

Isabel Heins Lawrence, a woman of faith, love, and joy, joined her Heavenly Father on December 14, 2021 at age 92. Thanks to her sons, Caregivers, and UNC Hospice, she was able to stay at home until her death.

Born in, and a lifelong resident of Sanford, North Carolina, Isabel was the only child of Edward Chandler “Tuts” Heins and Ethel Spaugh Heins. Led by her extraordinary parents, “Issie” grew up with a solid faith in God and a love of Church. She first attended First Presbyterian Church with her parents then, as a young bride, joined First Baptist Church. Later in life, Isabel became a member of St. Thomas Episcopal Church and then, still later in life, joined the “flock” at St. Thomas Anglican Church. One of Issie’s contributions, as an Anglican, was being a “Reader” at services. She was both energized and humbled by this honor.

Isabel participated in a number of diverse and notable activities in her adult life. Following is a sample of those:

- Past President of Sanford Jr. Women’s Club
- Charter Member and Past President of Pickwick Papers Literary Club
- Member of First Baptist Church from 1947-2012. Taught Sunday School for more than 50 years and served on numerous committees
- Founding Member of St. Francis Anglican Church, Sanford, NC
- Past Trustee NC Museum of History
- Past Trustee NC Baptist Children’s Home
- Yolk Fellow for 20 years (Sanford Advancement Center) and past Chairman of the local group

- Past Lee County Library Trustee, involved in creation of the new Library
- On the Endor Furnace Restoration Committee
- One of the Temple Theatre founders, On Board of Trustees
- Past Member of the Old Footlight Players
- Forty Year Member of Brush ad Palette Club, Best in Show Award
- Member of St. Thomas Episcopal Church
- A Steven Minister at St. Thomas Episcopal Church
- Member of Dogwood Garden Club
- Involved in the flourishing of The Lee County Boys and Girls Club
- One of the Founders/Trustee of TLC Home

As an adult, Isabel and Bill had personal involvement in helping to make Sanford and Lee County a better place to live and prosper. Amazingly, this giving spirit seemed to be available to all of those in need that they encountered.

“Issie’s” energy and kindness were the trademark of a woman who loved God, family, and life. This zest was shared by her loving Husband of 64 years, William (Bill) Lawrence. Bill preceded her in death in 2010 at age 82.

Bill and Issie were quite a team, both at work and at play. With several lifelong friends, they made adventure a signature part of their lives. Traveling extensively, they loved to bring home memories, mementoes for others, and comical stories of the mishaps they encountered.

For example, Issie once prepared gourmet meals “aboard” a writhing sailboat using only meager supplies.

Isabel and Bill adored their four “Boys” and their families. She expressed this sentiment when she said, “My biggest JOY is my family”. The four “Boys” and families are:

William Gerrard Lawrence and Wife **Margaretta Brinn Lawrence**, their Daughter **Margaretta (Meg) Terry** and Husband **Geordan Terry**, and Daughter **Maggie**; **Edward Thaddeus Lawrence** and Wife **Juli Anne Callis Lawrence**, Son **Thaddeus** and Wife **Sarah**, Grandsons **Ethan** and **Weston**, Daughter **Isabelle**; **Robert Pender Lawrence** and wife **Jan McPherson Lawrence**, Son **Nicholas (deceased)**, Daughter **Ashley**, Grandchildren **Francesca**, **Easton**, and **Aubrey**; **Richard Heins Lawrence** and wife **Dianne**, Daughter **Gracelee**.

Also greatly loved by Isabel and Bill is Great Niece **Carrie Meghan Howland** and numerous Nieces and Nephews, Cousins, and Friends.

Sincere appreciation goes to the kind and loving Caregivers (**Karen**, **Kelly**, **Tabatha**, **Sue** and **Rosa**) and to **UNC Hospice** who all made an extraordinary effort to keep Isabel cared-for in multiple ways over the last 16 months. There could not have been a better team to “see her through to Glory”.

A Service of Thanksgiving to God for the Life of **Isabel Heins Lawrence** will be held this Saturday, 12/18, 4:30PM, at **Buffalo Cemetery**, 1130 Fire Tower Road, Sanford, NC 27330. Presiding will be **Father Craig Lister** and **Father Matthew Garrison**, Pastors at **St. Francis Anglican Church**, Sanford, NC.

Donations to honor the life of **Sarah Isabel Heins Lawrence** can be sent to: **St. Francis Anglican Church**
1089 Wilkins Drive
Sanford, NC 27330

<https://www.sfapnc.org>

Or to:

Girls and Boys Club of Lee County

1414 Bragg Street

Sanford, NC 27330

<https://centralcarolinaclubs.org>