Mary Rudelle Hussey Goodwin was born and raised in Illinois. She graduated from Bloomington High School in 1929. In 1933 she married Harold Goodwin of Paxton, Illinois. They had one daughter, Damaris (Dee) Goodwin who passed away January 25, 1995.

Rudelle has been a life-long leader and volunteer. Groups benefited from her services: Wesley Methodist Church—served as President of the Women’s Society of Christian Services, taught Sunday School; joined the Woman’s Club of Bloomington/Normal and served as President 1957-59, McLean County President, and 17th District President; served the Illinois State Club as Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President, and President 1980-1982. As President of Illinois State Club, she was a member of the Board of Directors of the General Federation of Women’s Clubs International. Rudelle served on the Communication Committee of YGFWCF and was Chairman of International Relocation Committee of the International Affairs Department. Rudelle is presently a volunteer at the Property Owner and Residents Association (PORA), and a Hostess at the Visitors Center of Sun City West, Arizona.

In December, 2000, Mary Rudelle Goodwin established the M. Rudelle Goodwin Nursing Scholarship Fund for the Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University. It was Goodwin’s concern for the nursing shortage and for nursing care that led her to establish this fund.

Each candidate for the M. Rudelle Goodwin Nursing Scholarship Fund must be enrolled in good standing at Illinois State University, must have a cumulative grade point average of at least a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, must demonstrate financial need that is not addressed through state and federal funding, and must use award for educational expenses.