



Gail Anderson

March 14, 1942 - November 14, 2006

ANDERSON, GAIL KNIGHT, age 64, of Morris, died November 14, 2006. She was born on March 14, 1942 to J. Harold and Vera Knight in Gadsden, Alabama. She came to know the Lord as a young lady in Walnut Park Baptist Church where she later served in numerous capacities including church pianist. Her love of people and music became infectious at an early age when she began her piano teaching career at 14 years old. A natural leader that brought about followers with great dedication, she carried herself with amazing character and respect without a need to demand it whatsoever. Gail led in her community as well as her alma mater of Emma Sansom High School where she served as a secretary of the Goldentone Choir, editor of the yearbook, president of the Alpha-Tri-Hi-Y Club, Vice President of the National Honor Society, member of the Future Business Leaders of America, member of Sigma Gamma, as well as elected to the most honorable position of Miss Emma Sansom. Upon graduation, she chose to attend Samford University in Birmingham by the guidance of Rev. Willis Kelly. During her 4 years at Samford, she took her leadership to another level by finding time to work full time at Sears and the University, while also attending class as a full time student. On the weekends she served as pianist for various churches in the Birmingham area such as McElwain Baptist Church and Dawson Memorial Baptist Church. After graduating from Samford, she took a brief job with EBSCO until receiving word from Jefferson County Board of Education of the opportunity to teach business education for Warrior High School. She was

hired by the late Allison Barnwell and served as a BOE teacher at Warrior for over 5 years. She now was able to incorporate her love of people again as she came out from behind a desk and entered into the world of education. Her love of young people was an irreplaceable asset that was coveted by any administrator and her students knew that she bore a great love for their well being. She carried this into her other teaching occupations as well as when she took a position at Mortimer Jordan High School as a BOE teacher, as a music teacher for Bryan Elementary, and as a substitute teacher for Bryan. During the 1967-68 school year, Gail was introduced to a local man by one of her students on a blind date. Three months later, she wed this man named Richard Anderson and began a family that would grow to be larger than their small home could ever hold. Together they soon joined Enon Baptist Church in Morris, Alabama and immediately Gail plugged into numerous venues of service for the church and for the association. Over the next 40 years, she served as pianist, WMU director for the church, WMU director for the North Jefferson association, Missions Friends teacher, Sunday School teacher for all ages, Youth director, various committee positions, choir member, and the first and only female music director for the church for eleven years. Her love of the Lord was contagious and she poured it onto her family, her church family, and her community. After teaching in her home for several years, Gail opened a studio beside their home in Morris in 1987 for instructing piano, guitar and voice lessons. When she retired from this position in March, 2006, she had been in the business of instructing and influencing others through music for 50 years. The number of students and families that have experienced the love of "Miss Gail" over the years are far too expansive to put to a figure. She was a pillar of faith, hope, and love for many people and earnestly believed that "(we) can do all things through Christ which strengthens (us)." Through her first bout with cancer in 2003, she maintained her position as a music teacher throughout the entire process. She defeated it with extreme faith and gave credit to our Lord for her victory. Unfortunately, in March, 2006, the cancer returned to plaque her body once more and she again gave credit to the Lord

for all of the glorious things that has happened thus far in her life and for the illness. She believed in God's divine plan and knew that He would bring her to a place of healing eventually, whether here on this earth or at home in Heaven with Him. Gail left this world to sing, play the piano, walk and not grow weary ever again. She left a legacy that will never be forgotten and a community that has been transformed. Her survivors are her devoted husband, Richard Anderson of Morris, AL; her adoring son, Jason Anderson of Birmingham, AL; her faithful daughter, Jodi Anderson (Jeremy) Powell of Fort Worth, TX; her precious granddaughter, Emma Powell of Fort Worth, TX; her parents, Harold and Vera Knight of Gadsden, AL; her sister, Ann Knight (Levan) Parker of Hoover, AL; and her expansive extended family including anyone who fell into her embrace. Gail and family would like to extend a note of great appreciation to Dr. Stephen Beck along with the entire staff of the St. Vincent's Bruno's Cancer Center. The family also would like to thank Wiregrass Hospice for their devotion and detailed care of our most beloved patient. For condolences, you may contribute flowers or make donations to the building fund at Enon Baptist Church. Funeral service is Friday, November 17, 2006 at 1:00 p.m. at Enon Baptist Church with burial to follow at Haig-Rogers. Visitation is this evening from 6-8:00 p.m. at the funeral home. Morgan's @ Gardendale directing.

Tribute Wall

MM

“ *Mrs. Powell I'm so sorry about your mother passing away. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time.*
Sincerely, Matthew Mullins

Matthew Mullins - November 22, 2006 at 01:51 PM

AW

“ *We are sorry for your loss and you are in our thought and prayers.*

Amy Williamson - November 22, 2006 at 11:32 AM

HP

“ *Dear Mrs. Powell, I am very sorry to hear about the passing of your mother. I am thinking of you and praying for you.*
Respectfully, Hassaan Patel.

