

Sara Braden

Sara Caroline McKinley Braden, wife of the late Dr. Charles H. Braden of the Physics department, died at 93, on March 5, 2017, after a twelve-year battle with Alzheimer's.



Sara was born on December 4, 1923 in Carroll County, Georgia, to Leon Bartow McKinley and Mattie Cleo North McKinley. She was predeceased by three older siblings, Mary Ellen McKinley Dukes Cooley, Obediah Edwin McKinley, and Nellie Sue McKinley Weaver. She grew up on a farm during the Great Depression. She moved to Atlanta after high school, working as a clerk and living with two of her first cousins. She was married on September 7, 1952.

Sara was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She served her family faithfully, always placing their needs above her own. All who knew her described her as one of the sweetest and kindest women they had ever known. All of her children and grandchildren agree and have each written loving tributes of her life.

She is survived by her daughter, Patsy Irene Braden Chipman and her husband Jim Chipman (Powder Springs, GA); son Jack David Braden and his wife Donna Braden (Norcross, GA); grandchildren Tiffany Chipman Fowler and her husband Jon Fowler (Johns Creek, GA), Jonathan Chipman and his wife Joanna (Marietta, GA), Jameson Chipman, Stephanie Chipman, Stephen Chipman and Benjamin Chipman; David Braden and his wife Ashley (Greenville, SC), Matthew Braden, and Laura Braden; and nine great-grandchildren.

The Tech tradition continues in the Braden family. Both children, Patsy and Jack, graduated from Georgia Tech; other graduates: son-in-law Jim Chipman, grandson-in-law, Jon Fowler, grandsons Jonathan Chipman and Jameson Chipman; Stephen Chipman is currently a civil engineering student, and Benjamin Chipman hopes to be an engineering student next year.

A graveside service was held at Floral Hills Memory Gardens in Tucker, GA on March 11, 2017.