



## Sylvia S. Hutchinson

June 29, 1934 - August 5, 2011

Hutchinson, Mrs. Sylvia Simpson, 77, of Big Stone Gap, VA, loving wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, departed this mortal life for her heavenly home in the wee hours of August 5, 2011, at her home.

The majority of her life was spent as a resident of Big Stone Gap, and she was a professional teacher. She earned her Bachelors' degree from Knoxville College where she was a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, and her Masters' degree from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. She retired from Wise County Public Schools after 34 years of devoting her life and skills to children.

She was a life-long, devoted member of Mount Hermon Presbyterian Church where she worked in the Missionary Society and served as Elder and choir member. She was a troop leader of Girl Scout Lone Troop Number 1, the first Girl Scout Troop in Big Stone Gap. She was also a member of the Wise County Education Association, the Virginia Education Association, and the National Education Association. Sylvia was an excellent homemaker and care-giver to her father-in-law, her mother, and two of her aunts.

Mrs. Hutchinson, the daughter of the late John Steward Simpson, Jr., and Florence Morris Simpson, is survived by her husband of 49 years, Edward R. Hutchinson, Sr; two daughters, Karen H. Sanders of Montgomery, Alabama, and Kim R. Harkness and husband Mark of Acworth, Georgia; two sons, Edward R. Hutchinson, Jr., and wife Lana of Kingsport, Tennessee, and Christopher S. Hutchinson and wife April Dawn of Big Stone Gap, Virginia; twelve grandchildren, Kanika Hutchinson, Keith Hutchinson, Kia Sanders, Mark Harkness II, Kayla Harkness, Derek Harkness, Martika Kyte (Josh), Edward Hutchinson III, Sierra Hutchinson, Skylar Hutchinson, Savannah Hutchinson and Rachel Thompson; two step grandchildren, J. C. Oaks (Heather) and Charlie Oaks; two great-grandchildren, Christian Oaks and Christian Glenn; a host of cousins and in-laws; and a multitude of friends.

The family will receive visitors and friends on Friday, August 12, 2011, from 11:00 am to

1:00pm at Holding Funeral Home (17 E. 3rd St., N) in Big Stone Gap.

The funeral service will be conducted at 1:00 p.m. on Friday in the funeral home chapel with Pastor Anthony Barnette officiating.

Interment will follow the service at Oakview Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Kids Central, Post Office Box 661, Norton, Virginia 24273.

To view the obituary and registry on-line, please visit [www.holdingfuneralhome.com](http://www.holdingfuneralhome.com).

Holding Funeral Home is honored to serve the Hutchinson family.

# Comments

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“ I'm almost 10 yrs late finding Mrs. Hutchinson's obituary, but with this week being "Teacher Appreciation Week", she is the first person that came to my mind. She was my 1st grade teacher; I'm now 33 yrs old, but I've always credited her for my love of reading & especially writing. She also taught me how to believe in myself & to not second-guess myself. She always told me that effort is what matters the most. After almost 30 yrs since 1st grade, I still think of her whenever it's "Teacher Appreciation Week" – and, when asked who my favorite teacher was or which teacher impacted my life the most, I've always thought of her first. Over a quarter of a century has passed since 1st grade, but she touched my heart so much in just that one school year that I've never forgot her. ..I'm so sorry to her family & friends for the loss of such a wonderful lady... an unforgettable person.



**Tiffany Stidham** - May 04 at 08:47 AM

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“ Sorry to hear of her passing. I still remember her from first grade, she taught me so much. Take care and my thoughts and prayer are with you.

**joy barnett** - December 10, 2013 at 08:13 AM

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“ Sorry to hear about your loss, but sounds like she had a wonderful and full life. Your whole family will be in my prayers.

**Beverly Laribo** - December 10, 2013 at 08:13 AM

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“ Hutchinson Family;

My deepest and heartfelt condolences to all of you. Know that Mrs. Sylvia is now resting comfortably in the arms of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

I, too, will miss Mrs. Sylvia. From the very first day that I met her, she treated me like a member of the family and I loved her. We don't always understand why things happen the way that they do -- but know that God doesn't make any mistakes -- and that you now have your own 'personal' angel watching over you.

May your faith sustain you and the power and presence of the Holy Spirit give you peace and comfort.

WITH MUCH LOVE

**Claudette Lewis** - December 10, 2013 at 08:13 AM

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“ Our prayers are with your family & we know that God will keep you in perfect peace.

**Larry & Marcia Carey** - December 10, 2013 at 08:13 AM

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“ Mr Hutchinson and family

I am a friend and co-worker of Karen. I am sorry for your loss. But from everything I have heard about Ms Sylvia I know she is resting in the arms of Jesus now. Karen is one of the finest women I know. I am so glad your family was with you and that you can look forward to seeing Ms Sylvia again.

May the Lord hold you and your family in the shelter of His arms.

Margaret Brantley

**Margaret Brantley** - December 10, 2013 at 08:13 AM

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“ In remembrance of Aunt Sylvia, our cousin and a very special, caring person. When we think of you, we think of kindness and gentleness. Go with God. With love and fond memories,

"Chip" and Gary Fuller

Fuller Family - December 10, 2013 at 08:13 AM

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“ Mr. Hutchinson and family, I am sorry to hear of Sylvia's passing. I pray for God's peace to be with you today and in the coming days. I have always loved and admired Sylvia. She taught me many years ago and I had never forgotten her. I enjoyed seeing her in town when I come home to VA for visits. May God Bless your family.

Endora Estridge Johnson - December 10, 2013 at 08:13 AM

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“ Remembering my beloved aunt and God-Mother, and all wonderful memories she helped bring about. There simply is just no easy way to say "goodbye", so, until we meet again. My love and my sincerest condolences to her wonderful family. This is never an easy time, and my heart is with you all and you are never far from my thoughts.  
-Drew Fuller

Drew - December 10, 2013 at 08:13 AM

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“ Mrs. Hutchinson was my first grade teacher who I thoroughly enjoyed. Although it had been sometime since I last saw her, I always enjoyed her smile when I would run in to her back home. She was a great person to know and will be missed.

Michael Galloway - December 10, 2013 at 08:13 AM

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“ Chris & Family: I cant even imagine what you and your family are going through but I just wanted to let you know that my thoughts and prayers go out to all of you.

Paula Phillips Stidham - December 10, 2013 at 08:13 AM