



Ruby Estelle Givens Hudson

June 21, 1941 - March 28, 2017

Ruby Estelle (Givens) Hudson, 75, of Gastonia, North Carolina, went home to be with the Lord on the evening of Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at Reid Hospital in Richmond, Indiana.

She was born June 21, 1941 in Gastonia, North Carolina, a daughter of the late Ernest Alfred "E.A." and Clara Ophelia (Fletcher) Givens.

Ruby was a 1960 graduate of Ashley High School in Gastonia and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education from Gardner-Webb University in Boiling Springs, North Carolina. She taught elementary and middle school for 10 years in the North Carolina Public School system. In 1980, she followed a call God placed upon her heart to Hephzibah Children's Home for at-risk children in Macon, GA. She lovingly and faithfully served there for 25 years until her retirement in 2005. Ruby was a long-time champion of at-risk children and youth. She was firm when she had to be and yet always witty and humorous. Ruby was blessed with the gift of hospitality. She was an avid reader, enjoyed crossword puzzles, loved history and decorating for special events. She was a die-hard sports fan and especially loved the Atlanta Braves.

Those left to cherish her memory include her two loving daughters, Lynn Hudson of Anderson and Susan (husband: Steve) Bray of Richmond; three

granddaughters, Kayleigh (husband: Ryan) Kivett and Madison and Taylor Bray; four brothers, James Givens, Charles (wife: Jamie) Givens, Kenneth Givens, and Robert (wife: Debbie) Givens along with several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Glenn E. Hudson.

A Celebration of Ruby's Life will be held at 2:00 pm Sunday, April 2, 2017 at the Firestone Wesleyan Church, 1700 Union Rd. Gastonia, NC, with Rev. Joe Neyman officiating.

The family will receive friends from 1:00 pm until the time of the service Sunday at the church.

Per Ruby's request, please wear casual attire to her service, no black clothes as she wants this to be a fun, happy, and festive celebration of her life. Also, she wanted everyone to know she hated gladiolas.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be offered to Hephzibah Ministries, 6601 Zebulon Rd., Macon, GA 31220, and Global Partners, 13300 Olio Rd., Fishers, IN 46037, for missionaries Allan and Sheri Stevens.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Sproles Family Funeral Home, New Castle, Indiana.

You may send the family a personal condolence at www.sprolesfamilycares.com.

The Sproles family and staff are honored to serve the family of Ruby Estelle

(Givens) Hudson.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

APR 2. 2:00 PM (ET)

Firestone Wesleyan Church
1700 Union Rd
Gastonia, NC 28054

Visitation

APR 2. 1:00 PM (ET)

Firestone Wesleyan Church
1700 Union Rd
Gastonia, NC 28054

Tribute Wall

LH

“ *Lynn Hudson lit a candle in memory of Ruby Givens Hudson*



Lynn Hudson - October 02, 2023 at 09:05 AM

LH

“ *You're sorely missed, Mother! I love you!*



Lynn Hudson - October 02, 2019 at 11:33 AM

SC

“ *I do not have the words to express how much I loved Ruby. Although I am a former sister-in-law, she was my sister in every way. Anytime I was in distress, I could call her and she would pray with me any time, day or night. She would always share her wise council when I needed an encouraging word. Many, many years ago she attempted to teach me to cook, and finally decided that there were many things I would do well, but cooking was not one of them. How right she was. Although she may no longer be a phone call away, she is only a heartbeat away. Earth's loss is Heaven's gain. Lynn and Susan, know that I love you dearly and share your loss. Sherry.*

sherry carver - April 27, 2017 at 05:53 PM

AS

“ Ruby was one of the first people I met at Hephzibah Children's Home. Probably hundreds of people can say the same. She was a great encouragement to me throughout my time working there and afterward. She was loving, loyal and dedicated to her Lord.

Allan Stevens - March 31, 2017 at 03:22 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Ruby Estelle Givens Hudson.



March 31, 2017 at 09:38 AM

KJ

“ I am sorry to hear about Ruby's passing. She was loved dearly by everyone here at Ingleside Manor. Her smile would brighten anyone's day! She will be dearly missed, but I know she is in heaven celebrating and having fun! My sympathy to her family!



Kerry Jennings, Ingleside Manor (Macon, GA)

Kerry Jennings - March 31, 2017 at 09:20 AM

LF

“ When I first came to Hephzibah Children's Home in the spring of 1993 one of the first persons I met was Ruby Hudson. I am not sure what her official position was at that time but I soon discovered she did just about everything that needed to be done. Her working environment was a small, crowded office space with antiquated equipment. While I was terrible ill-equipped in terms of knowledge about the responsibilities of the Executive Director, I soon learned I could confidently lean on Ruby Hudson. If Ruby didn't know, nobody knew. I trusted her, I knew Ruby was a person of integrity and I was confident Hephzibah would always be her first priority in the decision making process. As I look back, no matter how flat I would fall on my face, Ruby would make the best of it. She covered for my mistakes time and time again. Over the years my love and appreciation for Ruby continued to grow. I would summarize her life with the following words:

Dedication: To God, her family and to the Ministry of Hephzibah.

Loyal: She was unwavering in her loyalty to the ministry.

Forgiving: Ruby refused to hold a grudge.

Giving: I have actually seen her borrow money to help a friend.

I was deeply honored to work alongside one such as Ruby Hudson. My life has been enriched and her passing is Heavens gain.

