



Barbara Cunningham Calhoun

NOV 16, 2015



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Perry Barbara Cunningham Calhoun, 86. passed away peacefully on Monday, November 16, 2015. A visitation to celebrate her life will be held from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Sunday, November 22, 2015 at Watson-Hunt Funeral Home. A graveside service is planned for Monday, November 23 in Lincolnton, Georgia, where she will be laid to rest next to her beloved husband, John Blue. The family suggests contributions to the Church Home and Rehabilitation Center, 2470 Highway 41 north, Ft. Valley, Georgia 31030 or donor's favorite charity, Barbara Cunningham Calhoun, Mayor of Perry from 1980 through 1984, also known for her uncompromising politics and leadership style, was Perry's own "Iron Lady". She was born in Lincoln County in 1929 and was the daughter of the late Lewis Parks Cunningham, Sr. and Edna Wilkinson Cunningham. Barbara attended the Lincolnton public schools until the death of her father, when she was a senior in High School. Because of relatives in Houston County, she moved to Kathleen and graduated from Bonaire High School in 1946. After attending an advanced secretarial school in Macon, she went to work at Robins Air Force Base in 1947, and retired as a programmer with over 30 years. In 1975, Barbara ran for Perry City Council, but was not successful. She ran again for a vacated city post and was elected in 1975, serving five years. Of course, Mayor Calhoun was Perry's only female Mayor. As a true public servant, she got the job done in an honest, straight-forward and humble way. Larry Walker labeled Barbara Perry's "Iron Lady" because of her candid, straightforward, hard working, and no-nonsense type of leadership. Barbara's decision to offer "free land" to the State of Georgia was instrumental in the monies from both political bodies being put into the project. Larry also continued on his articles about Perry's Mayors, of his concern that his portrayal did not reflect the warm, fine, fun person that she was. Barbara had a long love affair with her husband, John Blue Calhoun, III, who passed away years ago. She was an active member of the Ladies Golf Association at Houston Lake Country



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Club and had lots of friends at the lake. Not content to do nothing, she was appointed a member of the Houston County Hospital Authority in 1992 and served until 2000, having been chairperson for part of that time. Barbara and John Blue, married for 56 years, who had no children, but took Barbara's deceased sister's son, Leon Watson, when he was 11, and raised him to be a fine man and citizen. She had numerous nieces and nephews and especially, Mary W. Foreman who was a loving caregiver through the last years. Barbara was preceded in death by four brothers and three sisters. Condolences may be left at watsonhunt.com



Tribute Wall

Barbara Cunningham Calhoun

TW

Tommy White posted:

Bud, Sorry to hear about Mrs. Barbara. A lot of us young fellows were lucky to grow up around Mrs. Barbara and Mr. John Blue. They always guided us in the right direction. She was a grand lady. Love you, brother.

November 28 at 8:00 PM

GB

Gayle, Frank And Brandon Borah posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Gayle, Frank and Brandon Borah Byron, Ga

November 19 at 8:00 PM

TH

The Staff Of Watson-Hunt Funeral Home posted:

Offering our deepest condolences during this difficult time.

November 18 at 8:00 PM

BB

Brandie Bolt posted:

My heart breaks to hear the news of Mrs. Calhoun passing. I had the pleasure of taking care of her when I worked at Church Home. She was such a wonderful woman and I truly enjoyed all the time I was able to spend with her. She will be missed tremendously. My thoughts and prayers are with her family at this time.

November 18 at 8:00 PM

BB

Brandie Bolt posted:

Love and miss you Mrs. Calhoun.

November 18 at 8:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

My sincere sympathies to the Calhoun Family. May God the Hearer of Prayer bring you peace and comfort during this difficult time-Isaiah 51:12

November 18 at 8:00 PM



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Jim Hickman posted:

I always enjoyed giving you golf lessons at Houston Lake you were a great student. You will be missed by so many of your friends and family

November 18 at 8:00 PM



Chrystal Wade posted:

When I worked at Summer Hill Assisted living in Perry, Georgia. I had the pleasure to help take care of Mrs. Calhoun. She was a diamond in the ruff. Truly a one of a kind lady. Not only did I help take care of her, but we became close, she was a true friend. I loved her stories of Leon growing up and the stories of her life. She was a remarkable lady that I will never forget. I am so sorry for your loss. She will never be forgotten.. I loved her and I enjoyed taking care of her.

November 17 at 8:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Barbara by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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