



## Prudence Hilburn

March 18, 1936 - August 1, 2018

On Wednesday, August 01, 2018 Prudence Hilburn, 82, went home to be with the Lord. She passed away peacefully at Gadsden Regional Medical Center surrounded by her loving family. A celebration of life ceremony will be held on Sunday, August 05, 2018 at the Piedmont Congregational Methodist Church at 3:00 p.m. Visitation will be Saturday, August 04, 2018 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Thompson Funeral Home in Piedmont. She was preceded in death by her husband, best friend and biggest supporter, Huey; her ten year old son, Randy; her parents; and six siblings. Left to cherish the memories of a wonderful mother are her daughters, Debra Payne (Ricky), Twila Thornburg (Freddy) and Carol Ogles. She adored her six grandchildren Meagan Carter (Brandon), Jesse Thornburg (Amber), Steven Jones (Britney), Paden Thornburg (Jaree), Emily Ogles and Christi Thornburg. She has seven great grandchildren; one sister-in-law, Ann Canter; and several special nieces and nephews. She was well known as a food writer for both the Anniston Star and the Gadsden Times for close to 30 years. She was a syndicated columnist for over 24 years. She received culinary training in the South of France, where she studied with Julia Child and Simone Beck. She worked on the management staff of the former Peter Kump's New York Cooking School (now known as The Institute of Culinary Education). She worked with Barbara Kafka Associates in Manhattan, one of the country's leading restaurant consulting firms. Barbara was the Food Editor of Vogue Magazine and wrote the introduction to Prudence's A Treasury of Southern Baking cookbook. She

worked with and assisted Chef Nicholas Malgieri (former pastry chef at Windows on the World, NYC) at food demos. She was the Southern Media Spokesperson for Pillsbury Company and Domino Sugar, promoting new products. She appeared on numerous local and national television shows including the CBS Morning Show in New York City and featured nationally on a segment of CBS's "Eye on People." She was featured on two segments for the Food Network taped at her home in Piedmont. One was for their coverage of the 2003 National Chicken Cooking Contest. She was the author of 12 cookbooks, winner of over 30 cooking awards which included six time finalist in the Pillsbury Bake-Off. She taught cooking classes at Jacksonville State University, in Tuscaloosa, Alabama and several area churches. She was once selected by the Piedmont Jaycees as their Person of the Year. She was honored with a "Prudence Hilburn Day" recognition in Calhoun County and had "Prudence Hilburn Path" in Piedmont named after her. That was the road she used when walking from her childhood home to her family church. Although she was known for her culinary skills, her desire was to be remembered as a good Christian woman. Anyone who ever met her and saw her beautiful smile was well aware of her love for the Lord. She loved teaching her Faith Sunday School Class, singing with her two close friends Dean Smart and Betty Lawler and participating in all the activities at her home church. One of the many highlights of her life was getting to go to the Holy Land and be baptized in the Jordan River. Flowers will be accepted or donations may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-1905 or the Piedmont Congregational Methodist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 583 Piedmont, AL 36272. A special thanks to Cherokee Home Health and Southern Care Hospice for their loving and attentive care.

# Cemetery Details

## Highland Cemetery

Piedmont, AL 36272

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 4. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Thompson Funeral Home & Crematory  
6340 Old Piedmont-Gadsden Hwy  
Piedmont, AL 36272  
(256) 447-7113  
<https://www.thompsonfuneralhomepiedmont.com>

## Service

AUG 5. 3:00 PM (CT)

First Congregational Methodist Church  
310 Southern Avenue  
Piedmont, AL 36272

# Tribute Wall



“ Thompson Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Prudence Hilburn



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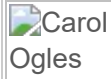
**Thompson Funeral Home** - March 30, 2020 at 12:36 PM

TP

“ Debra, Twila, & Carol , I can never express the emotions that I am feeling regarding the passing of such a beautiful person. I have had such special times with your mother one being when she asked me to go to with her to Montgomery to a Masonic Meeting where she was the guest speaker. We were in the hotel that night and we decided to raid the snack machine, you should have watched us counting coins. I also wanted to personally tell you how happy that your mom made my dear sister Mauna's life I know that God put Debra and myself together at work so this lifetime friendship would form. I will always be so thankful to your family for always keeping my beloved Mauna 's memory alive, I know and I quote “ we will meet in heaven if you get there before me I will be waiting on you as I sit with my feet in the river of life”. My love and prayers to you all of you.

