



Morna Ruth Canon

May 27, 1938 - March 15, 2021

Passing into the arms of her Savior, Ruth Bonifield Canon died from complications of Dementia on March 15, at the age of 82.

Ruth, or Ruthie as she was known to those close to her, was born in Ada, Oklahoma on May 27, 1938. Her family moved to Abilene, Texas where she excelled in school, choir and developed her lifelong love of the violin.

Abilene was where she also met her future husband, Val Howell Canon. They married in 1958 and eventually settled in the Lake Highlands area of Dallas, raising four children, Alison, Baron, Claire and Spencer.

Ruthie could often be found reading her Bible, preparing for her next Bible study class. She used her exceptional talent for music by singing in church choirs throughout her life, even joining the Dallas Civic Chorus for a period in the 1960's. In her later years, she joined the First Baptist Church of Dallas Orchestra, playing the violin every Sunday during the main service. This led to an invitation from the Wichita Falls Symphony Orchestra to join their violin section.

She was incredibly mission oriented. If she believed strongly in an idea, person or cause, then Ruthie was its strongest supporter. In the 1980s, it became apparent to her that parents who wanted the freedom to educate their children at home needed a voice. She took up the cause, creating a group of idea makers called TEACH (Texans For Educating A Child at Home). From this came a group of seminars entitled 20th Century Pioneers for Early Childhood Educators. Ruthie's friends and family would remember her as dedicated, brilliant, passionate, driven, curious, generous and loyal.

Ruthie was preceded in death by her parents, Lease and Lorita Bonifield, her son, Baron Canon and her brother-in-law, Don Spencer. She is survived by her loving husband, Val, two sisters, Rita Spencer and Carolyn Sandner, her daughters, Alison McCally and Claire Gentzel of McKinney, son Spencer Canon of Bishop, California, daughter-in-law Jeanne Canon, sons-in-law Todd McCally and Todd Gentzel, seven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great nephews.

A small family memorial will be held at Teresa's House in Craig Ranch 6521 Collin McKinney Parkway, McKinney, TX

Memorials

I am so very sorry for your loss. Love to your family.

MARIBETH JAGGER, MARCH 21, 2021

I am very sorry for the loss that Val, Alison, Claire, Spencer and all the family suffered because of Ruthie's passing. She certainly was an amazing woman with many extraordinary talents! I will always remember and be thankful of the numerous and unforgettable invitations to celebrate Christmas with Ruthie and all the family at her house in Dallas. God bless all of them! With deep sympathy, Roland Sandner, Vienna Austria

ROLAND SANDNER, MARCH 21, 2021

My Aunt Ruthie was like a Grandmother to me growing up, and I was very blessed to have her around. I will miss her, but I know that I will see her again in a much better better place someday! Love you!

LINDSAY SPENCER BURGAN, MARCH 20, 2021

Our sincere condolences

G HOLMAN KING, MARCH 20, 2021

I'm so sorry for your loss. What a lovely, passionate life she lived! She was a change agent. God bless you all!

LISA WHITE, MARCH 20, 2021

Blessings to Carolyn, Rita. and all the family - so very sorry for your loss! Love in Chi Omega.

LYNNIE WIENECKE, MARCH 18, 2021

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