

Ramona Ballard Hinkle!

RALEIGH, N.C.—Ramona Ballard Hinkle, 92, of Raleigh and formerly of Lincolnton, died August 18, 2026.

Born in Lincolnton on May 31, 1934, she was the daughter of Harley Adam Ballard and Lenna Brackett Ballard. Mrs. Hinkle grew up on the Rhodes-Rhyne mill village and was a member of the class of 1952 at Lincolnton High School, where she was a stand-out member of the girls' basketball team. She attended business college in Hickory and spent more than 40 years in clerical and secretarial work, including for Duke Power, from which she retired in 1999. A lifetime member of Asbury Methodist Church in Lincolnton, she and her late husband of 61 years, Dale Edson Hinkle, served the church's United Methodist Youth Fellowship (or UMYF) in the 1960's and '70's, and she also served on the pastor-parish relations committee in the 1980's. In recent years, Mrs. Hinkle had also joined St. Mark's Methodist in Raleigh.

The family will receive friends at Asbury Methodist on August 25 at 1 p.m. Funeral services will follow at the church at 2 p.m., with burial to follow in the cemetery.

In addition to her husband, she was also preceded in death by her brother, Harley Adam “Jack” Ballard Jr.; and her sisters, Louise Weaver, Joanna Barker and Betty Guffey.

She is survived by her daughter, Amy Puckett and husband Robert of Raleigh; her son, Thomas Henkel Lark and wife Julie of Mount Holly; her sister, Pat Stamey of Lincolnton; her grandson, Karl August Puckett, also of Raleigh; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Memorials may be made to:

Asbury Methodist Church

3097 Asbury Church Road

Lincolnton, N.C. 28092

Or to:

St. Mark’s United Methodist Church

4801 Six Forks Road

Raleigh, N.C. 27609.

Warlick Funeral Home of Lincolnton, N.C. is serving the Hinkle family.