



Mrs. Judie E. Mathis

January 23, 1938 - April 30, 2022

Judie Eileen McMillen Mathis was born in Black Lick, PA on January 23, 1938 to William Ray “Bill” McMillen and Nova Pearl Fetterman. In 1956, she graduated from Blairsville High School and was also crowned Miss Indiana County, going on to compete in the Miss Pennsylvania pageant.

She continued her education at the nursing school at Indiana Hospital. She was a natural, who loved caring for patients. She continued her education to become a nurse anesthetist. She applied to the Johns Hopkins Hospital School of Anesthesia, was accepted, and moved to Baltimore in 1960. She married the Rev. Steve L. Mathis III in 1963 and became an integral part of his deaf ministry while continuing to work in her profession. She volunteered to interpret for the deaf in hospitals and in the courts. She and her husband traveled internationally, and she served as an interpreter at a world event for the Deaf Ministry in Houston.

In the late 70s, she joined the anesthesia team at the Greater Baltimore Medical Center. Even after retirement, she considered GBMC her home and her colleagues as family. She truly loved the work and believed it to be one of the most fulfilling chapters of her life.

Judie had boundless energy and curiosity. Her interests included sewing, cooking, running a cheesecake business out of her home, selling Southern fruitcakes every holiday season, and sharing her favorite recipes with her

neighbors and friends. She loved a beautiful table setting on which she presented dinners to family and friends. Holidays were always an extravaganza of food, fun, and family.

Travel was her most passionate interest. After becoming a widow in 1987, she traveled to such far flung places as Antarctica, Papua New Guinea, Alaska, Manitoba, Thailand, Cambodia, China, Laos, and her beloved Africa. Family trips to Africa and Ireland with her father, Bill McMillen at 80 and 90 respectively, and her sister Janice, were highlights. Her 51st birthday was celebrated in the Serengeti with dancing, cakes and endless candles that sparkled against the African night sky.

After retirement, she volunteered to tutor children in reading at Govans Elementary School and served many meals to the homeless at Paul's Place. She spent much of the summer at her house in Rehoboth Beach, where she could escape the heat of the city, soak up the tranquility of the Indian River Inlet, and go crabbing with her grandchildren.

Most of all, she LOVED her garden, a passion inherited from her father. She reveled in the magic of each season, and fought the good fight against the squirrels, birds, bugs, and heat, to produce huge amounts of vegetables, which she loved to share with her friends and neighbors. One of her last wishes was that her neighbors use her garden as a community garden, which they were delighted to do to honor her.

She remained 84 years young until the end, always looking forward to the future, with her maturing family, grandchildren, and one precious great grandchild.

Her optimism, kindness, generosity of self, sense of fun, wonder at nature, and deep faith defined her. Her brilliant smile, eye twinkle, and ready laughter filled every room. She made people feel important in the first ten minutes of meeting her, and she was everyone's mother, grandmother, and friend.

She leaves behind her sister, Janice McMillen (Andrew), her daughters, Claire Cunliffe McLauchlin (Charles), and Margaret Mathis Lindeman (Kenneth), beloved grandchildren, Christopher, Benjamin, and Rachel McLauchlin, Emily

Lindeman Webb (Brad) , Annie Lindeman Lievens (Carter) and great granddaughter, Everly Lievens.

Her family thanks all of her dear caregivers for their dedication and kindness during her illness.

Judie believed deeply in the good work of St. Jude's Children's Hospital and The Smile Train, and said often, "They can change the life of a child in 45 minutes! What a miracle. " In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to either of these organizations via smiletrain.org. or stjude.org.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT 8. 10:00 AM (ET)

Church of the Redeemer
5603 N Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21210