



## Rhea von Lehe Ashley

July 16, 1929 - November 2, 2023

Memorial services for Rhea von Lehe Ashley will be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, at 11a.m. at St. Paul's Methodist Church, 1356 Amelia Street, Orangeburg, SC.

Burial will follow at Sunset Hill Cemetery, 500 Alta Vista Avenue, North Augusta, SC at 2:30PM.

Mrs. Ashley was born on July 16, 1929, in Walterboro, SC, to Diedreich von Lehe and Rhea Williams. She attended Walterboro High School and graduated from Wesleyan College, Macon, Georgia with a degree in Art History. She received a Masters Degree from South Carolina State College in Special Education.

Rhea was a member of St. Paul's Methodist Church where she served as a children's Bible school teacher, member of the Day Care Board, Worship Committee and a member of the Dukes Harley Circle.

Mrs. Ashley was a member of the South Carolina Historical Society, Colleton County Preservation and Historical Society, and Delta Kappa Gamma International Society for Educators. She was a member of the Palmetto Teachers Association and served on the state board.

Mrs. Ashley was a beloved third grade teacher for many years at North

Augusta Elementary School and Hammond Hills Elementary School in North Augusta. After moving to Orangeburg, she continued to teach in the Orangeburg area. She loved animals, children, her home in Walterboro and Edisto Beach deeply. With her background in art history, Mrs. Ashley had a flair for decorating and a love of beautiful art, artifacts and history. Through the years she supported, with financial contributions, her church, Oliver Gospel Mission, South Carolina ETV, and Epworth Children's Home.

Mrs. Ashley was predeceased by her husband, Joseph Ashley, her sister Valeria Williams of Augusta, Georgia, her brother, Dr. Diedreich Peterman von Lehe of Goose Creek and her parents Mr. and Mrs. Diedreich Peterman von Lehe.

Survivors include her daughter Phyllis Beasley and husband Jim Beasley of West Columbia, her son Joseph Ashley III and wife Cary Ashley of North Charleston, her sister-in-law Mrs. D. P. von Lehe of Goose Creek, granddaughters Caroline Beasley Andrews of West Columbia, Kathleen Ashley Stevens and husband Joel Stevens of North Charleston, and Sarah Rhea Ashley of Charlotte, great-grandchildren William Andrews and Etta and George Stevens, as well as nieces Ann Hill and Susan Williams of Augusta, Georgia and Ann's sons David and Tripp Haywood. She leaves behind her beloved rescued German Shepherd Dog Mocha.

Memorials may be made to Epworth Children's Home, 2900 Millwood Ave., Columbia, SC, 29205 or St. Paul's Methodist Church, 1356 Amelia St., Orangeburg, SC 29115.

Posey Funeral Directors of North Augusta is in charge of arrangements (803) 278-1181. Visit the registry at [www.poseycares.com](http://www.poseycares.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Sunset Hill Cemetery

600 Alta Vista Avenue  
North Augusta, SC

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

NOV 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul's United Methodist Church  
1356 Amelia Street  
Orangeburg, SC

## Burial

NOV 7. 2:30 PM (ET)

Sunset Hill Cemetery  
600 Alta Vista Avenue  
North Augusta, SC

# Tribute Wall

DF

“*Mrs. Ashley was my 4th grade teacher at Wade Hampton Academy in Orangeburg, SC during 1974/1975. She held my class and me to high standards and expectations, and I always held her in high esteem. It was not uncommon for me to see her around Orangeburg in the grocery store or a restaurant until most recently. I will always have fond memories of this wonderful lady. We were blessed to have had her as our teacher!*

*Danny L. Fogle (WHA Class of 1983)*

*219 Dogwood Drive*

*North, South Carolina 29112*

*danny29115@yahoo.com*

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**Danny L. Fogle** - November 07, 2023 at 04:32 PM

OJ

“*Ms von Lehe ( Ashley) was my 3rd grade teacher, her first teaching assignment I think, at N Augusta Elem. All of the boys, including me had a crush on the pretty little teacher Ms von Lehe. A group of her class made a trip to Orangeburg 4 or 5 yrs ago to meet her and her daughter Phyllis for a luncheon. Those few hours will remain in my memory bank for the rest of my days. Such a sweet, sweet lady. She said she remembered all of us by name. We were her first class so who am I to say she didn't remember each of us. Another little irony about my memory is that in Oct 1964, my job transferred me from N Augusta SC to Walterboro SC, the very same town my 3rd grade teacher was born in. The day of our meeting in Orangeburg when I found out she was born in Walterboro was followed by a long discussion about this coincidence and people we both had known. My heart goes out to the family on their loss of this very special lady. Prayers to each, Oscar Jones*

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**Oscar Jones** - November 06, 2023 at 08:56 PM

RG

“ Mrs Ashley taught my wife and me both 3rd grade. She was Miss Von Lehe, and it was her first year of teaching . A great year. She was a beautiful lady and a fun class. Rob Graybill (North Augusta)

Rob Graybill - November 06, 2023 at 04:21 PM

DR

I truly loved and admire this true Southern Woman. Perfect example of a smart, loving woman who adored her husband and children. So proud of your grandchildren. She was so supportive of the Calhoun County Museum where I worked. We have been friends for over 40 years. What a treasure she has been to everyone who had the honor to know her. Beautiful, smart head strong who was always a lady. I wish I had known she died I would have been there. She made the world a better place. I am sure she is in heaven! Debbie Roland

Debbie Roland - November 09, 2023 at 07:43 PM

BS

“ A sweet lady. She taught me. Brian Sanders.  
Atlanta, GA 404.640.2362.  
brian.atlanta@gmail.com



Brian Sanders - November 06, 2023 at 09:37 AM