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Hilda H. Coulter

Hilda Coulter Obituary

*J*une 16, 1924 - Sept. 4, 2008

Hilda H. Coulter passed away Thursday in Huntsville.

The daughter of Hiram C. and Lavada Fuller Huckaby, Mrs. Coulter was born in Phenix City on June 16, 1924, and continued to live in Russell County and Phenix City until recent years.

Her more than 60-year career as a florist began in 1940 when she joined her husband, Charles T. Coulter, in his business, which became known as Coulter's Flowers. She continued the business after his death in 1968 and was the first woman elected president of the Columbus-Phenix City Florist Association.

As a founding director and president of the Russell Betterment Association Auxiliary, Mrs. Coulter was a leader in the Phenix City Cleanup with its legacy of good government and economic progress. Her leadership of The Angry Women of Phenix City has been recognized in several national publications and recent books, by the Alabama Legislature, by the mayor of Phenix City, who presented her with a key to the city, and by the *Birmingham News*, which named her one of Alabama's Gracious Ladies.

Her interest in and love of people was reflected in her community service, including 33 years on the Columbus-Phenix City Salvation Army Advisory Board, membership in AZO, Altrusa Club, and Trinity United Methodist Church while living in Phenix City, and as a docent of Burritt on the Mountain Living History Museum, Five Points Historic District Association, Four Seasons Garden Club, and Monte Sano United Methodist Church since moving to Huntsville.

In addition to her husband and parents, Mrs. Coulter was preceded in death by one brother, Howard H. Huckaby, and infant daughter, Norma Jean Coulter.

She is survived by two daughters and sons-in-law, Ruth and Michael Bentley of Huntsville, and Charlotte and Jerry Fulgham of Ariton; five grandchildren and spouses, Judy Fulgham and Dennis Rice of Ozark, Heidi B. and Dr. John W. Karod of Rockport, Maine, Emmett J. and Brandy Fulgham of Skipperville, Beth Fulgham and Dan Rodebaugh of Newton, and Elizabeth B. and Jonathan Cunha of Tucker, Ga.; 10 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; one sister, Evelyn H. Joiner of Pensacola, Fla.; one brother and sister-in-law, the Rev. Chester A. Huckaby Sr. and Ruby W. Huckaby of Monticello, Fla.; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Monday at Vance Memorial Chapel in Phenix City with interment following at Hillside United Methodist Church Cemetery. The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday from the funeral home. A memorial service will be held at a later date in Huntsville.

Floral tributes will be accepted, or memorial contributions may be made to Monte Sano United Methodist Church Building Fund, 601 Monte Sano Blvd., Huntsville, AL 35801.



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Memories and Condolences for Hilda Coulter



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VIOLA (OAK) HOLLAND September 1, 2009

AS THIS BOOK GOES OFF LINE, I SAY AGAIN , YOUR MOTHER WOULD NEVER BE FORGOT , I THOUGHT ABOUT YOUR MOTHER THE OTHER DAY. I SAID TO MY SELF. IF MRS COULTER WAS

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Stan and Linda Karod September 18, 2008

To Ruth and Charlotte

Both of you brought Grandma Coulter into and she became a part of the whole Karod Family. We thank you for that gift. She was a truly remarkable lady.

Our thoughts are with you always.

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William Page IV September 10, 2008

I had the pleasure of meeting this courageous Southern lady when my wife interviewed her for the PBS documentary "Phenix City Confidential."

She truly was a special woman who played an important part in the cleaning up of Phenix City -- one of the classic good versus evil stories.

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Viola Holland September 10, 2008

HI RUTH AND IUDY MY NAME IS VIOLA (OAK) your mother knew me well. she share the storv

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William Thompson September 7, 2008

Mrs. Coulter meant so much to so many! She was the First Lady of Phenix City. Her Southern charm, intellect, and care for others distinguished her as a model citizen. I enjoyed sitting in the flower shop listening to her and Mrs. Britton and Mrs. Bentley's stories of the clean-up days. I firmly hold fond memories of Mrs. Coulter.

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Ray Jenkins September 7, 2008

My association with Hilda goes back for more than half a century, when I was a young reporter with the Columbus Ledger, covering Phenix City in the darkest days. In 1952 I and several of the Phenix City clean-up figures were involved in a street melee, on Fifth Avenue in front of the Elite

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She was a very courageous lady who literally put her life on the line to make her community better for future generations.

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I admired her greatly.



Patsy Grimes September 6, 2008

Ruth, Charlotte and Families, I am so sorry for your loss and these sad times. You are in my prayers. With God's help we will all get through this.

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Mary Bucy September 6, 2008

Hilda was my next door neighbor, the best neighbor I've ever had. She made me smile more times than I could count. She was a kind and gracious lady and I am proud that she thought me worthy of calling her friend. My family and I will miss her and cherish her memory always.

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Richard Short September 6, 2008

Mrs. Coulter was indeed, a true Southern Lady. Kind to all, cheerful and positive, she made you feel comfortable and at ease. Dedicated to her work, she cared for the well being of everyone. We all should embrace the same spirit.

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Jane Toney September 6, 2008

Hilda was as beautiful and gracious a lady as I have ever met. Mark, Mary, Katie, Connor and I will miss her so much. (I expect the heavenly gardens will be much improved!)

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Jane and Joel Burch September 6, 2008

Miss Hilda was such a kind and thoughtful lady. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family.

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Jeanne Howard September 6, 2008

With Sincere Sympathy in the Loss of your Love one and my Friend.
"The Lord is My Shepherd."

In memory and in celebration of someone who made this world a brighter and better plac.



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Cathy Weaver September 6, 2008

A great lady and wonderful friend to my late grandmother, Montez Hurtt. God bless you in your loss.

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Glenna Coulter September 6, 2008

Ruth and Charlotte

Don and I are sorry for your lose. We will not be able to come to the funeral. The Hurricane Gustave took our town for a hard beating and his company has been closed all week. Power has been restored and he needs to go back to work on Monday. Glenna

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J. Keith Rumph September 6, 2008

My condolences to the Coulter Family.

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emmett fulgham September 5, 2008

I just wanted to say a few words about Hilda Coulter, Let me start by saying she was my Grandmother and I love her and will miss her not being here with us but I know she is in a better place now and happy to be with my grandfather again at last! She loved her work as a florist and I

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E.J. Fulgham Jr.
Loving Grandson

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