



Sally H. Lawson

February 25, 1939 - April 22, 2026

Sally H. Lawson, 87, of Summerville, South Carolina, passed away peacefully on April 22, 2026. Born on February 25, 1939, in Columbia, Tennessee, Sally was the beloved daughter of the late John N. Hughes, Sr. and Martha Mefford.

Sally's strong character and love of learning were evident from an early age. She attended Hay Long High School in Mt. Pleasant, Tennessee, where she excelled both academically and athletically. She graduated as Salutatorian, was an active member of the Honor Society, and participated as a cheerleader and a member of the varsity basketball team. She went on to attend the College of Charleston, where she earned a degree in English, a field that reflected her lifelong passion for reading and communication.

Sally lived a life defined by devotion—to her family, her faith, and her country. She proudly served her nation as Editor of the Navy Shipyard newspaper, *The Bow Hook*, and later as Public Affairs Officer for Navy Charleston with the Department of Defense. In recognition of her outstanding service, she was awarded the Meritorious Civilian Service Award.

A faithful and active member of Summerville Presbyterian Church, Sally dedicated many years to her church community. In her early years, she served as co-leader of the youth group, and in later years contributed through numerous committees and as an Elder. Her faith was a guiding force

throughout her life.

Sally was a woman of warmth, grace, and remarkable charm. She had a deep love for her family and cherished every moment spent with them. Known as a “dog and cat whisperer,” she had a special gift for connecting with animals. A voracious reader, she found joy in books and lifelong learning. Sally’s kindness and magnetic personality drew people to her, and she was truly loved by all who knew her. She carried herself with elegance and class, leaving a lasting impression wherever she went.

She is survived by her devoted husband of 42 years, Lionel Lawson; her son, Jay Nicholson (Margret); her daughter, Martha Graves (Gerry); her grandchildren, Derek, Kristin, Jack, and Anna; and four great-grandchildren. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Sally was preceded in death by her brother, John Hughes, Jr.

An inurnment will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 1, 2026, at Old White Meeting House and Cemetery, 10548 Dorchester Road, Summerville, SC 29485. A Memorial Service celebrating Sally’s life will follow at 11:00 a.m. at Summerville Presbyterian Church, 407 S. Laurel Street, Summerville, SC 29483, with a reception immediately afterward.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Hallie Hill Animal Sanctuary, 5604 New Road, Hollywood, SC 29449.

Sally’s legacy of love, faith, and service will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

Previous Events

Inurnment

MAY 1. 10:00 AM (ET)

White Church Cemetery-Summerville
10548 Dorchester Road
Summerville, SC 29485

Memorial Service

MAY 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

Summerville Presbyterian Church
407 S. Laurel Street
Summerville, SC 29483

Tribute Wall



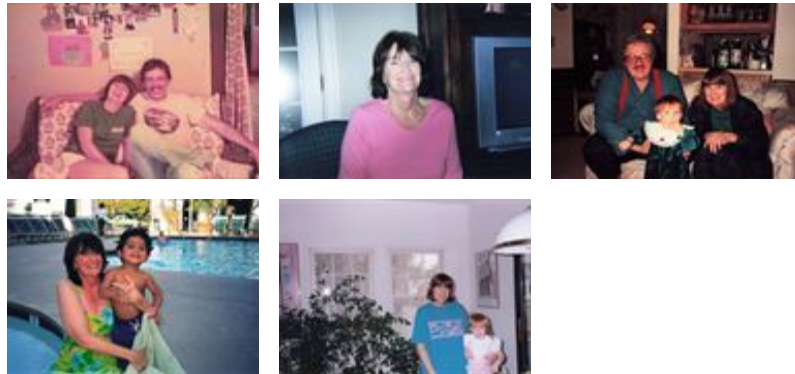
“ James A Dyal Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Sally H. Lawson



James A Dyal Funeral Home - May 01 at 04:09 PM



“ 75 files added to the album Life Tributes



James A Dyal Funeral Home - April 30 at 01:15 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Sally H. Lawson.



April 29 at 05:24 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Sally H. Lawson.

April 29 at 05:24 PM



“ Lionel, I was saddened to hear of Sally's passing. I'm so glad I got to visit with her recently and be reminded of her enduring joyful spirit! What a great pleasure it has been to have known her for the past 25 years!

Becky Hyer Woods - April 28 at 06:40 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Sally H. Lawson.



April 28 at 05:15 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Sally H. Lawson.

April 28 at 05:15 PM

EW

“ *Sally was the bright light in any room. She had an infectious smile, and always had nice things to say about people. I knew her from NWS - she was a grand Public Affairs Officer who loved her work. She knew countless people of all levels of life, and treated everyone the same. Rest in peace, Sally, You did a lot of good work on this earth. Your shoes will be hard to fill....*

Emily Watts - April 24 at 05:57 PM

GB

“ *Martha, Gerri, and kids, our prayers are with you during your time of grief. Rick and Gina Burns*

Gina Burns - April 24 at 05:34 PM

ES

“ *Eugene Byers and Sally Smith purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Sally H. Lawson.*



Eugene Byers and Sally Smith - April 24 at 04:17 PM

PN

“ *Patricia N. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sally H. Lawson.*

Patricia N. - April 24 at 03:05 PM