HASSAAN PATEL - November 19, 2006 at 07:28 PM

BF

“ *Dear Jeremy, Jodi, and Anderson family... my prayers are with you during this time. May Jesus wrap His arms around you tightly and may His peace guard your mind and hearts. I love you guys. Bonnie*

Bonnie Freeman - November 18, 2006 at 10:57 PM

SB

“ *Dear Mrs. Powell, I was very sorry to hear that your mother passed away. It must be a very difficult time for you and your family. My prayers are with you. -Shree*

Shree Bose - November 17, 2006 at 02:23 PM

TT

“ *Dear Mrs. Powell,
Our family has been deeply touched by your devotion to your mother. We hope and pray that your fond memories will bring you comfort.
Our heartfelt respects to you and your family,
The Ausburns*

The Ausburns at TVS - November 17, 2006 at 11:07 AM

CP

“ *Dear sweet Jodi and family,
We love you so much and are in much prayer for you and yours. May the God of all peace guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
We praise with you the fact that we do not grieve as others, for we know that Gail was a true believer.
As friends of Jodi, we see that Gail's life is reflected in that of her precious daughter. Knowing that, she must have been an amazing woman! We will continue in prayer for you as you release her to our Lord and Savior into a beautiful perfect life with Him.
With Love and Prayers, Cody and Suzanne Potter*

Cody and Suzanne Potter - November 17, 2006 at 08:00 AM

TF

“ Dear Jody, You will miss your dear mother every day for the rest of your life. She clearly loved you, and I'm sure she believed her greatest achievement was you. Even though God gave you bittersweet time together to prepare for her heavenly journey, you could never be ready for this temporary, but painful separation from her. Celebrate her life and remember that we are promised a reunion! I cling to that thought. I will continue to pray for your family as you regroup and are daily reminded of your mother in each other's physical traits, personality quirks and overall optimism toward life. Have fun, be patient with each other, and comfort one another. This is a very tough time. We look forward to hugging you in person, but for now send love and prayers. Kathy Young

The Young Family - November 17, 2006 at 12:23 AM

AG

“ Dear Mrs. Powell, I am very sorry to hear that your mother passed away. I am constantly thinking about you and your family.

Arko Ghosh - November 16, 2006 at 10:13 PM

TT

“ Jodi,
We hold you all close in our thoughts and prayers. Please accept our condolences for your great loss. May God continue to be with you and strengthen you always.

Teresa Tigner - November 16, 2006 at 03:22 PM

BM

“ Gail Anderson

Beverly Mitchel - November 16, 2006 at 11:17 AM

DL

“ Dear Jodi, you are so far way right now so I can't hug you. It helps to know that you are there surrounded by family and friends - with all of that love though, so I know you're okay. Please remember your family and friends in Texas are also here for you. I wish I could have known your mom, but I do know what a wonderful daughter she raised so she must have been incredible. Our thoughts and prayers are with you across the miles, please call us if there is anything we can do. We miss you and we'll see you soon. Love,
Deb

Deb Lawson - November 16, 2006 at 12:28 AM

AH

“ Jodi, I am so sorry to hear about the passing of your mother. I am thinking of you and praying for you.
Love, Angel

Angel Hallock - November 15, 2006 at 09:36 PM

CB

“ Mrs. Powell, I am very sorry about the loss of your mother. May her memory be eternal.
Respectfully,
Cliffy Beasley

Cliffy Beasley - November 15, 2006 at 09:36 PM

TT

“ Dear Mrs. Powell,
We are so sad to hear of the passing of your mother. We are praying that you will find peace in the fond memories that you have of her.
Our love,
Bill, Stacy, Jessica and Mindy

The McCoy Family at TVS - November 15, 2006 at 08:49 PM

BH

“ *My prayers are with you and your family.*
Brandon Hudson

brandon hudson - November 15, 2006 at 07:52 PM

WD

“ *Mrs. Powell I am praying for you and your family. We miss you.*
Will Dorris

Will Dorris - November 15, 2006 at 07:24 PM

CS

“ *He is on His throne - in good times and bad - He is God alone. We love you all, and hurt deeply with/for you. Thank you for sharing Gail with us - through visits, stories, and pictures. We have been blessed to have you all in our lives...watching the love Richard has for Gail, her love for you guys, and her servant's heart. May this be a time of celebration of her life. May God touch you in a special way as you grieve and anticipate seeing her again.*

Clay and Kaci Skipper - November 15, 2006 at 04:10 PM

SP

“ *We love you and we are praying for you!*

Shad and Haley Pennington - November 15, 2006 at 02:41 PM

RL

“ *We lifted up the Anderson's and Powell's today as you grieve. We know that we don't grieve as those without hope, so we pray that the God of all comfort will comfort you as you go through this difficult time of loss and adjustment.*

Randal Lyle - November 15, 2006 at 11:50 AM

PM

“ Richard, Jason and Jody, Please know that my prayers are with you as you walk this path of sorrow. A loss such as this is so deep that it's difficult to bear. But God is good, He is merciful and gives strength and comfort, sufficient for each day. Gail was truly an inspiration to us all, an angel in earthly form, and will never be forgotten. We can rest in the promises that we'll see her again one day.

Pat McCool - November 15, 2006 at 11:42 AM

JM

“ Gail was such a wonderful, Christian woman. No matter what was going on in her life, she would always offer a smile and hug in your hard times.

Gail, thank you for all the blessings you've given to me and so many others through the years. Thank you for the gift of music and praise. Thank you for the Sunday dinners. Thank you for your patience. Thank you for your shopping trips we went on. Thank you for the many nights spent at your house.

But mostly, thank you for the love you showed to me in my time of confusion. If it weren't for you, this Christian would have had a harder road to travel.

You were a gem that sparkled to everyone that met you. No words can describe how much you'll be missed.

I'll forever love you and hold you in my heart.

Jodi McGraw - November 15, 2006 at 11:18 AM

DA

“ Jodi, we love you all and will see you soon.

Danny & Cindy Ann - November 15, 2006 at 10:58 AM

RC

“ *You & your family are in our thoughts & prayers. God Bless.*

Renee Carruth - November 15, 2006 at 10:09 AM

HE

“ *Richard, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family*
Sincerely, Howard

Howard English - November 15, 2006 at 10:02 AM