



Carole Hays Holland

MAR 28, 1935 - APR 3, 2020



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ROBERTA – Carole Hays Holland, 85, went Home to be with her Lord and Savior on Friday, April 3, 2020, after a brave and courageous battle with cancer. Due to the current national pandemic and the limitations placed on the number of people at gatherings, a private Graveside Service will be held for the immediate family next week in Roberta Cemetery where she will be laid to rest beside her late husband, B.W. Once the restrictions are lifted, a Service to Celebrate Carole’s Life will be held at Musella Baptist Church at a time that is appropriate and convenient for family and friends. The details of the service will be announced in a timely fashion, so everyone who loved and admired Carole can make plans to attend. Carole was born in Byron to the late Cary Franklin Hays, Jr. and the late Frances LaBelle Hobbs Hays. Her mother unexpectedly passed away shortly after giving birth to her sister, “Pannie,” when Carole was three years old. She and Pannie lived with her grandmother, Lucy “Mama Hays,” until her daddy married Susanna Hicks a few years later. When they moved to Musella with their daddy and Susanna, their family began to grow, and Carole became the oldest of five children. She graduated from Crawford County High School and went on to further her education at Georgia State College for Women (now Georgia College and State University) where she sang in the A capella Choir.

Carole married Joe Terrell Mathews, Jr., who was enlisted in the Army, and they moved to various locations that his assignments took them including Columbia, South Carolina. When he was released from the military, they returned to Roberta, and Carole continued to be a homemaker, creating a warm and inviting home for their three children. They enjoyed many years of supporting their children in their various chosen activities, and after fifteen years of marriage, as life would have it, the family divided.

Carole soon moved to Macon to start anew. She worked as a Secretary with Fickling



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and Company Realtors for several years, and after some time, Carole met and married B.W. Holland. They moved to Jacksonville, Florida, where they lived for fourteen years. She was an active member in First Baptist Church of Jacksonville. Upon returning to Roberta, Carole continued her love for ministering to others and Musella Baptist Church by serving through the years as a Sunday School Teacher, a Visitation/Outreach Chairman, and a Bible Study Teacher – having been one of the founding members of the Susanna Hays Bible Study Group. She was recently honored for her 25 years of service and devotion to Musella Baptist Church with a special ceremony and presentation. Her lifetime love of her family and devotion to prayer has been ever present during her recent journey and battle with cancer. She knew God had a plan for her life, especially her exit from this earth, as she had led several people to the Lord in the last year.

Carole was preceded in death by her mother, Frances Hobbs Hays; her father, Cary F. Hays, Jr.; her mother, Susanna Hicks Hays; the father of her children, Joe Terrell “Bubba” Mathews, Jr.; her husband, B.W. Holland; her step-daughter, Pamela Holland; and a sister, Frances “Pannie” Hays Markley Trexler.

Left to cherish the memories they made with Carole are her loving and devoted children, Joe T. Mathews, III (Nancy) of Roberta; Dottie Hester (Jimmy) and Maria McConnell (Rob), of Ft. Valley; seven grandchildren, Jason Mathews (Julia), Josh Mathews (Sunni), Lee Hester (Laci), Shelley Sloan (Allen), Robert McConnell, III (Taylor), Emma McConnell, and Madison McConnell; and nine great-grandchildren. Also surviving are her siblings, Buddy Hays (Pat) of Musella, Lynn Davis of Macon, and Shelley Turner (Tom) of Marshallville; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

Condolences for the family may be left in the online guestbook at www.watsonhunt.com. Watson-Hunt Funeral Home has been entrusted with the arrangements.



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DS

David & Darcy Sutton posted:

So sorry for your loss. May God wrap His arms of strength and comfort around you all. Praying for your family.

April 8 at 4:48 PM

AS

Ashley posted:

Mrs. Carole, you're a true angel. Always looking out for me as a child and continued when I had children of my own. She always invited me church with her and was so kind. Praying for your family.



April 8 at 3:24 PM

LH

Lindsay Hortman posted:

The true definition of a Woman of God. Our loss, Heaven's gain.

April 8 at 9:53 AM

SH

Stephanie Hendricks posted:

Carole, was a mentor, dear friend, Sunday School teacher, did visitation together, Bible Study teacher and like a second mom to me. We had lots of memories together. We laughed, cried, prayed, and many more things together. She was very special to me. She is with Jesus and having a great time. One thing I know is that she loved her family very much. Stephanie

April 7 at 10:08 AM

LS

Lynn Shepherd posted:

Shelley, I was so sad to hear of your Grandmother's death. I remember your speaking of her with such love and admiration. Many of your greatest attributes are just like hers. My prayers are for God's peace and strength for you and your family.

April 7 at 6:10 AM

CP

Christine Powers posted:

Carole was a wonderful friend to me. I will miss our talks. I love you Carole....until we meet again...❤️

April 6 at 6:13 PM



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KA

Kim Anglin posted:

Joe and Nancy, Having only known you for a few months I could see your love for your mother each time you mentioned her. I think I would have liked her had I had the chance to get to know her. You and your family will be in my thoughts and prayers during this time of sadness, but thank goodness she knew where she was going and you can celebrate the day you will be joined with her again. Much love and prayer, Kim Anglin

April 6 at 11:55 AM

TM

Tammy Minton posted:

Mrs. Carole was such an excellent example of what service to God should look like. She knew her Bible well and was always ready with a kind word of encouragement and scripture for the situation at hand. She will be missed here on earth, but she will not miss this world. She is rejoicing to see the hope that she saw dimly on earth now seen clearly in Heaven!

April 4 at 11:22 AM

BB

Brenda Brown posted:

So sorry to hear about Carole. She was a beautiful person inside out and helped so many people. She, continuously, worked for the Lord and I admired her so much. Winston and I are praying for the family to be comforted. We loved Carole!

April 3 at 4:09 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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