

Mrs. Madeliene Fletcher Murphy

Mrs. Madeliene Fletcher Murphy, 87, of Spartanburg, SC, formerly of Ansonville, passed away Thursday night, August 24, 2017 in Spartanburg.

A graveside service was held on Monday morning, August 28, 2017, at Red Hill Baptist Church Cemetery with Rev. Rodney Clements officiating.

Mrs. Murphy was born February 5, 1930, in Rose Hill, Virginia to the late Emmett Lee and Annie Myrtle Thompson Fletcher. After graduating from Flatwoods High School she went to college on a scholarship to Milligan College. She graduated from Tennessee Tech and later got an advanced degree in Special Education from UNC-Pembroke. She was a retired Special Education Teacher for Anson County Schools.

Mrs. Murphy attended Red Hill Baptist Church, and she dedicated her life to her family. She loved embroidery, growing flowers, playing bridge and watching college basketball.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Richard Phineas Murphy, Sr.

She is survived by her children, Richard Phineas Murphy, Jr. and wife Patricia of Winston-Salem, NC, Michael Fletcher Murphy and wife Susan of Laurinburg, NC, Marlene Murphy Martin and husband Argus of Ansonville and Linda Murphy of Spartanburg, SC; grandchildren, Scarlett and Julianna Murphy, Nicholas, Miles and Lainey Murphy, Linc Martin and wife Jeania and Jason Martin and wife Erin; and great-grandchildren, Walt, Jack, Camyrn and Jase Martin.

Memorials may be made to:
Spartanburg Regional Hospice
Christian Service class at Red Hill Baptist Church
American Cancer Society

Online condolences may be made at edwardsfuneralhomes.com.

BBB and Give.org Offer Tips on Helping Texas in the Aftermath of Hurricane Harvey

Donate only to trustworthy charities, be cautious of crowd-funding efforts and "storm chasers"

The Better Business Bureau (BBB) and BBB Wise Giving Alliance are advising people to help as much as they can in the Hurricane Harvey relief efforts, but to do so with caution and make sure their donations get to the people who need it most.

"The devastation caused by Hurricane Harvey prompts us to do what we can to help as soon as possible," said H. Art Taylor, president and CEO of BBB Wise Giving Alliance (BBB's Give.org.) "but donors need to be aware of some key cautions so that their generosity will get to those in need quickly."

The National Weather Service reports that Hurricane Harvey has brought over 20 inches of rain to portions of southeast Texas and the volume of flooding is unprecedented for this area. And, another 15-25 inches of rain is anticipated in the days to come. As the impact of this storm on Texas communities is heart wrenching, many will seek to contribute to help those in need.

BBBs are already seeing crowdfunding appeals of a dubious nature, and in the days ahead expect to see "storm chasers" looking to make a quick buck off of clean-up efforts (bbb.org/storm). Consumers can report suspected scams to BBB Scam Tracker (bbb.org/scamtracker) or the Texas Attorney General's hotline (800-621-0508 or consumeremergency@nag.texas.gov).

BBB Wise Giving Alliance suggests that donors keep the following tips in mind to help avoid questionable appeals for support:

- Verify the trustworthiness of soliciting relief organizations by visiting Give.org to access free reports that specify if the charity meets the 20 BBB Standards for Charity Accountability.
- See if the charity has an on-the-ground presence in the impacted areas. Unless the charity already has staff in the affected areas, it may be difficult to bring in new aid workers to provide assistance quickly. See if the charity's website clearly describes what the charity can do to address immediate needs.
- Find out if the charity is providing direct aid or raising money for other groups. Some charities may be raising money to pass along to relief organizations. If so, you may want to consider "avoiding the middleman" and giving directly to those that have a presence in the region. Or, at a minimum, check out the ultimate recipients of these donations to see whether they are equipped to provide aid effectively.
- Be cautious about gifts of clothing, food or other in-kind donations. In-kind drives for food and clothing, while well intentioned, may not necessarily be the quickest way to help those in need – unless the organization has the staff and infrastructure to distribute such aid properly. Ask the charity about its transportation and distribution plans. Be wary of those who are not experienced in disaster relief assistance.
- Understand crowdfunding. Keep in mind that some crowdfunding sites do very little vetting of individuals who decide to post for assistance after a disaster, and it is often difficult for donors to verify the trustworthiness of crowdfunding requests for support. If you decide to contribute via crowdfunding, it is probably best to give to people who you personally know that have posted requests for assistance. For more Give.org tips on crowdfunding, check out this Wise Giving Wednesday post.
- Phases of disaster relief. Remember that every disaster has several phases – rescue, emergency relief, and recovery. Each part relies on public support and continuing funding for success. The need for donations doesn't stop when the headlines do.
- Recovery time line. For many communities, recovery will be a long-term activity that can take many months or years to accomplish, depending on the extent of the damage. Those truly concerned about helping communities bounce back will have many opportunities to help.
- Disaster planning. Although it may seem obvious, no one wants to experience a repeat performance of a disaster. Areas that work toward recovery will probably also need to develop plans to better respond to a similar storm in the future. Even those that already had measures in place can find ways to improve based on experience.

The following is a list of BBB Accredited Charities (i.e., organizations that meet the 20 BBB Standards for Charity Accountability) that are raising funds for Hurricane Harvey relief assistance. This list will be updated as additional relief efforts come to BBB WGA's attention.

American Red Cross, AmeriCares, Church World Service, Direct Relief, GlobalGiving Foundation, Humane Society of the United States, Islamic Relief USA, MAP International, Operation USA, Salvation Army, Save the Children, United Methodist Committee on Relief, and United Way of Greater Houston.

Thank You to Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center Summer Fun Day Camp Sponsors

Burnsville Recreation & Learning Center (BRLC) recently finished another Summer Fun Day Camp, and it was a roaring success. Campers enjoyed educational and fun activities along with nutritious food.

BRLC Director Carol Smith said, "This is to say thanks to all of you that made the Burnsville Summer Fun Day Camp possible. We want to recognize our generous sponsors."

The 2017 sponsors were: Lizzie and Robert Lee, Thomas Posey, Amy Jarman, Mike Vedder, Mary and Jame Hammond, Mary Thomas, James and Terri Clark, Marvin Smith, Brown Creek Animal Hospital, B&B Pest Control, Marshall and Tremenda Capel, Fountain Hill UMC, Sarah Byrd, Elsie White, Jeremy Sikes, Danny Hammond, Keetra Sturdivant, Takesha Hammond, George and Karen Edwards, Lonnie Davis, Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Rodney Johnson, Arnita Nicholas, Jewel and Carolyn Brewer, Ruth Moore, Cedar Grove Baptist Church, Thomas Brewer, Melissa Williams, James and Vanessa Kline, Harold Smith, Anson County Sheriff's Office, Danny Pearson, Alfonso Watkins, James Smith, Carol Smith, God's Word Only, Mary Staton, Rosa Brewer, Charles Helms, Steven Lear, Ronald Colston Construction, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Thomas, Rocky River Baptist Church, Thompson Business Services, and youth volunteers, Jaquavis Booker, Alton Jackson and Makayla Dockery.

Bowman Senior High School Class of 1978 Reunion

Any members of the Bowman Senior High School Class of 1978 who are interested in the upcoming 40th Class Reunion are asked to please contact any of the reunion committee members to update phone numbers, home and/or e-mail addresses. Ella M. Alexander 202-706-8643, Ethel Hall 704-465-0162, Becky Martin 704-475-0659, Teri Parsons 704-391-6569 or Joan Waring 704-465-8724.



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