



Margaret Diane Herndon Duke

July 29, 1951 - January 13, 2021

Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.

The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil.

She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.

KJV Proverbs 31:10-12

A wife, a mother, a grandmother, a friend to many Margaret enjoyed life and lived it to the fullest. Born on July 29, 1951 in Cullman, Alabama, to Eskell and Opal Herndon, she graduated from Holly Pond High School, Class of '69. Immediately after graduation, Margaret went to work in Cullman for Southern Bell, her one and only employer. After working in Cullman, Birmingham, Opelika, Decatur and back to Birmingham in 1976, she retired in 2002 with 30 plus years of service with the company even though it had numerous name changes during her career. In her 26 years in Birmingham, she worked in various departments in various locations in the Metro area. After retirement she planned the weddings of her two daughters. Margaret loved retirement, playing bunco and spending girl time with lifelong friends, traveling with her husband and friends, family time at the lake and long boat rides but, most of all, her grandkids who affectionately called her GaGa. As a member of Gardendale First Baptist Church since 1976, she was active in her Sunday School class, "Empty Nesters." A strong Christian woman who lived her faith daily, she was a role model to many. People sought her counsel, even

strangers at the grocery store.

Married on August 26, 1972, she is survived by her husband of 48 years Wendell Duke, parents Eskell and Opal Herndon, daughters Allison (Mark) Bridges and Laura (David) Broom, grandchildren Harrison Bridges (12), Camille and Henry Bridges (10), Charlotte Broom (9), Jane Broom (6), and Evelyn Bridges (6), brother Darrell (Martha) Herndon, niece Chelsea Herndon, nephew Graham Herndon, and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Margaret's family would like to thank all the members of her medical team at UAB and Emory. We would especially like to thank Dr. Khaleel Ashraf of Hematology Oncology Associates of Alabama and Dr. Pankit Vachhani of UAB for their compassionate care.

The public is invited to a graveside celebration of her life to be held at Welti Cumberland Presbyterian Church Cemetery, 8817 County Road 747, Cullman, Alabama 35055 with Rev. Randy Sellers and Rev. Mark Harrison officiating on Monday, January 18th at 1:00 pm. The family respectfully request face coverings be worn and social distancing practiced. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in her honor to the Welti Cemetery Fund, c/o Gary Reid, 202 Schwann Avenue NE, Cullman, AL 35055. Gardendale Heritage Funeral Home directing.

I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but to all them also that love his appearing. KJV 2 Timothy 4:7-8

Cemetery Details

Welti Cumberland Presbyterian Church Cemetery

8817 County Road 747
Cullman, AL 35055

Previous Events

Graveside Service

JAN 18. 1:00 PM (CT)

Welti Cumberland Presbyterian Church Cemetery
8817 County Road 747
Cullman, AL 35055

Tribute Wall

GB

“ *From all of us in Forsyth Estates, we are thinking of your family during this difficult time. We will miss Margaret as will everyone who has ever met her! Hoping your wonderful memories of her will bring you peace.*

Gail Berryhill - January 19, 2021 at 08:49 PM

NS

“ *What we once enjoyed
and deeply loved
we can never lose,
for all that we loved deeply
becomes part of us.*

Helen Keller

*Margaret was a true friend:
She helped lessen our burdens
by taking action to help.
She found humor in everyday life
and was able to make you laugh
by her retelling of it.
We will love and miss her always.*

Nila & Jack Swann

Nila Swann - January 17, 2021 at 05:42 PM

JF

“ *It was a joy working with Margaret. You never had to worry about her getting the job done. She was such a sweet and caring lady. We use to tease her unmercifully about her fear of anything with feathers! But she was a good sport . She laughed right along with us. She will definitely be missed by all who knew her. Jackye Frederick*



Jackye Frederick - January 17, 2021 at 02:43 PM

PM

“ *Paula Mcalpin lit a candle in memory of Margaret Diane Herndon Duke*



Paula Mcalpin - January 16, 2021 at 09:18 PM

PM

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Paula Mcalpin - January 16, 2021 at 09:11 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Margaret Diane Herndon Duke.*



January 16, 2021 at 06:37 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Margaret Diane Herndon Duke.*



January 16, 2021 at 11:46 AM



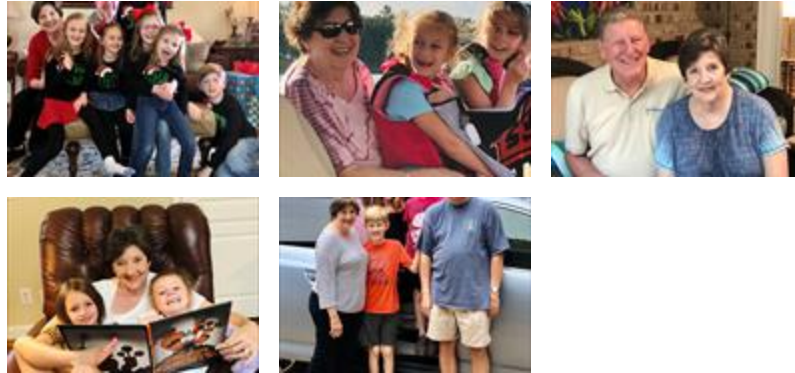
“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Margaret Diane Herndon Duke.*



January 15, 2021 at 08:14 PM



“ 5 files added to the album Memories Album



Gardendale Heritage Funeral Home - January 15, 2021 at 05:10 PM

JB

My heartfelt sympathy to Windell, Allison and Laura. What a wonderful Christian, Classy Lady your wife and Mother was. God Bless.

Joyce Bradley - January 16, 2021 at 09:26 AM

MS

“ *I still remember the kindness Margaret and Wendell showed to ElnaVon and our family during her illness and death. It meant so much to our family. The entire Duke family is dear to our hearts.*
Marie Sandlin

marie sandlin - January 15, 2021 at 02:53 PM

WD

Thanks Marie, I still miss ElnaVon. She would have loved those granddaughters to death.

Wendell Duke - January 15, 2021 at 09:39 PM