarle NC 28001





Tribute Wall

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ME

Melissa lit a candle in honor of Rachel.

Sending thoughts and prayers to Russell and Kendra. You mother welcomed me when I moved here with open arms. My son enjoyed spending time with your parents when he was little. She will be missed. Love Melissa

May 3 at 6:00 AM



AN

Ann lit a candle in honor of Rachel.

Mrs Whittington was my Algebra teacher. She was a very good teacher which helped us students to prepare for growing up. I sure did enjoy her.

April 26 at 7:13 AM



TH

Tony Harper lit a candle in honor of Rachel.

Mrs. Whittington was my Algebra I teacher during my freshman year at South in 1969-70. She was an outstanding teacher who expected the very best from all her students. I greatly enjoyed her class. Praying for her family during this difficult time.

April 24 at 3:07 PM



MP

Mike Poplin posted:

Of all the teachers I had at South, Mrs. Whittington did as much to shape me as any. I have often thought of her over the 49 years since I was last at South, even just last week. Very caring, always tried to get the best from every student. Sad to read this but happy also, to know she is in a better place. Prayers for her family for their loss. One amazing lady who has remained in my thoughts for 50 plus years now. Mike Poplin

April 23 at 4:39 PM

CP

Carole Poplin lit a candle in honor of Rachel.

My deepest sympathy to Russell and Kendra. Your mom and dad were colleagues and friends for many years at SSHS. My best to you in the days and years ahead.

April 23 at 3:02 PM





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FP

Felicia Pounds sent a Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses to the Whittington family.

April 23 at 8:48 AM



FP

Felicia Pounds planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Rachel.

April 23 at 8:48 AM



DF

David And Sarah Fisher lit a candle in honor of Rachel.

April 23 at 3:41 AM



KH

Kristi Hedrick posted:

Mr. and Mrs. Whittington are both special to me and my decision to be a teacher. I loved geometry because of Mrs Whittington despite my dislike of math otherwise. I loved the Moravian star project and the Christmas tree we decorated in her classroom. It's why I have students make English ornaments yearly for my own classroom tree. My classroom just happens to be right next door to the very classroom Mrs. Whittington taught me math in. I will also retire with over 30 years at South Stanly - due impart to her impact as a teacher on my life. My condolences to her family, but please know her impact is still far-reaching today.

April 22 at 12:29 PM

RF

Renee Farrell posted:

My thoughts and prayers and with Kendra and her family. I will always have fond memories of Mrs. Whittington.

April 22 at 10:56 AM



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Brian Whittington posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time. Love Brian and Roberta.

April 22 at 9:54 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Rachel by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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