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**Tonya Tierce Pike** - August 05, 2018 at 11:32 PM



Carol Ogles

*Tonya, mother so loved Mauna, as did all of us. She loved you and Mauna's family very much. Mauna brought her such happiness and cheerfulness every time they cooked and traveled together. They are certainly having a (Smokie mountain style) picnic together in Heaven! Love you ! -- Carol*

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**Carol Ogles** - August 19, 2018 at 05:43 PM

MG

“*I have so many sweet memories of my Aunt Prudence. I loved how she would give you advice and smile real big. I remember going to her house as a child playing with the girls - especially Carol. My fondest memory is when I asked her to make a dish like a local restaurant for my birthday. She made it and hers tasted so much better I couldn't order it in the restaurant anymore. I felt great pride when she wrote a review of a local pizza place in Bryant for the newspaper. The pride was the strongest when we gave the owners a copy of the article. If I remember right, it was emotional for them. Aunt Prudence you will be missed and we will continue loving you from here. Our family got another angel to join them in Heaven. I can't wait to see them all. I love you Aunt Prudence enjoy your journey.*”

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**Misty Michelle Garrett** - August 05, 2018 at 09:23 PM

MH

“*I have so many sweet memories when I think about Aunt Prudence. Her smile would light up the room when she walked in. She was so soft spoken and had the kindest words. She taught me how to cook and how to take chances when trying new things. Heath and I loved her fried green tomatoes. We always knew that we would have fun when she came to town. She was loved by so many. She will be missed tremendously. We will see you again one day. Love Always, Monica and Heath*”

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**Monica and Heath** - August 05, 2018 at 05:36 PM

MA

“ We are going to miss the beautiful, precious Aunt, she was like my Mom. she taught me To Trust in God, and believe in prayers. And always remember “I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me” she also taught me to cook, we shared many happy hours talking about recipes, sharing ideas and testing recipes. I will miss her love and guidance so much. But although my heart is breaking, I know she is so happy in Heaven With God and the people she so loved that went before her. And most of all I will see her again. I pray that God and beautiful memories will help her beautiful family that she loved so much get through the day and months to come. I love you Aunt Prudence and I will greatly miss you!

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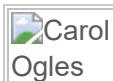
**Marcy Adams** - August 05, 2018 at 11:29 AM

WR

“ I knew Prudence and Huey and they both were god Christians. Prudence was a great cook, but what I will always remember about is her devotion to God.---Wayne Rice

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**Wayne Rice** - August 05, 2018 at 03:55 AM



Thank you so much, Mr. Rice. Mother most wanted to be remembered for her love for God.

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**Carol Ogles** - August 19, 2018 at 05:29 PM

LR

“ Our family truly loved Prudence. She made us feel so welcome at Piedmont Congregational Methodist Church. She always spoke encouraging words to our family. Love you and all your family. So glad we got to know this wonderful lady of God .

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**Linda Roe** - August 04, 2018 at 12:35 AM

DR

“ *Daylon and Lynda Brock, Jennifer Brock Rosson purchased the Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White for the family of Prudence Hilburn.*



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**Daylon and Lynda Brock, Jennifer Brock Rosson** - August 03, 2018 at 09:18 PM

TT

“ *The Gadsden Times purchased the Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers for the family of Prudence Hilburn.*



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**The Gadsden Times** - August 03, 2018 at 03:32 PM