Larry E. Freels

Larry E. Freels - March 31, 2017 at 06:18 AM

JM

Ruby was a real inspiration to me. Not long after we started working with the senior boys at Hephzibah, Ruby moved to Hephzibah to work with the senior girls. That was just the beginning of her work at Hephzibah - she filled many roles there before she retired. I found Ruby to be very thoughtful, loving, and wise. If I needed a word of encouragement, I knew I could count on Ruby. And there was no doubt about her love for God. She served tirelessly at Hephzibah. And I remember her giving to missions when I knew she needed the money herself. She felt any needs she had paled in comparison to the needs of others. Ruby was a giver - of her time, her talents, and resources. To know Ruby was to love her. She will be greatly missed.

Jan Manley

Jan Manley - April 02, 2017 at 07:53 PM

TE

“ *A beautiful lady and beautiful soul. Such an honorable person. Thinking of you and your family Susan.*

Teresa Etchison and family

Teresa Etchison - March 31, 2017 at 06:10 AM



“ *Rose Tribute was purchased for the family of Ruby Estelle Givens Hudson.*



March 30, 2017 at 05:18 PM

MM

“ Dear Susan and Lynn and Family:

Your mother is a treasure and is a salt of Christ while she was present in her physical body on earth. We know that it is difficult to lose your mother in the natural, however Ruby will always be with you all in the spiritual. We know because we also lost our wonderful mother as well.

How wonderful it is to know that she is rejoicing with the angels right now! We know our mother is also rejoicing with her with all the saints of God and His angels! We will see them again in Glory!!!

Love in Jesus (Yeshua),

Dr. Margo Carrancejie and Mr. Frank K. Carrancejie Jr.

Margo Carrancejie MD - March 30, 2017 at 04:33 PM

JW

“ *Ruby was so special and look care of us from the day we moved to Hephzibah. What a joy to work, laugh, cry and just enjoy fellowship with her through the years. We will miss her and pray for the family.*
Tom and Joyce Wirsing

Joyce Wirsing - March 30, 2017 at 04:07 PM

KF

“ Ruby was a tablemate and friend here at Vermillion Place (United Faith Housing) here in Anderson, Indiana, She was as sweet as her smile. She was a very caring and giving person to all people. We took many a shopping trip on the Nifty Lift and she was always very thoughtful of the drivers.

A very wise woman and she helped me with the Bible Studies, writing prayers , and meditation thoughts. I miss her candid thoughts and ideas, her love of life, and just "Ruby" and our laid back friendship. She is with God now, with out the pain --May God continue to bless our families and friends and give us the joy, love caring, music, and the grace of our Lord Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, Amen--Amen.

kate bodle fields - March 30, 2017 at 01:17 PM

HK

“ Ruby Hudson was a wonderful lady who loved the Lord & Hephzibah Children's Home.
I remember the 1st time I met her. We had gone to Hephzibah to work as houseparents to the Jr Girls and she was filling in till we came, that was like her doing whatever needed to be done.
May God comfort her family in the days ahead. Lynn & Susan. y'all are in our thoughts & prayers.

Hal & Myrtle Kifer

Hal & Myrtle Kifer - March 30, 2017 at 11:53 AM

HK

“ Hal & Myrtle Kifer lit a candle in memory of Ruby Estelle Givens Hudson

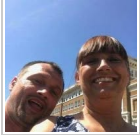


Hal & Myrtle Kifer - March 30, 2017 at 11:46 AM

MP

“ *Ms. Ruby had a beautiful smile and spirit that made one feel warm & loved. May that same spirit surround each of the family and friends at her Life Celebration!* ”

Mariko Pollock - March 30, 2017 at 11:07 AM



“ *The memory of Momma Ruby was the day she planned a surprise birthday party for her daughter Lynn. How she decorated the tables and was so excited to have her lives one near her in celebration. The happiness in her heart glowed from her eyes. We spent some time together talking and laughing. She was a caring and giving person and wanted everyone to smile and be happy. You will be deeply missed Momma Ruby fly high with the Angels* ”

Beverly Privett - March 30, 2017 at 05:59 AM

LH

“ *Lynn Hudson lit a candle in memory of Ruby Estelle Givens Hudson* ”



Lynn Hudson - March 29, 2017 at 11:34 PM

DD

“*Ruby Hudson, longtime champion for children and youth, is now in Heaven. She served the Lord by serving Hephzibah Children's Home for ions, doing every possible job that God gave her to do. Her many attributes are much too much to list here but she was such a blessing and giver that she touched countless lives daily. Many of her former students often told me that she was the best teacher that they had ever had. She also was a Senior Girl's houseparent and listened to many broken hearts, counseling with the love of The Counselor Himself. I remember how we would work into the night at the office and she at one end in her office would be yelling at the radio, listening to a Braves ballgame. She was a die hard fan! Mostly known for her gift of hospitality, I dare say she spent all her earnings making gifts, baskets, travel snacks, always sure that the children has special treats for every holiday. She taught me much about doing the unnecessary with love. One of our favorite things to do was to play dumb. She nicknamed herself Dumb Dora and myself, Dumb David. We would chuckle to ourselves, knowing full well that when no one else would agree to do so n so, we would get the job. It was our joke. We weren't dumb enough to get out of it; it just had to be done so we did it together. Many hands make light work. She was a hoot to serve with! Seriously, a wonderful lifelong friend whom had a heart for the things closest to God's own heart, and that is abandoned and abused kids.*

May God bless the memory of Ruby Hudson! <3

David Duncan - March 29, 2017 at 08:39 PM