

# The State

## West Columbia, South Carolina

Evelyn M. Earhart, 79, of West Columbia, will be private. Thompson Funeral Home of West Columbia is assisting the family. Mrs. Earhart passed away Wednesday, March 21, 2018. Born in St. Stephens, SC, she was a daughter of the late James Grady Merritt and Ruby Moody Merritt. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and sister who loved spending time with her family and friends. She enjoyed cooking, baking, shopping and Carolina football. She graduated from Berkley High School, and went on to work at the Naval Weapons Station in Charleston. Her tenure at the Naval Weapons Station was from the day it opened, until the base was closed. She was the highest ranking female civilian employee in her area at the time of her retirement. After retirement, she and her husband Fred enjoyed traveling with friends. Mrs. Earhart is survived by her loving husband of 49 years, Fred; daughter, Pamela Huxford (William ) of Lexington; son, Freddie Earhart of Moncks Corner; grandchildren, Meggan C. Huxford, William W. Huxford, III, (Erica), Erin H. Huddleston (Sam), Mekinley M. Earhart; great-grandson, William W. "Wilkes" Huxford, IV; brothers, Walter L. Merritt (Jennifer), Robert E. Merritt (Peggy). In addition to her parents, Mrs. Earhart was predeceased by her brother, James Grady Merritt. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the American Heart Association, 190 Knox Abbott Drive, # 301, Cayce, SC 29033, or the ASPCA, 121 Humane Lane, Columbia, SC 29209. Friends may sign the online guestbook at [www.thompsonsfuneral.com](http://www.thompsonsfuneral.com).