



## Betty Willoughby

December 10, 1942 - November 25, 2025

Betty Frances Rooks Willoughby, 82, of Milledgeville passed away Tuesday, November 25, 2025. A Celebration of Life Service will be held at a later time with details following soon.

Mrs. Betty Willoughby was born in Barrow County to the late Willie Frances Shropshire Rooks and Larry Rooks. She had lived most of her adult life in Clayton County where she was a Teacher's & Librarian Aide with the Clayton County School system. She had made her home in Milledgeville since 2005. She is predeceased by her granddaughter, Sara Willoughby.

Mrs. Betty Willoughby is survived by her husband, William "Sonny" Willoughby of Milledgeville; sons, Dr. William Anthony "Tony" Willoughby (Lindsey Willoughby) of Milledgeville and David Andrew "Andy" Willoughby (Janel Willoughby) of McDonald, TN; grandchildren, Laura Frances Willoughby, Ashley Willoughby, Stephanie Willoughby, David Willoughby and Katie Willoughby; great grandchildren, Levi Willoughby and Millie Willoughby; sisters, Kathy Conway and Judy Donahoo; brothers, Keith Rooks and Larry Rooks, Jr.

She had a gift for making life beautiful in simple, meaningful ways. In her earlier years, she devoted herself to raising her two boys while working as a Teacher's &

Librarian Aide, where children adored her gentle nature and the joy she brought into the library. She had a special love for her teddy bears, often dressing them in charming costumes that delighted both kids and adults alike. Her grandchildren treasured the handmade Birthday and Christmas cards she created for each of them. Her home was filled with the warmth of her painted ceramics and the crafts made by Sonny. Betty adored and cherished her grandchildren and great grandchildren. She loved to cook, often filling the kitchen with the comforting smells of her favorite recipes. Above all, she devoted her life to caring for her husband of 63 years, standing beside him with patience, loyalty, and love. Her gentle spirit will continue to live on in the hearts of all who knew her. In lieu of flowers, please donate to Alex's Lemonade Stand or St. Jude's Children's Hospital

# Tribute Wall

SP

“ Oh, how I wish I had had the pleasure of knowing this wonderful woman.

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**Sandra Jones Prosser** - December 01, 2025 at 12:06 PM

JM

“ Mu deepest condolences to the Willoughby family on the passing of your wife, mother, grandmother and sister. Betty was a classmate of mine at Winder-Barrow . I knew her as a kind, friendly and extremely intelligent young lady. It seems she used her talents and intellect well during her adult life to influence and enrich the lives of numerous children. She used her talents well.  
May she rest in Peace in the arms of our Lord and Savior. And may the family be comforted by the precious memories of a life well lived.

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**Janis White McMillan** - November 28, 2025 at 08:56 PM

SS

“ Deepest sympathy to the Willoughby family. Sonny and Betty were the sweetest couple. I always visited Betty 1-2 times in the library. Mainly to laugh, sign up for reading to class and talking UGA and Dale Patterson who was good friends with Andy. Betty was so proud of Tony and his journey of becoming a doctor. She also was proud of Andy going to GT and working with Frito.

*I bought so much of Betty's things she made! They were well crafted and made. I loved the labour of love put into each piece. Betty was comical, she never met a stranger, and she always helped anyone if she could. She was a humble and very genuine person. She was so creative when she showed me the plan of her & Sonny building a Magic School Bus with seats/chairs that fit on the bus. It was so cute when constructed and put it in the library! - window made of plexiglass. OMG! the first time classes got into the bus, their mouths dropped! They were so excited like Christmas. I sat on the bus too with my students and listened to the read aloud. I told her I wanted to buy a bus when I became a Media Specialist! I was sold! She always was in her element when reading to students and checking their comprehension when reading a book. Halloween she even dressed up like a witch to read a funny story to them.*

*Betty was also and excellent cook! I would love to see her cookbook! She would always tell me to swing by the office or lounge to try what she brought in. Betty and Sonny were the type of people you just normally love. They even invited me and a teacher friend into their house a few times to play canasta. She always fixed great food for the card game. Betty Willoughby was someone who was a wife, a mother, a grandmother, great grandmother, a colleague, and a great friend. She was a "special" blessing to all who knew her! I am thankful that Betty was a part of my life! Susan Singletary-Cook*

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**Susan Singletary-Cook** - November 28, 2025 at 02:16 AM